

# THEOLOGY OF WORSHIP AT MPBC

## *Why do we worship?*

Worship at Myers Park Baptist is the gathering of a diverse, intergenerational, ecumenical community of faith, celebrating God's active and timeless presence in the world. In worship, God re-forms our hearts, minds and bodies, and ignites our imaginations with sacred stories—stories that invite us to question, explore mystery, express joy and grief, and deepen our faith. We worship to learn how to develop caring, empowering relationships with each other, and to stay centered in God as the world swirls around us. We worship to be inspired and prepared to exemplify the compassion and justice of Jesus in our church family and in the world. Through worship, God frees and transforms us in heart, mind and body, so we can make a difference within ourselves, in our relationships and in our community.

## *How do we worship?*

Focusing on God, worship at Myers Park Baptist unfolds consistently with the Isaiah 6 scriptural model: praise, confession, pardon, calling to respond, commitment and sending out. All our worship services are built on this ancient structural form, regardless of worship style, venue or theme. Communal practices within worship — radical hospitality, confession and assurance of pardon, passing the peace, silence and listening, spirited hymn singing, presentations of gifts, and active participation in Communion—transform worshipers into newness with God and one another. Themes for services, based on lectionary scriptures, annually portray the narrative arc of God's redeeming love for humankind.

## MUSIC MINISTRY STAFF

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# THE MINISTRY OF WORSHIP AND MUSIC

2018-2019

# WORSHIP

## MULTI-DIMENSIONAL | THOUGHT-PROVOKING | NOURISHING

At MPBC we believe there are diverse ways to perceive, understand and worship the God of the global church.

We worship in a traditional festive setting with banners, choir, hymns on the organ, lectionary readings, a stimulating sermon. As we open our hearts in worship we also throw open the doors of our pews to welcome everyone in friendship and love.

We worship in the round with thoughtfully conceived monthly services that may involve jazz, theater, dance, contemplation, bluegrass or other genres. These thematic services are innovative yet consistent with our theology and mission. No matter the approach, all of us join together as people on the way, called forward, on a journey of faith.

In each form of worship we create sacred, holy, reverent and joyous spaces where the experience of God and each other opens us to the voice of a God who still speaks, still inspires, challenges and transforms us, and still calls us to be God's people in the world.



## CHOIRS FOR ADULTS AND CHILDREN

### THE CHANCEL CHOIR | *Post High School Aged Adults*

**Thursdays | 7:00 - 9:00p | Berry Hall and Sundays | 10:15a**

The Chancel Choir is a large choir of singers who exhibit a deep commitment to the ministry of music and worship in this Church. They typically lead the music of the worship service and provide music for the Church's festival days and special liturgies. The Chancel Choir begins its season with an annual retreat over Labor Day Weekend. Anyone interested in joining should call the Music Office.

In addition to its weekly service leadership, the Chancel Choir regularly performs major works for choir and instruments. Recent years have seen performances of masterworks by Bach, Brahms, Vivaldi, Fauré, Rutter, Schubert, Handel, Dvořák, Britten and Chilcott.

### THE YOUTH CHOIR | GRADES 6 - 12

**Sundays | 5:00-6:00p | Berry Hall**

Youth Choir is a musical community of grades 6-12 which offers friendship, acceptance and community among each other while using their various gifts of music to explore and express their faith journey. The choir enjoys a wide variety of music including classical, folk hymns, spirituals, gospel, and global ethnic music. Several years' events have included regional and national mission and singing tours to Washington, D.C., New York City, South Carolina and Georgia.

### YOUTH INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLE

**Sundays | 6:00-6:45p | Sanctuary**

Volunteer ensemble of youth instrumentalists who lead in worship periodically through the year.

### THE CHAPEL CHOIR | GRADES 2 - 5

**Wednesdays | 5:00-6:30p | Room 21**

The Chapel Choir blends together *Kodály* and *Orff-Schulwerk*-based methodology utilizing musical games and activities, folksongs, rhythm solfege, anthems and hymns for use in worship. Each rehearsal provides a whole child-centered approach of fun and creative learning for further musical and spiritual development. Each spring, the Chapel Choir participates in *Raise a Song*, a children's choir festival at Camp Caraway in Asheboro, North Carolina.

### THE CAROL CHOIR | GRADES K AND 1

**Wednesdays | 5:00-6:30p | Room 21**

The beginnings of a faith foundation and the basic rudiments of music and singing are all a part of each rehearsal for these choirs. The Carol Choir will learn spiritual concepts and musical skills through the early stages of *Orff-Schulwerk* and *Kodály* methodologies as they play instruments, participate in musical games, and sing hymns, anthems and traditional songs.

### MUSIC TOGETHER® | BIRTH THROUGH TK WITH PARENTS/CAREGIVERS

**Wednesdays | 4:00p and 5:00p or Saturdays | 10:00a or 11:00a  
Room 29 (lower level)**

**Parents/Caregivers participate with their children in this class.**

We are pleased that Music Together of Charlotte now offers classes at Myers Park Baptist Church. As a Church member, you will receive a discount and early access to classes at this location.

What is Music Together®? It is an internationally recognized early childhood music program for children birth through transitional kindergarten, AND the adults who love them. Paid registration is required and managed through Music Together of Charlotte at [www.musictogetherofcharlotte.com](http://www.musictogetherofcharlotte.com).