

# Myers Park United Methodist Church



*Mystery of the Word in the Parable of the Fig Tree, Lillemor Ashford  
The lesson of the parable may be "give things time to grow or to change.  
A barren tree, a naughty puppy, or a person who is growing in faith."*

## A Service of Christian Worship

September 13, 2020

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

## Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

### WE GATHER

#### Gathering Music

*"Le Cygne (The Swan)" from Carnival of the Animals*

Camille Saint-Saëns

#### Welcome

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

HYMN TO JOY

**Joyful, joyful, we adore You, God of glory, Lord of love;  
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before You, op'ning to the sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away;  
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day!**

† **Hymn**

Oceans (Where Feet May Fail)  
You call me out upon the waters  
The great unknown where feet may fail  
And there I find You in the mystery  
In oceans deep my faith will stand

M. Crocker, J. Houston, S. Lighthelm

And I will call upon Your name  
And keep my eye above the waves  
When oceans rise  
My soul will rest in Your embrace  
For I am Yours and You are mine

Your grace abounds in deepest waters  
Your sov'reign hand will be my guide  
Where feet may fail and fear surrounds me  
You've never failed and You won't start now

And I will call upon Your name  
And keep my eye above the waves  
When oceans rise  
My soul will rest in Your embrace  
For I am Yours and You are mine

Spirit lead me where my trust is without borders  
Let me walk upon the waters  
Wherever You would call me  
Take me deeper than my feet could ever wander  
And my faith will be made stronger  
In the presence of my Saviour  
*Repeat*

I will call upon Your name  
Keep my eyes above the waves  
My soul will rest in Your embrace  
I am Yours and You are mine

† **The Creed No. 881**

Apostles' Creed

† **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.

## WE HEAR AND RESPOND TO THE WORD

### **The Epistle Reading**

Reader:

People:

### **Sermon**

### **Presentation of Bibles**

### **Anthem**

The Word Was God

Rosephanye Powell

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was God.

The same was in the beginning with God.

All things were made that have been made.

All things were made by him.

### **Prayers**

**The Lord's Prayer No. 895**

### **Going Out**

## WE GO OUT TO SERVE

### **† Closing Hymn No. 98**

To God Be the Glory

TO GOD BE THE GLORY

**To God be the glory, great things he has done!**

**So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,**

**who yielded his life an atonement for sin,**

**and opened the life-gate that we may go in.**

**Refrain:**

**Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,**

**let the earth hear his voice!**

**Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,**

**let the people rejoice!**

**O come to the Father thro' Jesus the Son,**

**and give him the glory, great things he has done!**

**O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood!**

**To ev'ry believer the promise of God;**

**the vilest offender who truly believes,**

**that moment from Jesus forgiveness receives. [Refrain]**

Great things he has taught us, great things he has done,  
and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;  
but purer and higher and greater will be  
our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see. [Refrain]

† **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**

“The People Respond, Amen” from *Rubrics*

Dan Locklair

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† Stand as you are able

**WORSHIP LEADERS**



**PREACHER**

Dr. James C. Howell, Senior Pastor



**LITURGISTS**

Rev. Taylor Pryde Barefoot, Pastor for Emerging Ministries

Rev. Uiyeon Kim, Pastor of Discipleship

Rev. Jessica Dayson, Pastor for Young Adults & Lay Involvement

Rev. Nathan Arledge, Pastor of Missions & Community Engagement



**WORSHIP LEADERS**

Amy Jo Alspaugh, Director of Children’s Ministries

Amy Hendricks

Brenna and Buster Castelloe

Dr. Greg Underwood



**LAY READERS**

Ella Ross

Henry Sigmon



## MUSICIANS

Evan Wesley Currie, Music Associate and Organist  
Dr. Jennifer Hough, Church in the Round Music Director  
Zachary Tarlton, Church in the Round Music Associate  
Church in the Round Worship Leaders  
Small ensemble  
Robert Moody, cello



## AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETER

Aimee Anderson (9:45)

### *Welcome to*

### *Myers Park United Methodist Church*

**Welcome!** We are thankful you are here worshiping with us. We invite you to register your attendance with us today:

<https://form.jotform.com/201695904497164>

**Today we celebrate** these 84 third graders who received the gift of an engraved Bible from the church in a special outdoor, socially distanced ceremony on Sunday, August 30: *Granger Albergotti, Brooke Alexander, Emmy Alexander, Kinsley Allen, Peyton Appel, Isabella Bankhead, Charlie Best, Grayson Bradford, Harrison Bradford, Evie Calloway, David Cannon, Eleanor Chance, Will Coley, Max Collins-Friedland, Griffin Crum, Allie DiCicco, Conner Emmerling, Bennett Evans, Gracen FitzGerald, Lily Fulghum, Charlotte Fuller, Henry Gaither, Lauren Gilman, Thomas Goeken, Anna Gribble, Mary Gribble, Ryden Griffin, Hollins Hauser, Jordie Hawkins, Maddie Hennessy, Luke Hickman, Lila Hobbs, Mary Hardin Holloway, Elise Hudson, Jack Jesse, Evan Johnson, Isaiah Krug, Davis Lenarcic, Harrison Linch, Warren Lindley, Sloan Magura, Pippin Manwaring, Amos Metheney, Emily Monk, Avery Moore, Dylan Mullis, Lilly Murphy, Laine Oglesbee, Grayson Peede, Anna Merritt Peterson, Tripp Poe, Tucker Porter, Jack Priester, Clara Rankin, Colin Ratcliffe, Annie Rayburn, Will Rechkemmer, Charlotte Reich, Emily Reikowski, Mary Miller Roane, Emmie Rodden, Ella Ross, Gracelynn Sandy, Caroline Schonberg, Collin Seneker, Addison Shaffer, Emmy Shoemake, Webb Shull, Henry Sigmon, Elliot Smith, Kate Steele, Walker Stockdale, Jackson Surowitz, Knox Tate, Elisabeth Toms, Trudy Hall Valentine, Laney Warren, Baker Whitworth, Howell Wiley, Speight Wiley, Weldon Wright, Parker Zollinger, Austin Zouzoulas, and Sloane Zouzoulas.*

**Thank you** for your ongoing offerings to our church Operating Fund during this season of shifting connections. Your faithful commitment enables us to remain connected in new and creative ways during a time where we are physically apart. Make your offering today at [www.myersparkumc.org/give](http://www.myersparkumc.org/give) or by mail to 1501 Queens Road, Charlotte, NC 28207. Questions about giving opportunities? Contact Jamie Yearwood, Director of Development, at [jyearwood@mpumc.org](mailto:jyearwood@mpumc.org) or 704-295-4808.

**Sundays @5 with the Church in the Round Worship Team**, *Tonight, 5:00 p.m.*, <https://livestream.com/mpumc/events/9266053>: Join us for a service of prayer and praise with music led by our Church in the Round musicians. Tonight James Howell and Taylor Pryde Barefoot will talk about *Praying Together*.

**Archaeology: The Mystery and Our Greatest Finds**, *September 16, Live at 11:00 a.m. or 8:00 p.m. and viewable later*: This week, join Dr. Howell as he leads a conversation with archaeologist Shimon Gibson. They will talk about archaeology and the mystery within our greatest finds. Watch on [Facebook Live](#) or via [livestream](#).

**Midday Music - Live from MPUMC**: *Wednesday, September 16, 12:00 p.m.* Join Evan Currie and special guests Ellie Dixon and Ibby Wilson for some live music. Ellie and Ibby are two of MPUMC's talented youth. Watch live [here](#). You can also access all the Midday Music events from this link and enjoy them again.

**Walk the Labyrinth**, *Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., Francis Chapel*: The Labyrinth is open for socially distanced walking and prayer. [Click here](#) to make your 30-minute reservation.

**Fall Small Groups Begin This Week**, *various days and times on Zoom*: As we begin a new churchwide focus on "Embracing Mystery," we offer a new series of small group studies for the fall. Book studies on titles by Richard Rohr and N.T. Wright are on the schedule along with a new group engaging in anti-racism. Groups will be online at various times of the week and led by our clergy. Descriptions, schedules and Zoom instructions are on our website at [www.myersparkumc.org/small-groups](http://www.myersparkumc.org/small-groups).

**Family Bedtime Stories**, *Tuesdays and Thursdays beginning September 15, 7:00 p.m.*, [Facebook](#): Families, put on your PJs, go to our Facebook page and snuggle up for Bedtime Stories read to you by fellow MPUMC families! What a fun way to end the day: seeing your church friends share a story from their home to yours. Does your family want to read a story? [Sign up here](#)! Questions? [Email](#) Amy Jo Alspaugh.

**Children's Ministries' Drive-Thru Lemonade Stand, September 20, 1:00 p.m.- 2:30 p.m.:** Stop by the church and visit our drive-thru lemonade stand. The Children's Ministries team will be there to greet you as we say good-bye to summer and hello to fall. Sign up [here](#) to let us know you're coming. The lemonade is free, but we will collect optional donations for Zoe Empowers. Learn more about Zoe [here](#). Questions? [Email](#) Leslie Lowery.

**Raising White Kids: An Anti-Racism Conversation for All of Us, September 22, 7:30 p.m., Facebook Live:** Powerful conundrums exist when it comes to raising *white* children in a society that is racially diverse, but full of racial injustice. Should we teach white kids to be "colorblind"? Or, should we teach them to notice race? What roles do we want them to play in addressing racism when they encounter it? How do we best do that? On top of it all, when we talk about race well we have to talk about the reality of white privilege and racial injustice. How do we teach about race honestly, without making our children feel bad about being white? New York Times bestselling author and professor of religion at Drake University, Rev. Dr. Jennifer Harvey, will join us for a deep-dive, question-and-answer session about her book *Raising White Kids: Bringing Up Children in a Racially Unjust America*. Bring your questions, your insights, your hopes and continue this journey that we need to be on together.

**Children's Ministries' Sacred Spaces at Home Surprise Kits:** If you're missing the sacredness of the sanctuary or another special place in the church as we continue to worship at home, we encourage you to designate a quiet space inside or outside your home as a sacred space where your family can go to pray, read the Bible, or just be alone with God. To make it more meaningful, add special items such as a Bible, a cross, and a blanket to sit on. **Would you like to add a special new item to your space each week? [Sign up for a Sacred Spaces at Home Surprise Kit](#) by **September 15!**** Each kit contains nine surprise items. You'll open one item each week (**September 27-November 22**) and add it to your sacred space. Come to the [Children's Ministries website](#) each week to read about the new item you'll open. On **September 25**, kits will be available for pickup under the portico and a description of the first week's Sacred Spaces at Home Surprise Kit item will be posted on our website. [Here is a sneak peek at the first one.](#) Questions? Email [Amy Jo Alspaugh](#).

**Pandemic Resiliency on Zoom, September 15, 1:00 p.m.:** Join us as Parish Nurse Lauren Smith and Rev. Bill Roth discuss wellness and resiliency in the midst of our current pandemic. The topic is "Coping with Changes and Challenges." Bill and Lauren will be joined by Rev. Cathy Hasty, BSN, M.Div., LPCS and Resiliency Educator. The video will be available for later viewing as well. Register in Realm or email Carmen Rivera at [crivera@mpumc.org](mailto:crivera@mpumc.org).

**2020-2021 Confirmation Starts, Tonight, 5:00 p.m. on Zoom:** If you have signed up for Confirmation this year, tonight is the first night. We will have a virtual worship for both confirmands and their parents. Go to [www.mpumcyouth.org](http://www.mpumcyouth.org) for the Zoom link and more information.

**Youth YouTube Premiere, Tonight, 6:00 p.m.:** Tune in [here](#) to see the first Youth YouTube. You will not want to miss it.

**Check Out the Youth Virtual Interactive Prayer Room!** [Click here to visit.](#)

**Middle School Virtual Game Nights, Wednesdays, 5:00 p.m. on Zoom:** Please have a computer and your phone to play. Meeting ID: 990 7646 8431, Passcode: Jesus

**Young Professional Women's Online Bible Study, Wednesdays, 7:00 p.m. on Zoom:** Women in their 20s and 30s are welcome to join. For more information, email Caitlin Stanley at [pattoncr2@gmail.com](mailto:pattoncr2@gmail.com).

**Women's Retreat Goes Virtual in 2021!** The planning team for the 2021 retreat scheduled for February 12-14 has made the historic decision to hold the popular event online due to the current COVID-19 pandemic. While it is disappointing to know we will not be physically together, the team anticipates a vastly creative and inspiring time by coming together in a new and different way. All women of the church are invited to share feedback through [this survey](#) to help us make a great plan!



*Stephen Ministry congregations equip and empower lay caregivers to provide confidential, Christ-centered care to people who are hurting. To learn more about this powerful ministry, contact Rev. Bill Roth at 704-295-4835 or [broth@mpumc.org](mailto:broth@mpumc.org).*



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**Rev. Uiyeon Kim, Pastor of Discipleship**

ukim@mpumc.org 704-295-4840

**Rev. Bill Roth, Pastor of Congregational Care**

broth@mpumc.org 704-295-4835

**Rev. Nancy Watson, Executive Pastor**

nwatson@mpumc.org 704-295-4823

### **TALK WITH A PASTOR**

A pastor on staff stands ready to respond to your question or concern.

Those needing immediate pastoral help should call

704-376-8584 and follow the prompts to the pastor on call.

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



**MYERS PARK**

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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704-376-8584 | [WWW.MYERSPARKUMC.ORG](http://WWW.MYERSPARKUMC.ORG)