

Myers Park
United Methodist Church



The Parable of the Rich Fool, Rembrandt

A Service of Christian Worship

September 4, 2016

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

Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost

WE GATHER

Welcome

Please pass the hospitality pads at this time.

Passing of the Peace

Chiming of the Holy Trinity

Introit

“A Simple Song” from *Mass*

Leonard Bernstein

† **Call to Worship**

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

The Lord satisfies the thirsty
and fills the hungry with good things.

I cried out to the Lord in my trouble,
and he delivered me from my distress.

Though the foolish will die, the wise too shall perish,
if they boast in the abundance of their riches.

But I shall not fear in times of trouble,
my soul trusts in the Lord, for he is good.

† **Opening Hymn No. 577**

God of Grace and God of Glory

CWM RHONDDA

† **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

**Lord we know that wealth and riches do not save us,
yet we live our lives as if they are sacred.
Forgive us for seeking after the worldly things all around us
and forgetting that all we have is a gift from you.
Remind us of your faithfulness
so that we might not store up the treasures of this world.
You satisfy our thirst and fill our empty stomachs,
now change our hearts and free our souls,
to find the treasure that is our Lord Jesus Christ. 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.

Anthem

What Does the Lord Require? (9:45, 11:00)

Eric Nelson

What does the Lord require for praise and offering?
What sacrifice, desire, or tribute bid you bring?
To do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with your God.

Rulers of earth, give ear! Should you not justice know?
Will God your pleading hear, while crime and cruelty grow?

How shall our life fulfill God's law so high?
Let Christ endue our will with grace.

WE HEAR AND RESPOND TO THE WORD

† Hymn of Preparation 465 (Stanza 1)

Holy Spirit, Truth Divine

CANTERBURY

**Holy Spirit, Truth divine, dawn upon this soul of mine;
Word of God and inward light, wake my spirit, clear my sight.**

† Gospel Reading

Luke 12:13-21

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

Consecration

John Ness Beck

Take my life, and let it be consecrated, Lord, to Thee;
take my moments and my days, let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands, and let them move at the impulse of Thy love;
take my feet, and let them be swift and beautiful for Thee.

Take my voice and let it sing always, only, for my King.
Take my lips, and let them be filled with messages from Thee.

Take my silver and my gold; not a mite would I withhold.
Take my intellect, and use every power as Thou shalt choose.

Take my will, and make it Thine; it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is Thine own; it shall be Thy royal throne.

Take my love, my Lord, I pour at Thy feet its treasure store.
Take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for Thee.

† 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. 451**

Be Thou My Vision

SLANE

† **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**

God of Grace

Paul Manz

† Stand as you are able

WORSHIP LEADERS



PREACHER

Rev. Nathan Arledge, Minister of Missions (8:30, 9:45)

Rev. Parker Haynes, Associate Minister (11:00)



LITURGISTS

Rev. Barbara Barden, Minister of Adult Education

Rev. Bill Roth, Minister of Congregational Care



LAY READERS

Margo Wells (8:30), Linda Borders (9:45), John Snyder (11:00)



MUSICIANS

Nicolas Haigh, Music Associate and Organist

Brian Childers, Director of Music for Children and Youth (9:45, 11:00)

Margaret Haigh, soprano

Xela Pinkerton, soprano

Chancel Choir (9:45, 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.

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

DISCOVER MYERS PARK Want to learn more about our church family, how to get involved and perhaps join our congregation? Our *Discover Myers Park* class shares about the life of the church. *Discover Myers Park* meets at 10:45 a.m. Sunday, October 23, in the lobby of Parish Life Building for coffee, fellowship and conversation. You don't need to sign up in advance for these gatherings, just come and join us. Reach Rev. Parker Haynes at parker@mpumc.org to learn more.

THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mr. and Mrs. Robert I. Dalton Sr. by their 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.

FAMILY SERVICE NIGHT: Each month, your missions team will offer a take-home-and-serve opportunity for families. It's sort of like a family movie night or family pizza night, but ours is all about serving together as a family in your own home! September's family service project is making sandwiches for Urban Ministry. Go to myersparkumc.org/serve to download directions.

LOUISIANA FLOOD RELIEF We are collecting funds to help those affected by the recent floods. Donate at www.myersparkumc.org/give. For every \$65 you donate, you can help a family fill a flood bucket with cleaning supplies. You can also write a check to the church with *Flood Relief* in the memo line and put it in the offering plate or mail it to 1501 Queens Road, Charlotte, NC 28207.

CHURCH CLOSED MONDAY The church is closed Monday, September 5, for Labor Day. Those needing help can call 704-376-8584 and follow the prompts to the pastor on call.

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.

THE SUNDAY SHUTTLE The popular Sunday shuttle bus service runs continuously from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. between the church and Myers Park Traditional at 2132 Radcliffe Avenue off Selwyn Avenue, so you don't have to hunt for a parking space.

WE ARE THE BODY OF CHRIST...

SOCIAL JUSTICE GROUP FORMING We have a lot of energy bubbling up around issues of race, reconciliation, education, economics, housing. If you sense a calling to be involved in helping us think through how to engage the issues of the day from a Christian and Methodist perspective, reach Dr. Howell at 704-295-4850 or james@mpumc.org. Our recently adopted *Step Jump Leap* strategic plan urges us to be a church that advocates for social justice and a better community.

H.O.T. WEDNESDAY H.O.T. Wednesday returns September 14, offering a delicious meal and fellowship from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. each Wednesday in Jubilee Hall. Each week in the Sunday bulletin, we will share the upcoming menu and how to make reservations. Menus are also at www.myersparkumc.org. The Goodness Gracious! gift shop in the Parish Life lobby is open until 7:30 p.m. Wednesdays when H.O.T. Wednesday meets.

CARING FOR AGING PARENTS The congregation and community are invited to a panel discussion on *Issues In Caring For Aging Parents* at 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, September 20, in Francis Chapel. Sponsored by Stephen Ministries, the panel will include Parish Nurse Susan Mobley, Rev. Bill Roth and church member Bob Truscello. Among the topics: Spirituality, and expectations when faced with this challenge in life.

ADULTS PLUS! The Adults Plus! ministry for ages 55 and over begins a new season of programs and fellowship at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, September 21, in Room 103 of the Parish Life Building. Molly Barker of the Red Boot Coalition will talk about her work promoting “honest sharing and compassionate listening” – continuing the conversation she shares with Dr. Howell on Monday, September 12, at 7:00 p.m. in Jubilee Hall. A barbecue chicken lunch follows for the Adults Plus! folks at noon September 21 in Jubilee Hall. To make a reservation by noon September 20, call 704-376-5520 (option two) or e-mail cmull@mpumc.org.

GROWING IN FAITH...

CAN WE TALK CIVILLY?

At 7:00 p.m. Monday, September 12, in Jubilee Hall, Dr. Howell will engage in a dialogue with Molly Barker about how to start a civil conversation with someone you don't understand or know, and why it's important. Molly founded Charlotte's Red Boot Coalition, which promotes what it calls “honest sharing and compassionate listening.”

SMALL GROUPS Long-term small groups begin this week. But there is still time to register for *Companions In Christ*, *Disciple Bible Study* and many short-term small groups that start in a few weeks. Visit www.myersparkumc.org/small-groups for details and to sign up.

ORIENTATION FOR PRESCHOOL PARENTS Ever wondered what your preschooler does during the Sunday school hour? Now is your chance to find out! Join Children's Ministries for a Preschool Parent Orientation on Sunday, September 18 at 10 am in Francis Chapel. Contact Heidi Giffin at heidi@mpumc.org for more information.

WANT TO BE A PART OF MUSIC MINISTRY? Would you like to sing or play in one of our choirs? We offer opportunities for all abilities and commitment levels with our Chancel Choir, Women's Ensemble and many handbell choirs. You can find more about rehearsal times and other details at www.myersparkumc.org or by reaching Nancy Hamff at 704-295-4831 or nancy@mpumc.org.

RISING STRONG WORKSHOP Church member Frances Baldwin will lead a six-session workshop at the church based on Brené Brown's book, *Rising Strong*, from 9:30 a.m. to noon Fridays from September 16 to October 21 in Room 105 of the Parish Life Building. The workshop will focus on helping people "get up when they find themselves face down in the arena," as Brown puts it. To learn more and sign up, reach Frances at 704-654-0064 or frances@baldwindavis.com.

NEW CLASS FOR WOMEN Women of all ages are invited to participate in a new class – *Simply Women* – that will meet at 9:45 a.m. each Sunday in Room 167 in the Youth Building starting September 18. Participants from all stages in life will share Bible study and fellowship. Details: Director of Young Adults Jessica Stevens at 704-295-4803 or jessica@mpumc.org.

MINDFULNESS BOOK STUDY Parish Nurse Susan Mobley will facilitate a book study on *Mindfulness: An Eight-Week Plan for Finding Peace in a Frantic World* by Mark Williams and Danny Penman. The class will meet Mondays from 11:00 a.m. to noon from September 19 to November 14 in Room 103 in the Parish Life Building. Class size is limited to 15. To sign up, reach Carmen Rivera at 704-295-4818 or crivera@mpumc.org.

RELIGION AND POLITICS In the midst of this bitter election season, Dr. Howell will explore religion and politics from a Christian and Methodist perspective at 7:00 p.m. Monday, September 26, in Jubilee Hall.

ADULTS PLUS! RETREAT The ministry to ages 55 and over will hold a Spiritual Life Retreat October 19-21 at Lake Junaluska in the N.C. mountains. Church member Mark Edwards will lead a program on *Paul: His Letters And The Early Church*. To learn more, reach Christine Mull at 704-295-4815 or cmull@mpumc.org.

SERVING OTHERS...

HAITI MISSION TO BAYONNAIS Join our team headed to 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. Deadline to register is September 16 at www.myersparkumc.org/serve under *Global Missions*. Details: Steve Breckenridge at 704-231-1138 or sbreckenridge@carolina.rr.com.

NOW THAT SCHOOL HAS STARTED ... We invite you to share your time and talents with our flourishing ministries at our partner schools, Sedgefield Elementary and Sedgefield Middle:

- **AFTERNOONS:** For the Love of Reading is one-on-one reading with a Sedgefield Elementary second grader from 1:45-2:45 p.m. Tuesday or Thursday, October-April. Contact Beth Gage, bethdgage@gmail.com.
- **CLASSROOM SUPPORT:** Connect with a teacher and offer assistance in a classroom weekly. Contact Meredith Tye, meredithbtye@gmail.com.
- **WHEN NEEDED:** Join the education on-call team and receive calls for service when they pop up. Sign up at MyersParkUMC.org/serve.
- **MORNINGS:** HEART Math Tutoring pairs lay servants with first-third graders. Weekday mornings, 7:45-8:45 a.m. Contact Padgett Sullivan, padgett.sullivan@hearttutoring.org

HABITAT BUILD A lovely family of five will join with Myers Park United Methodist and Presbyterian churches to help build their Habitat home in the Grier Heights community. We'll serve two to three days a week starting Friday, September 9. Sign up at www.myersparkumc.org/serve.

DONATIONS FOR BRAZIL The team headed next month to Brazil welcomes donations of reading glasses, coloring books, soccer balls and more. The entire list is at www.myersparkumc.org/serve under *Global Missions*. Shop from the Amazon wish list and have donations delivered to the Parish Life lobby through September 11.

LIVEDIFFERENTLY WEEKEND COMING Get pumped Myers Park!! Our first ever #livedifferently weekend is on the way. October 1st - 2nd we will hit the streets, your ovens, your hearts and your call to be disciples who see the hungry and give them something to eat (Matthew 25:42). Details coming soon on how to serve the food insecure in our community and then globally, through Stop Hunger Now.



Myers Park United Methodist Church
1501 Queens Road Charlotte, NC 28207
James C. Howell, Senior Minister
704-376-8584 www.mpumc.org

Myers Park United Methodist Church Mission Statement:
We are the body of Christ, growing in faith and serving others.