



*A Church dedicated to the glory of God
in the service of humanity through worship,
congregational care, faith formation
and the stewardship of life.*

**THE WORSHIP OF GOD
THE TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; RICE BOWL
8 November 2015 at Eleven o'clock in the morning**

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS BEFORE GOD

The Music in Preparation for Worship is intended to draw the people from the outside world into the presence of God. You are invited to remain silent during this time.

Please silence your cell phone.

THE SILENT MEDITATION

Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us, and prosper for us the work of our hands – O prosper the work of our hands!
From Psalm 90:17

THE RINGING OF THE ANGELUS BELL

THE OPENING VOLUNTARY

Partita on “Ein’ feste Burg”
*Andrew Clarke
(b. 1942)*

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The Lord be with you.
People: **And also with you.**

At this time, everyone is invited to sign the friendship register found at the end of each pew. If you are our guest today, we welcome you especially and ask that you include your address, phone number, and email. If you are interested in learning more about our Church, we invite you to note this on the register. Everyone is invited to coffee fellowship in Heaton Hall Foyer immediately following worship. We invite our guests to the Welcome Table in Heaton Hall Foyer for a more personal welcome and to answer any questions you may have about our Church.

A MOMENT FOR STEWARDSHIP

Rev. Carrie Veal

***THE OPENING SENTENCES**

Leader: Let us worship the Lord whose words give us hope,
People: **whose hope shapes our dreams, and whose love brings us life.**
Leader: Blessed is the Lord who calls us to action,
People: **let us worship the Lord with every word, with every deed, with every breath and with every moment.**

***THE PROCESSION AND OPENING OF THE BIBLE**

“Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee”
*Number 49
Hymn to Joy*

***THE PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

The ringing of the Angelus Bell, a three-fold ringing of three, signifies the presence of the triune God: Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. In ancient practice it was rung as a noonday prayer calling the whole community to prayers for peace.

We offer childcare during worship for children ages birth - fifth grade. Please see an usher who will assist your family.

Please join in reading or singing those parts of the service printed in **bold**.

+ Ushers will seat anyone waiting.

* When this symbol precedes an element of the service, stand if you are able.

+ During the interlude, 3 and 4 year olds will leave with their teachers. They may be picked up in Room 107 after worship.

THE KYRIE ELEISON (*Lord have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord have mercy.*)

Jonathan Crutchfield

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Chris - te e -
 Lord, to me give mer - cy. Christ, to me give
 lei - son. Ky - ri - e e - lei - son.
 mer - cy. Lord, to me give mer - cy.

Kyrie eleison – a prayer that predates Christian usage. The text actually is Greek in origin, not Latin.

THE CALL TO CONFESSION

THE SILENT CONFESSION

THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving God,
 You sustain the very work of our hands.
 You are with us in all we do,
 even in the ordinary, the commonplace, the routine.
 You know all of our ways and you hem us in behind and before.

We confess to you
 that we do not always live as though our lives are a holy gift.
 We do not always love you with our hearts, minds, and strength.
 We do not always love our neighbors as ourselves.
 We often resist the joy and withhold the grace that you freely give to us.

Forgive us, Lord, and lead us to wholeness.
 Help us to live more fully and to see all of life as a gift.
 Amen.

THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*THE CANTICLE (*Glory to God in the highest.*)

Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o!
 Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

The use of the Canticle gives the people of God a corporate way to sing our thanks to God for the gifts of forgiveness and grace.

*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

Ancient words of greeting and forgiveness may be used when Passing the Peace to those around you, saying either: “The peace of God be with you” or “The peace of Christ be with you.” The response may be: “And also with you.”

The Passing of the Peace is an ancient tradition whereby followers of Christ would greet each other.

THE WORD OF GOD IS PROCLAIMED AND HEARD

THE GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 13:31-35

See page 6.

Leader: For the Word of God in scripture,
for the Word of God among us,
for the Word of God within us.

People: Thanks be to God.

+ *As the interlude begins, children in grades 1-5 are invited to go through the door beside the Lectern to join adult teachers. Parents may pick up their children in the Cornwell Gym.*

*THE SERMON HYMN

Number 249

“Take Thou our minds, dear Lord”

Sursum Corda

THE SERMON

The Reverend Dr. Jill Y. Crainshaw

“What She Kneads; What We Need”

THE TIME FOR SILENT REFLECTION

THE CONGREGATION RESPONDS TO GOD’S WORD

THE CHURCH AT PRAYER

THE LORD’S PRAYER

Adapted by Carol Reid Fricke

Beloved father-mother God, we revere you and are grateful for your many blessings in our lives. We seek to do your will on earth, living with love and respect for all creation. Let us live into your possibilities now! Give us grace each day sufficient for our needs. Let forgiveness flow like a river between us. In times of distress may we center our lives in you, our source and our home. For you are the essence of love, power and glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Friendship Trays is a Charlotte-area “Meals on Wheels” program which prepares and delivers meals to elderly, handicapped and convalescing individuals.

THE OFFERING

The Loose Plate Missions Offering for November supports the work of Friendship Trays.

THE ANTHEM

The Chancel Choir

“Now Let Us All Praise God and Sing”

Gordon Young

Now let us all praise God and sing

(1919-1998)

Our great Redeemer’s praise;

That we may all with one accord

Our joyful voices raise.

Sing Alleluia!

All ye servants of the Lord,

Praise God forever,

Sing Jehovah’s mighty pow’r,

Praise God forever,

Sing of God’s righteousness,

Praise God forever.

THE RICE BOWL

If you wish to help alleviate hunger in the world through the Rice Bowl Offering, come forward and place your contribution in the basket at the Chancel steps.

The Rice Bowl Offering is designated for Hunger Relief: Loaves and Fishes (local) and Stop Hunger Now (international).

*THE PRESENTATION OF GIFTS

As the deacons move down the center aisle, the congregation is asked to stand at the moment the deacons pass their pew. This presentation to God enacts our self-offering and gratitude to God.

*THE DOXOLOGY

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above ye heavenly hosts;
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Old Hundredth

Doxology – a hymn or verse in Christian liturgy glorifying God that points to the Trinitarian nature of God: Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost.

*THE PRAYER OF DEDICATION

THE COMMUNITY DEPARTS FOR MINISTRY

*THE PROCESSION INTO THE WORLD AND CLOSING OF THE BIBLE
“O Jesus, I have promised”

Number 244
Nyland

THE BLESSING AND BENEDICTION

THE CLOSING VOLUNTARY
“Pageant”

Malcolm Archer
(b. 1952)

Following worship, you are invited to coffee fellowship in Heaton Hall Foyer.

We invite our guests to the Welcome Table in Heaton Hall Foyer for a more personal welcome and to answer any questions you may have about our church.

Leading worship today with The Reverend Dr. Jill Y. Crainshaw, Guest Preacher, are The Reverend Ms. Chrissy Tatum Williamson, Minister of Faith Formation, and The Reverend Mr. Chris Hughes, Minister of Youth.

The Chancel Choir leads worship through music with Frances L. Morrison, Associate Minister of Music, and Dr. Matthew Manwarren, Organist.

The acolytes are Sarah Nicholson, Lucy Clemens and Susan Hill-Gilbert.

The sound technician is Eric Roberts.
The webcast technician is Seph Rackley.

The Deacon of the Week for November 8-14 is Carol Pearsall, cp.carolp@gmail.com, 704.562.3100.

THE REVEREND DR. JILL Y. CRAINSHAW

Dr. Jill Crainshaw is an ordained teaching elder in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and the Blackburn Professor of Worship and Liturgical Theology at Wake Forest School of Divinity. Her teaching focuses on intersections between liturgical theology and sustainability, social justice, and “grounded” human experiences – emphasizing that Christian liturgy and worship arise and return to human experience. Her current research includes visiting local bakeries, wineries and community gardens to gain a deeper understanding of how worship’s sacramental elements are connected to local fields and farmers, waters and artisans. She is the author of four books and a number of articles on worship and leadership. She is a blogger at drdeacondog.wordpress.com and a guest blogger for Patheos’ *Unfundamentalist Christians*.

THE READING FOR SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2015

Matthew 13:31-35 (NASB)

He presented another parable to them, saying, “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and sowed in his field; and this is smaller than all other seeds, but when it is full grown, it is larger than the garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and nest in its branches.” He spoke another parable to them, “The kingdom of heaven is like leaven, which a woman took and hid in three pecks of flour until it was all leavened.” All these things Jesus spoke to the crowds in parables, and He did not speak to them without a parable. This was to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet: “I will open My mouth in parables; I will utter things hidden since the foundation of the world.”

THE CHURCH IN WITNESS AND MISSION

TODAY

NOVEMBER 8: THE TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; RICE BOWL; REVEREND DR. JILL CRAINSHAW PREACHING

- 8:30 Charlotte Community of Mindfulness Meditation Group, Room 27
- 9:15 Starbucks and Stewardship Coffee Fellowship, Heaton Hall
- 9:30 Fall Orientation Begins, Cornwell Center Lounge
- 9:45 Children's Faith Formation, Preschool and Elementary Wings
- 9:45 Youth Faith Formation, Youth Hall Wing
- 9:45 Adult Faith Formation, Education Building and Cornwell Center
- 10:15 Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
- 11:00 Worship in the Sanctuary
- 12:00 Coffee Fellowship, Heaton Hall
- 12:00 Guest Welcome, Welcome Table in Heaton Hall Foyer
- 3:00 Book Reading and Signing, Cornwell Center Lounge
- 5:00 Youth Choir, Berry Hall
- 6:00 Youth Supper and Fellowship, Youth Hall

STARBUCKS AND STEWARDSHIP - Do you have questions about our 2016 Stewardship Campaign, or are you just looking for some fellowship over a hot cup of coffee? Stop by our "café," hosted by the friendly and knowledgeable members of our SLG, in Heaton Hall today. We'll be open following worship. It's a great chance to catch this year's campaign video!

BOOK READING AND SIGNING - Please join us as we celebrate two of our very own authors this afternoon from 3:00-4:30 in the Cornwell Center Lounge, Mary Kratt and Danye Powell will be reading from their recently published books, *WATCH where you walk* by Mary, and *Nobody Calls Me Darling Anymore* by Danye. You will be able to purchase books and have them signed by the authors. What a great Christmas gift! You don't want to miss this time with these two talented and incredible women.

COMMUNITY LIFE

THE MPBC FALL ORIENTATION SERIES continues Tuesday, November 10 from 6:00-7:30pm in the Cornwell Conference Center. Join the ministerial and program staff for dinner and an opportunity to learn more about Myers Park Baptist Church ministries. The evening concludes with a campus tour. On Sunday, November 15 we will meet in the Chapel at 9:30am for an architectural tour. The full schedule is available at www.mpbconline.org. You may also contact Mariah Currin at 704.334.7232 x41 or mcurrin@mpbconline.org for more information.

MPBC MEMBER ON PILGRIMAGE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT - Be sure to check the map on the EarthKeepers table in Heaton Hall Foyer which shows the progress Wil Watson is making on his pilgrimage from Rome to Paris, where the UN gathering on the environment will be held. You may also follow his blog - for the link go to www.mpbconline.org, click on Groups and then click on EarthKeepers.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

THE GIFT OF LIFE - Today is National Organ Donation Sabbath. This Sunday celebrates the gift of life given by so many who have donated organs so that others may live. We have organ recipients right here in our own congregation and there is presently an existing need. There will be a table with information available in Heaton Hall Foyer immediately following worship. Consider the possibility of the gift of life.

FAITH FORMATION

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY FAITH FORMATION - You are invited to work with our children in their Sunday morning Faith Formation experiences. There are a number of ways to be involved from reading a Bible story to preschoolers to cooking alongside fifth graders. Whatever your passion is, we have a place for you to share it with our Church's children. To learn more, please contact Carrie Veal at cveal@mpbconline.org or call at 704.334.7232 x18.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY SOUP FELLOWSHIP - Wednesday, November 11, 6:15-7:00pm. Let's gather around the table and have dinner together! We will share soup, grilled cheese sandwiches and desserts all while enjoying conversation. Sign up on the Church's website to bring something yummy.

CHILD PROTECTION TRAINING CLASS - Sunday, November 15, 9:45-10:45am. If you have never taken this class, you are encouraged to do so. We will meet in the Conference Room in Church Office wing for this training. Please sign up by contacting Carrie Veal at cveal@mpbconline.org.

FINANCIAL RESOURCES

STEWARDSHIP 2016 UPDATE- We had a great kickoff of the Season of Giving at our lunch on October 25th. Remember, we have a shorter campaign this year, so *please be sure to submit your pledge by November 15*. Then join us that day at our Thanks-For-Giving Feast in Heaton Hall immediately following worship.

Last names beginning with:

A-F - please bring a salad

G-M - please bring a dessert

N-Z - please bring a vegetable

We'll provide turkey, bread and beverages. You may bring your dish (cooked, cut and ready to serve) to the kitchen serving line on Sunday morning and someone will be there to receive it.

OUTREACH

GENIUS HOUR AND D.E.A.R. READER VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AT PINWOOD ELEMENTARY. Genius Hour is a chance for you to share your "genius" and give the students an opportunity to explore their interests in a variety of areas and build community. We need leaders in a variety of areas: art, cooking, science & technology, sports, yoga, or enter your Genius here. Genius Hour takes place Thursdays, November 19 and December 3, from 6:00-7:00pm. Please contact Laura Handler at laurak.handler@gmail.com or Agnes Banas at agnieszkaa.banas@cms.k12.nc.us, or sign up at <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0e4ca4a828a57-genius>.

LAKWOOD ANGEL TREE - Would you like to be an angel for a child in need this Christmas? If so, please visit the Angel Tree for the children of Lakewood neighborhood located in the Cornwell Center Lobby beginning Wednesday, November 18. You can select a tag for a boy or girl aged newborn through 18 years old at the Cornwell Center Welcome Desk. We ask that you return your unwrapped gift (\$50 max.) with the selected tag to The Cornwell Center by Thursday, December 3. Please contact Chini Nichols at 704.651.5620 for more information.

ROOM IN THE INN (RITI) begins December 5 and continues through the end of March. We open our doors on Saturday evenings and provide shelter for our neighbors who are homeless. We need your help. Please volunteer to: be an overnight host, provide a meal, or drive the church van. You may sign up on our website, www.mpbconline.org or on the bulletin board in Heaton Hall Foyer. Would you like to be more involved in RITI? Consider being a RITI Captain by helping coordinate one (or more) weekends for our RITI ministry. Contact Cheri Lindblom for details, clindblom@mpbconline.org.

WORSHIP AND MUSIC

OUR CHILDREN'S CHOIRS WILL MEET for their regular rehearsals on Wednesday, November 11 (Veterans' Day) even though schools are dismissed for the day.

CAROL AND CHAPEL CHOIRS NEWS:

- Each choir will sing after dinner at 6:30 in Heaton Hall on Wonderful Wednesday, November 18. Don't forget to make your dinner reservations before Monday, November 16 with Rainey Underwood at 704.334.7232 x56 or runderwood@mpbconline.org.
- Each of the children's choirs will sing and remain in worship during November; the Carol Choir (K-2) on November 15 and the Chapel Choir (3-5) on November 22.

GLUTEN-FREE WAFER OPTION - Pre-packaged gluten-free Communion wafers will be available for congregants desiring this option beginning Sunday, November 22. One basket of wafers will be placed in the Narthex and a second basket will be positioned at the Selwyn side indoor entrance to the Sanctuary (where orders of worship are available). If you want gluten-free, please help yourself to a wafer when entering the Sanctuary, or ask an usher to assist you.

THE MORAVIAN LOVE FEAST will be celebrated Sunday morning, November 29 during the 11:00am worship service. We will again bring in the Advent season through the singing of Christmas carols, the sound of children's voices, the sights of lit beeswax candles, the smells of tea and cookies, the reading of the Christmas story and a homily by our own Reverend Maria Long.

CAROLS IN THE ROUND - Christmas comes early to Charlotte with our annual "Carols in the Round" by The Motet Singers. Please plan to join us on Sunday, December 6 at 6:30pm in Heaton Hall for an hour of beautiful Christmas carols sung by candlelight. Familiar Christmas hymns will be sung by everyone as we usher in the joy of the season. We hope you will come and bring your friends and family to this free concert.

WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY

WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY KITCHEN VOLUNTEERS NEEDED one Tuesday each month, from 3:00-5:00pm, to help prep for the salad bar, which is always a big hit. We also need volunteers one Wednesday each month from 4:30-6:30pm to help with the preparation and clean-up of the evening meal. Please join us for this important ministry at MPBC. Contact Barry Metzger at 704.334.7232 x16 or bmetzger@mpbconline.org.

OUR NEXT WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY WILL BE NOVEMBER 18:

- TIME: Dinner begins at 5:45pm; programs begin at 6:45pm and end at 7:30pm.
- COST: \$6 adult / \$3 child 12 and under / \$22 immediate family max.
- RESERVATIONS: must be received by noon on Monday prior to each Wonderful Wednesday by contacting Rainey Underwood at runderwood@mpbconline.org or 704.334.7232 x56.
- MENU: Pot Roast with vegetables, rice, corn muffins, salad bar with fruit, ice cream sundaes
- CAROL AND CHAPEL CHOIRS WILL SING after dinner at 6:30pm in Heaton Hall
- PROGRAM FOR ADULTS: *Our Neighbors, Ourselves* hosted by Mecklenburg Ministries and MPBC, 6:45-7:30pm, in Heaton Hall - Join us as we begin an important conversation about discrimination from three lenses: religion, race, and socioeconomic class. Three presentations will be made that incorporate spoken word, music and video that raise up these patterns of discrimination in our society and the impacts that they have.
- PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN: *Christmas Pageant Sing and Dance Extravaganza*, 6:45-7:30pm, in Shalom Hall

THE CORNWELL CENTER

TINY TOTS BASKETBALL CLINIC - With only 16 openings each day, you will want to sign up early for this popular clinic for ages 3-6. Mondays and/or Wednesdays, November 2-February 10 from 3:45-4:30pm. There are a total of 20 sessions (with holiday closings). The cost is \$240 for Cornwell members and \$260 for non-members. Questions? Contact Kayla Blake 704.927.0774 x612.

WIN-WIN, REFER A FRIEND - One month free for you and a friend. Do you know someone who might love and appreciate The Cornwell Center as much as you do? When they become members now through December 31, you will both gain a free one month membership. Grab a few invitation cards at our Welcome Desk, or check www.cornwellcenter.org for more details.

THROUGH-THE-WEEK SCHOOL

FESTIVAL OF FRIENDS - Saturday, November 14, 7:30-11:00, at Olde Mecklenburg Brewery. TTWS invites you to this annual event which raises funds to support capital campaign projects and scholarships. Please contact the TTWS office at 704.377.1683 if you would like to attend.

LOOKING AHEAD

NOVEMBER 15: THE TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; STEWARDSHIP DEDICATION SUNDAY; REVEREND DR. JEFF ROGERS PREACHING

- 8:30 Charlotte Community of Mindfulness Meditation Group, Room 27
- 9:15 Carol Choir (K-2) Rehearsal, Sanctuary
- 9:30 Fall Orientation Architectural Tour, Meet in the Chapel
- 9:45 Child Protection Policy Training, Conference Room
- 9:45 Children's Faith Formation, Preschool and Elementary Wings
- 9:45 Youth Faith Formation, Youth Hall Wing
- 9:45 Adult Faith Formation, Education Building and Cornwell Center
- 10:15 Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
- 11:00 Worship in the Sanctuary
- 12:00 Thanks-For-Giving Feast, Heaton Hall
- 5:00 Youth Choir, Berry Hall
- 6:00 Youth Supper and Fellowship, Youth Hall

DRAW NEAR TO GOD

THE MYERS PARK BAPTIST CHURCH COVENANT

We, the members of the Myers Park Baptist Church, are a people on a journey of faith. By God's grace we are experiencing God's love through Jesus Christ and in the community of the faithful.

We are discovering in this experience our freedom to become new creatures and our responsibility to be faithful stewards of our lives and of this world.

We will be open to all new light, strengthened by God and each other in our faith.

We will sustain a critical examination of Scripture, belief and ritual as interpreters of God's active presence in the world.

We will accept controversy as a reality of life together and an opportunity for growth toward maturity.

We covenant to be a community of God's new creation and affirm that we are open to all and closed to none.

We covenant to nurture this church as a community of faith and as an instrument for reconciliation in this world: by worship, by Christian education, by the dedication of our personal and material resources and by all the other ways we express the significance of our lives with God and one another.

We covenant together to be priests celebrating God's presence in community and in the world, believing we are participants in God's kingdom on earth.

THE 2015-2016 BOARD OF DEACONS

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THE MYERS PARK BAPTIST CHURCH

1900 *Queens Road* • *Charlotte, North Carolina 28207-2582*

Office: 704.334.7232 • Website: www.mpbconline.org • CCLI License #1864926

MINISTERS

As priests to one another, all members of the congregation are ministers. Some are called out for particular places of service:

THE REVEREND MR. JOSEPH D. ALDRICH, *Associate Minister*

SHARON BREMER, *Director of Stewardship*

THE REVEREND MS. ROBIN PATERSON COIRA, *Executive Minister*

MARIAH B. CURRIN, *Director of New Member Ministry*

BELINDA GEUSS, *Director of Through-The-Week School*

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THE REVEREND MR. BARRY ZANE METZGER, *Church Administrator*

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THE REVEREND MS. CARRIE VEAL, *Minister of Children*

THE REVEREND MS. CHRISSY TATUM WILLIAMSON, *Minister of Faith Formation*

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