

Myers Park United Methodist Church



A Bridge in Georgia. Photo by Dr. James C. Howell.

A Service of Christian Worship

July 31, 2016

8:30, 9:45 and 11:00 a.m.

Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost

WE GATHER

Welcome

Please pass the hospitality pads at this time.

Passing of the Peace

Chiming of the Holy Trinity

Opening Voluntary
Prelude on ENGELBERG

Craig Phillips

† **Call to Worship**

from Psalm 107

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
for his steadfast love endures forever.

Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, those he redeemed from trouble.

**Let them thank the Lord for his steadfast love,
for his wonderful works to humankind.**

Come let us worship!

† **Processional Hymn No. 61**

Come, Thou Almighty King

ITALIAN HYMN

† **The Creed No. 885**

A Modern Affirmation

**We believe in God the Father,
infinite in wisdom, power and love,
whose mercy is over all his works,
and whose will is ever directed to his children's good.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ,
Son of God and Son of man,
the gift of the Father's unfailing grace,
the ground of our hope,
and the promise of our deliverance from sin and death.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit
as the divine presence in our lives,
whereby we are kept in perpetual remembrance
of the truth of Christ,
and find strength and help in time of need.**

**We believe that this faith should manifest itself
in the service of love
as set forth in the example of our blessed Lord,
to the end
that the kingdom of God may come upon the earth. Amen.**

† **Gloria Patri No. 71**

GREATOREX

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.**

Prayer of Confession

**Almighty and Gracious God,
we seek your blessing, knowing that we have not earned it.
In our faults, we seek your blessing.
In our sins, we seek your forgiveness.
In our weakness, we seek your strength.
In our sorrow, we seek your consolation.
In our trials, we seek your justice.
In our pain, we seek your peace.
Hear our prayers, O God, and make our hearts new. Amen.**

Words of Assurance

...In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!
**In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!
Glory to God. Amen.**

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism (9:45, 11:00)

Congregational Response (9:45, 11:00)

Child of Blessing, Child of Promise
**Child of blessing, child of promise,
baptized with the Spirit's sign;
with this water God has sealed you
unto love and grace divine.**

STUTTGART

**Child of God your loving parent,
learn to know whose child you are.
Grow to laugh and sing and worship,
trust and love God more than all.**

Anthem (11:00)

Christ is Made the Sure Foundation

Dale Wood

Christ is made the sure foundation, Christ the head and cornerstone;
chosen of the Lord, and precious, binding all the church in one;
holy Zion's help forever, and her confidence alone.

To this temple where we call thee, come, O Lord of hosts, today;
with thy wonted loving-kindness hear thy servants as they pray,
and thy fullest benediction shed within its walls away.

Laud and honor to the Father, laud and honor to the Son,
Laud and honor to the Spirit, ever three and ever one,
one in might, and one in glory, while unending ages run.

WE HEAR AND RESPOND TO THE WORD

Hymn of Preparation No. 473

Lead Me, Lord

LEAD ME, LORD

Epistle Reading

Colossians 3:1-11

Reader: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Prayers of the People

After each petition, we enter into the prayer together with these words:

Pastor: Lord, in your mercy,

People: **Hear our prayer.**

The Lord's Prayer

Offertory

Rock of Ages

Michael Cox

† Doxology

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Him, all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

† Prayer of Dedication

WE GO OUT TO SERVE

† Closing Hymn No. 610

We Know That Christ Is Raised

ENGELBERG

† **Benediction**

† **Benediction Response**

Lift High the Cross

CRUCIFER

**Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
till all the world adore His sacred name.**

Come, Christians, follow this triumphant sign.

The hosts of God in unity combine.

**Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
till all the world adore His sacred name.**

† **Closing Voluntary**

Rigaudon

André Campra

† Stand as you are able

WORSHIP LEADERS



PREACHERS

Rev. Dr. James C. Howell, Senior Minister (8:30, 11:00)

Palmer Cantler, Duke Divinity Intern (9:45)



LITURGISTS

Rev. Barbara Barden, Minister of Adult Education

Rev. Nathan Arledge, Minister of Missions



LAY READERS

Carol Green (8:30), Rick Rothacker (9:45), Mark Kinghorn (11:00)



MUSICIANS

James R. Jones, Director of Music and Organ

Dr. Catherine Hicks, organ (9:45, 11:00)

Josh Wald, baritone

Summer Choir (11:00)

TODAY AT MYERS PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH...

WELCOME! We are thankful you are here, worshiping with us. If you're just getting to know us, we are a community that welcomes people from all walks of life. Any staff member, usher or church member is glad to answer questions, or share directions. Check out the *Guest Information* bookcases in the narthex gathering space outside the Sanctuary or drop by the Welcome Center in the lobby of the Parish Life Building for resources so you can get to know us better. New guests are invited to pick up a complimentary drink tumbler at the front desk, in the Sanctuary narthex and by the Jubilee Hall door.

DISCOVER MYERS PARK Want to learn more about our church family and how to get involved? Our *Discover Myers Park* class shares about the life of the church. The next *Discover Myers Park* meets at 10:45 a.m. Sunday, August 14, in the lobby of Parish Life Building for coffee, fellowship and conversation. You don't need to sign up in advance, just come and join us. Reach Rev. Parker Haynes at parker@mpumc.org to learn more.

WELCOME, CHILDREN Bright blue bags with fun activities for your children are at the Sanctuary entrances. Please return them after worship.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM Receiving the sacrament of Baptism at the 9:45 a.m. service is *Charles Cannon Priester*, son of *Katie and Jay Priester*. Being Baptized at the 11:00 a.m. service is *Brooks Ramsey Harrell*, son of *Holly and Kevin Harrell*.

THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR are given to the glory of God, in celebration of the marriage of *Lindsey Farrow and Jonathan Antonio* on Saturday at the church and in memory of Joseph Peter Sherman.

THE FLOWERS IN THE CHAPEL NARTHEX are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Nancy A. Guthery by her family.

HOLY COMMUNION THIS MORNING Holy Communion is celebrated each Sunday at 9:30 a.m. in the memorial chapel behind the Sanctuary except when it is given in worship services.

HYMN SING AT 5:30 P.M.

The annual *Hymns & Hot Dogs* hymn sing is at 5:30 p.m. this afternoon in Jubilee Hall. Hot dogs, chips, lemonade and fellowship follow. Bring a friend and neighbor to share in the music, fellowship and food.

YOUNG ADULTS NEWS A book study at 7:00 p.m. Sundays through August 7 in Room 108 of the Parish Life Building is focusing on *Shiny Gods – finding freedom from things that distract us* by Mike Slaughter. The Holy Rollers kickball team plays Tuesday evenings through August 23 at Revolution Park. To join the team, reach Rob Dellibovi at rdellibovi@gmail.com. For more on young adults: Interim Director of Young Adults Jessica Stevens at 706-267-7026 or jessica@mpumc.org.

DOWNLOAD OUR APP The Myers Park United Methodist Church mobile app is available for download. You'll find the latest sermons from Dr. Howell and our pastoral staff, live streaming worship services and other resources to help you stay connected online and in real life. To download, search for Myers Park Methodist in the Apple App Store, Google Play Store or Windows Marketplace.

CONNECT ON SOCIAL MEDIA Miss a sermon? Want to share a Sunday message? Watch videos, listen to podcasts, share and connect on social media – 24/7 – plus find exclusive content and photos. Connect at www.facebook.com/myersparkumc, follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/myersparkumc and on Instagram at www.instagram.com/myersparkumc. Subscribe to our Podcast, Myers Park UMC Sermons, available for free on iTunes. Subscribe to our YouTube channel, www.YouTube.com/MyersParkMethodist.

WE ARE THE BODY OF CHRIST...

CALLBOX IN PLACE As part of our heightened awareness of security and safety, we ask that you enter the church during the week through the Parish Life Building main entrance (under the portico). Other doors are often locked during nonpeak hours. If you find the main door locked after 5:00 p.m. weekdays, use the new callbox just outside the door to summon the staffer on duty to let you in.

YOUTH OPERA Youth will perform the opera, *Brundibar*, at 7:00 p.m. Friday, August 12, in Jubilee Hall. Tickets at the door are \$15. Sponsored by Opera Carolina Academy and Mosaic Arts, this is the culminating event of Opera Carolina's workshop for teens. The opera was written for the children of the Nazis' Terezin concentration camp, and offers a powerful message of courage. A Q&A with students follows. Details: (704) 372-1000 or www.CarolinaTix.org.

BACK TO SCHOOL Sorry, kids, we know it's early, but a reminder: The annual Blessing of the Backpacks will be at 9:45 a.m. Sunday, August 28, in Jubilee Hall. At 5:00 p.m. Sunday, August 28, in the Sanctuary, the Back To School Prayer Service will usher in the new school year. Dr. Howell will lead the service. The Middle School Back To School Bash follows at 5:30 p.m. in the church parking lot.

SMALL STUFF MISSION Need some work done around the house? Church member Jim Walters has started *Small Stuff Mission* to help seniors, the handicapped and others with light projects. Reach him at 704-607-7157 or jfwalters45@gmail.com.

STEP, JUMP, LEAP ONLINE The plan to reignite church efforts in five areas – Grow In Faith, Radical Hospitality, Community Building And Partnerships, Education, and Affordable Housing – is posted on the home page of www.myersparkumc.org. Read *Step, Jump, Leap*, as it's called, then reach church member Dave Lank at 704-909-8152 to ask question or share an idea.

GROWING IN FAITH...

SIGN UP FOR FALL SMALL GROUPS

View class information (including days and times) and sign up for small groups, which start the week of September 5, at www.myersparkumc.org/small-groups. Included are *Companions In Christ*, *Disciple Bible Study* and *Emotionally Healthy Spirituality* small groups.

SING IN SUMMER CHOIR Everyone from sixth grade on up regardless of experience is invited to sing in the Summer Choir at the 11:00 a.m. Sanctuary service through August 7. Gather in the Choir Room at 10:00 a.m. on those mornings for coffee and donuts, then rehearse at 10:15 a.m. before singing in worship. You can participate on any or all Sundays. Details: Nancy Hamff at 704-295-4831 or nancy@mpumc.org.

CHILLIN' WITH CHIMES Kids in Grades K-2 are invited to enjoy a handchime experience from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. Monday, August 1, in Room 229 (Music Library). To learn more, reach Director of Music for Children and Youth Brian Childers at 704-295-4806 or brian@mpumc.org.

LEARN ABOUT BAPTISM All are invited to learn about the sacrament of Baptism at a class at 9:45 a.m. Sunday, August 14, in Francis Chapel. We'll share the meaning of baptism, and logistics involved in getting your child baptized at our church. The class is required for parents seeking baptism for their child. Child care is available. No reservations are needed to attend the class.

TEACHER TRAINING If you're currently teaching an adult Sunday School class or leading an adult small group, or want to do so, please attend a training session from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. Sunday, August 14, in Room 106 of the Parish Life Building. Details: Rev. Barbara Barden at 704-295-4813 or bbarden@mpumc.org.

MARRIAGE WORKSHOP Counselor Bronah Livingston will lead a *Marriage Matters* workshop from 9:00 a.m. to noon Saturday, August 20, in Room 108 of the Parish Life Building. The seminar meets the premarital counseling for those getting married at the church. All couples are welcome. The seminar will explore Dr. John Gottman's book, *The Seven Principles for Making Marriage Work*. The seminar is free for those getting married at the church, \$30 per couple for others, payable at the workshop by check or cash. To register by August 18, reach Carmen Rivera at 704-295-4818 or crivera@mpumc.org.

DISCIPLE FAST TRACK *Disciple Fast Track: Face 2 Face* at 7:00 p.m. Wednesday, August 24, in Room 106 of the Parish Life Building offers the chance to learn more about *Disciple Fast Track* Bible study starting the week of September 5. You will also be able to sign up for the *Fast Track* course, offering a 24-week study devoted to the Old and New Testaments. Registration begins Monday at www.myersparkumc.org.

TWO PROGRAMS WITH DR. HOWELL Our Senior Pastor will lead a program at 7:00 p.m. Monday, September 12, in Jubilee Hall on having a civil conversation. He'll engage in a dialogue with Molly Barker, whose Red Boot Coalition is focused on ending the rancor that exists today. At 7:00 p.m. Monday, September 26, in Jubilee Hall, Dr. Howell will explore religion and politics from a Christian and Methodist perspective.

SERVING OTHERS...

A FREEDOM SCHOOL THANK YOU

A shout-out to the 125 lay servants who chaperoned field trips, read aloud, provided treats and more during our 10th Freedom School summer. The six-week program at Sedgefield Elementary wrapped up with the fun-filled finale in Jubilee Hall. A special thank you to lay leader Ellen Underwood, who has graciously served this ministry for many summers.

JUBILEE STORE Serve from your computer: Visit the Amazon or Target wish lists at www.myersparkumc.org/serve and order a Christmas gift for the store that serves families moving toward home ownership. We are accepting Bath and Body Works products for teenage girls, Axe products for teenage boys and scooters and helmets for younger children. Items are shipped to the church. You can also shop at any store and place unwrapped gifts in the Parish Life lobby bin.

BACK TO SCHOOL COLLECTION We are collecting the following for teachers at our partner schools, Sedgefield Elementary and Sedgefield Middle: \$10 Target gift cards, \$10 gas gift cards, canisters of disinfectant wipes (such as Clorox wipes), boxes of tissues and hand sanitizers. Donations go in the Parish Life lobby bin. Or look for the Missions Department folks serving lemonade and offering gift cards for sale next Sunday, August 7, on the church lawn (Queens Road side). It moves indoors in bad weather.

SERVE AT MEN'S SHELTER Prepare and serve dinner at the Men's Shelter from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. August 3 and 9. Sign up at www.myersparkumc.org/serve.

HAITI MISSION TEAM FORMING Join our team headed to Bayonnais, Haiti, October 26 to November 2. Our partnership is focusing on sustainable efforts that include an agronomy program, quality education, food for the community and building relationships. We've already built a choir room and classrooms and provided toilets for the school. Register at www.myersparkumc.org. Questions? Reach Nancy Holmes at nholmes@mpumc.org.

COLLECTION FOR LOAVES & FISHES July is the busiest month for our food pantry, since kids don't receive school breakfasts and lunches. Grab a MPUMC canvas bag and fill it with canned and boxed goods, especially cereals and canned fruit, meats and pastas. Donations go in the Parish Life lobby bin.

LIVEDIFFERENTLY WEEKEND COMING Pencil in October 1-2 to *#LiveDifferently* as a church. We'll have several hunger-related service opportunities as we celebrate World Communion Day. Details are coming.



Myers Park United Methodist Church
1501 Queens Road Charlotte, NC 28207
James C. Howell, Senior Minister
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Myers Park United Methodist Church Mission Statement:
We are the body of Christ, growing in faith and serving others.