

*A church dedicated to the glory of God
in the service of humanity through worship,
congregational care, Christian education
and the stewardship of life.*



**THE WORSHIP OF GOD
THE SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY;
FAMILY DEDICATION; RICE BOWL
12 February 2012 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.*

THE SILENT MEDITATION

It's strange to be here. The mystery never leaves us.

John O'Donohue, *Anam Cara*

Your identity is not equivalent to your biography. There is a place in you where you have never been wounded, where there is still a sureness in you, where there is a seamlessness in you, and where there is a confidence and tranquility in you. The intention of prayer, spirituality, and love is now and again to visit that inner kind of sanctuary.

John O'Donohue, interview on *Speaking of Faith*

THE RINGING OF THE ANGELUS BELL

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

THE OPENING VOLUNTARY

“No. IX (Nimrod)” from *Variations on an Original Theme (Enigma)*

Edward Elgar
(1857-1934)

John Hewett, piano

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 a coffee fellowship in Heaton Hall Foyer immediately following worship. We invite our guests to the Parlor just off the Foyer for a more personal welcome and to answer any questions you may have about our church.

***THE OPENING SENTENCES**

(from Isaiah 40:28-31)

Leader: Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. God does not faint or grow weary; God's understanding is unsearchable.

People: **God gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless.**

Leader: Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted;

People: **but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.**

*THE PRAYER OF INVOCATION

THE ANTHEM

“What a Wonder”

What a wonder it is to be alive;
to laugh and sing, and to know that God made you and me.
When I see how I slowly grow each day;
once in a cradle, and now I run, and skip and play.
What a wonder it is to be alive.
 What a wonder it is to be alive, for I know I’m in God’s care;
 I will sing my whole life long.
What a wonder, there’s no one just like me;
Not in this land, nor in lands beyond the farthest sea.
I give thanks that I’m special in this way.
God loves each child in a special way, so now I sing:
“What a wonder it is to be alive.”

Hand Chimes: Maddie Lanphear and Mary Steele

The Kinder and Carol Choirs
Malaysian folk melody
Arr. by Hal H. Hopson
(b. 1933)

THE SERVICE OF FAMILY DEDICATION

People: Mighty God, by your love we are given children through the miracle of birth. We give you thanks. May we greet each new son and daughter with joy, and surround them with faith, so they may know who you are and want to be your disciples. Never let us neglect children, but help us to delight in them, showing them the welcome you have shown us all through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Leader: In presenting your child to God,
do you promise in dependence upon God’s grace
and with the help of the church
to teach her the gifts and claims of the Christian faith,
and by prayer, word and example to bring her up
in the nurture, discipline, and instruction of the Lord?

Parents: *We do.*

Leader: Brothers and sisters of the household of faith,
I commend to you this family.
Will you covenant to stand with them
in the nurture of this child? Will you stay constant in success
and failure? Will you do all in your power to make this church
a true spiritual home for them, lending them the support of
your prayers and your example?

People: With God’s help we will so seek to follow Christ ourselves that this family will be strengthened and confirmed in their resolve, and that this child, surrounded by steadfast love, may be nurtured in the faith and strengthened in the way that leads to life.

THE WELCOMING

Rebecca and Josh Rine, along with Logan, bringing Dillon LeeAnn Rine.

THE WORD OF GOD IS PROCLAIMED AND HEARD

THE GOSPEL LESSONS

(See page 7 in the order of worship.)

Leader: For the Word of God in scripture, Mark 1:21-28
for the Word of God among us, Mark 1:29-39
for the Word of God within us. Mark 1:40-45

People: Thanks be to God.

+ *As the interlude begins, children in grades 1-4 are invited to go through the door beside the Lectern to join adult teachers. Parents may pick up their children grades 1 and 2 in the Cornwell Center Gym. Grades 3 and 4 will return to the sanctuary after the sermon and parents may pick them up at the front of the sanctuary at the conclusion of worship.*

*THE SERMON HYMN

Number 333

“O Savior in this quiet place”

St. Stephen

(Stanzas 1-3)

THE SERMON

The Reverend Dr. H. Stephen Shoemaker

“Jesus, Healer and Exorcist”

THE TIME FOR SILENT REFLECTION

THE CONGREGATION RESPONDS TO GOD’S WORD

*THE HYMN OF RESPONSE

Number 333

“O Savior in this quiet place”

St. Stephen

(Stanzas 4-6)

THE CHURCH AT PRAYER

THE LORD’S PRAYER

THE OFFERING

The Loose Plate Offering for February supports Men’s Shelter meals.

THE ANTHEM

The Chancel Choir

“Come, Ye Disconsolate”

Terre Johnson

Come, ye disconsolate, where'er ye languish,
Come to the mercy seat, fervently kneel.
Here bring your wounded hearts, here tell your anguish;
Earth has no sorrow that heav'n cannot heal.
Joy of the desolate, Light of the straying,
Hope of the penitent, fadeless and pure!
Here speaks the Comforter, tenderly saying,
“Earth has no sorrow that heav'n cannot cure.”
Here see the bread of life, see waters flowing
Forth from the throne of God, pure from above.
Come to the feast of love; come, ever knowing
Earth has no sorrow but heav'n can remove.

(Contemporary)

Thomas Moore
(1779-1852)

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 Church World Service-International Hunger Relief and Loaves and Fishes.

*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

Old Hundredth

**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.**

*THE PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*THE PROCESSION INTO THE WORLD AND CLOSING OF THE BIBLE

Number 13

“The King of love my Shepherd is”

St. Columba

THE BLESSING AND BENEDICTION

THE POSTLUDE

“Voluntary on *Lobe den Herren*”

*David Chernien
(b. 1957)*

* Those who wish may stand.

+ The ushers will seat those who are waiting.

*Following worship, you may place your Deacon Nomination Forms in the baskets
located in the front of the church and the Narthex.*

Following worship, you are invited to coffee fellowship in the foyer of Heaton Hall.

*We invite our guests to the Parlor just off the foyer for a more personal welcome
and to answer any questions you may have about our church.*

Leading worship today with The Reverend Dr. H. Stephen Shoemaker, Senior Minister,
The Reverend Ms. Cheryl Collins Patterson, Early Childhood Minister,
The Reverend Mr. George Linney, III, Pastor of Tobacco Trail Church, Durham, NC,
The Reverend Robin Lunn, Executive Director, Association of Welcoming and Affirming Baptists,
and Brian Caldwell, member of the congregation.

The Chancel, Kinder and Carol Choirs lead worship through music with
The Reverend Dr. Jonathan E. Crutchfield, Minister of Music,
Dr. Matthew Manwarren, Assistant Organist,
and Colin Burns, Director of the Carol Choir.

The acolytes are Skylar McKee, Taylor Lawing, and Anna Martin.

The sound technician is Eric Roberts. The webcast technician is John Bambach.

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God by Jenny Lou and Rob Wright
and in loving memory of his parents, Dr. Thomas H. and Mrs. Elizabeth Odell Wright,
and her parents, Mr. Henry Clay and Mrs. DeLoris Munsey St. Clair.

We give God thanks for the work and ministry of Rainey H. Underwood,
Events Coordinator, who joined our staff on February 13, 1984.

THE READINGS FOR SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2012

Mark 1:21-28 (NRSV)

They went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, and he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God." But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, "What is this? A new teaching--with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him." At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

Mark 1:29-39 (NRSV)

As soon as they left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them. That evening, at sundown, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons.

And the whole city was gathered around the door. And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. And Simon and his companions hunted for him. When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

Mark 1:40-45 (NRSV - Adapted)

A leper came to him begging him, and kneeling he said to him, "If you choose, you can make me clean." Moved with compassion, Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him, and said to him, "I do choose. Be made clean!" Immediately the leprosy left him, and he was made clean. After sternly warning him he sent him away at once, saying to him, "See that you say nothing to anyone; but go, show yourself to the priest, and offer for your cleansing what Moses commanded, as a testimony to them." But he went out and began to proclaim it freely, and to spread the word, so that Jesus could no longer go into a town openly, but stayed out in the country; and people came to him from every quarter.

THE CHURCH IN WITNESS AND MISSION

TODAY, FEBRUARY 12

THE SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY; FAMILY DEDICATION; RICE BOWL; THE REVEREND DR. H. STEPHEN SHOEMAKER PREACHING

- 8:30 Charlotte Community of Mindfulness Meditation Group, Room 27
- 9:00 Kinder and Carol Choirs Warm-up, Sanctuary
- 9:30 Early Childhood Sunday School Sign-in, Preschool Wing
- 9:30 God's Garden Workshops, Temple
- 9:45 Youth Sunday School, Youth Hall
- 9:45 Adult Sunday School
- 9:45 Connections: *Encountering Jesus on the Wisdom Path*, Shalom Hall
- 9:45 Connections: *Flourishing as a Couple*, Conference Room
- 9:45 Connections: *Getting to Know Us*, Cornwell Conference Center
- 9:45 Connections: *Parents of Youth*, Parlor
- 9:45 Connections: *Thriving as a Single Parent*, Room 251
- 10:15 Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
- 11:00 Worship in the Sanctuary; Family Dedication; Rice Bowl; Kinder and Carol Choirs sing
- 12:00 Coffee Fellowship, Heaton Hall Foyer
- 12:00 Guest Welcome, Parlor
- 12:15 Deacon Nomination Ballots, Conference Room
- 12:15 Pilgrimage to Iona Meeting with Dr. Shoemaker and Rev. Daugherty, Cornwell Lounge
- 4:00 Youth Jam, Youth Hall
- 5:00 Youth Choir Rehearsal, Berry Hall
- 5:00 Strategic Planning Council, Conference Room
- 6:15 NO Youth Supper or Fellowship

HEARING ASSISTANCE DEVICES are available for our morning worship services. We have three of these devices and they are free and available each Sunday for your use. Please see an usher as you enter the Narthex before worship and return them at the end of the service. If you would like additional information about these devices, please contact John Bambach at jbambach@mpbconline.org.

INFORMATION MEETING ABOUT PILGRIMAGE TO IONA - Dr. Steve Shoemaker and Reverend Andrew Daugherty invite you to a spiritual pilgrimage to Iona, an island off of the Scottish coast, the first week of July. Come to the information meeting today at 12:15pm in the Cornwell Center Lounge for more details.

SIGN UP TODAY FOR WOMEN'S WEDNESDAY - March 7: Please consider giving your time to this wonderful new outreach opportunity to care for our homeless neighbors who are women. We are in GREAT need for overnight hosts, and morning and afternoon van drivers. You can volunteer by signing up on the bulletin board in Heaton Hall Foyer or by contacting Cheri Lindblom, clindblom@mpbconline.org.

ROOM IN THE INN – SHINE YOUR LIGHT: Each Saturday through March, we will host 15 homeless neighbors overnight here at our church. Please volunteer to be an overnight host, provide a meal or drive the church van by signing up on the bulletin board in the foyer of Heaton Hall or on the RITI website. For more information, please contact Tara Agnew Harris at taraagnew@hotmail.com or 864.906.1865.

THIS WEEK

GET CONNECTED - REGISTER NOW for Potluck Suppers: Join small groups of MPBC members for a potluck supper! Each supper is a stand-alone offering, so choose and sign up for the host(ess) and date that works best for your schedule. Suppers begin in February and continue through March. Check out the entire list in the January Newsletter or on the MPBC website. Then, sign up ANY of these ways: Email or call Rick Goodin, rgoodin@mpbconline.org or 704.334.7232 x15 (include your name, phone, and email address, along with your selections); mail or bring a registration form to MPBC; or go to the Connections link on our website, www.mpbconline.org.

EARTHKEEPERS' NEXT EVENING MEETING will be Tuesday, February 14 at 7pm in the Parlor.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SERIES - *Calling for the Kingdom of God: Poetry and the Peacemaking Path* - Join writer and fellow MPBC member, Kathie Collins, February 15 from 6:15-7:15pm in Shalom Hall for readings and discussions of the work of poets Denise Levertov and William Stafford. Mystical contemplation and sacred activism are the banks of the poetic path along which these two poets lead.

LOOKING AHEAD

FEBRUARY 19: THE LAST SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY; THE REVEREND DR. H. STEPHEN SHOEMAKER
PREACHING

- 8:30 Charlotte Community of Mindfulness Meditation Group, Room 27
- 9:30 Early Childhood Sunday School Sign-in, Preschool Wing
- 9:30 God's Garden Workshops, Temple
- 9:45 Youth Sunday School, Youth Hall
- 9:45 Adult Sunday School
- 9:45 Connections: *Encountering Jesus on the Wisdom Path*, Shalom Hall
- 9:45 Connections: *Flourishing as a Couple*, Conference Room
- 9:45 Connections: *Getting to Know Us*, Cornwell Conference Center
- 9:45 Connections: *Parents of Youth*, Parlor
- 9:45 Connections: *Thriving as a Single Parent*, Room 251
- 10:15 Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
- 11:00 Worship in the Sanctuary
- 12:00 Coffee Fellowship, Heaton Hall Foyer
- 12:00 Guest Welcome, Parlor
- 12:00 Youth Council Meeting (Youth), Youth Hall
- 4:00 Youth Jam, Youth Hall
- 5:00 Youth Choir Rehearsal, Berry Hall
- 5:00 Youth Council Meeting (Adults), Youth Hall
- 6:15 Youth Supper and Fellowship, Youth Hall

LIVE WELL CORNWELL WORKSHOP - *Dairy...Yes or No?* Find out the latest information and determine what is best for you and your family. Join Barret Butler for this workshop on either Tuesday, February 21 at 9:30am or February 28 at 5:30pm in the Cornwell Lounge. This event is free for Cornwell members and \$10 for non-members. Registration is required. Call 704.927.0774.

ASH WEDNESDAY - February 22 at 6:30pm. Plan to join us as we begin the penitential season of Lent with this very moving service. The imposition of ashes and Communion will remind us of Christ's life and death. We will begin in Heaton Hall and move into the Sanctuary, passing by the columbarium and the glowing fire pit on the front steps.

SWING DANCE - Friday, February 24, 7:30-11:30pm. GottaSwingCharlotte specializes in Swing Dance events and they are bringing one to the Cornwell Center Gym and Commons. They will provide beginner lessons 7:30-8:30pm and then the dance from 8:30-11:30pm. The cost is \$12 (\$10 for Cornwell members) and includes snacks. Watch for updates at www.cornwellcenter.org.

STATEWIDE EVENT - NC Baptists Against Amendment One: Justice, Equality, and Personal Freedom, Saturday, February 25, 8:30am-1pm in Heaton Hall. The event includes breakfast, significant speakers, workshops, and a strategy session. It is our hope that this event will equip and mobilize opposition to the amendment by presenting tools needed for effective organization and advocacy on any faith and justice issue.

MERCER UNIVERSITY SINGERS will be in concert Wednesday evening, February 29 at 6:15pm in the Sanctuary. This concert is free and open to the public.

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP - Beginning March 7th, the Ministry of Congregational Care will offer a Grief Support Group series for members who have lost a loved one. If you are interested or have questions, please contact Judy Bratton, Chair, at 704.525.9345 or judybratton@bellsouth.net.

BAYLOR UNIVERSITY A CAPPELLA CHOIR IN CONCERT AT MPBC Friday March 9 at 7:30pm. Tickets are on sale now in the music office for \$15.00. High School/College students with valid ID's will get a free ticket. Contact Deb Steiner at dsteiner@mpbconline.org or 704.334.7232 x21. Housing still is needed for this choir. Contact Deb if you can help.

GOD'S GARDEN WORKSHOP TEACHERS NEEDED: for only four Sundays in April and May from 9:30–10:45am. Please check out the God's Garden sign-up board near the entrance to God's Garden in Heaton Hall Foyer and pick an art, cooking, cinema, or drama and games workshop to teach with a buddy for 4 weeks. We have great workshops planned with all the supplies and support that you will need! Call Sharon Doar at 704-334-7232 ext. 18 or email at sdoar@mpbconline.org.

COMMUNITY CONCERNS

CMC-MERCY - Irene Shoemaker

CMC-MAIN - Carol Reid

DISCHARGED FROM MEDICAL FACILITY - Dick Hagemeyer, Christopher Blanchard Dougherty

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 2011-2012 BOARD OF DEACONS

MACK TURNER, *Chair* • RICHARD PEARSALL, *Chair-Elect* • TODD RUBENSON, *Secretary*

CLASS OF 2012	CLASS OF 2013	CLASS OF 2014	ACTIVE LIFE DEACONS
Nancy Butler	Pat Brugh	Bob Bishop	Bonnie Banks
Trisha Butler	Brian Carter	Frank Deaton	Edith Collins
Ann Cunningham	Leeda Currin	Todd Geer	Gloria Gibson
Tracy Eggleston	Beth Haenni	Allen Hull, Sr.	George Linney
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Allen Tate	Jenny Lou Wright	Nancy Walker	Dan White
Steve Woodard	Keith Young	Holly Hobson Wood	

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 DR. H. STEPHEN SHOEMAKER, *Senior Minister*

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

THE REVEREND DR. JONATHAN E. CRUTCHFIELD, *Minister of Music*

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

THE REVEREND MR. J. ANDREW DAUGHERTY, *Minister of Faith Formation*

THE REVEREND MS. SHARON S. DOAR, *Minister of Elementary Children and Families*

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

THE REVEREND MR. GARY HUDSON, *Pastoral Associate*

CHERI LINDBLOM, *Director of Outreach*

DR. MATTHEW MANWARREN, *Assistant Organist*

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

FRANCES L. MORRISON, *Associate Minister of Music*

THE REVEREND MS. CHERYL COLLINS PATTERSON, *Early Childhood Minister*

DEBORAH A. STEINER, *Music Associate for Children*

THE REVEREND MS. CHRISSY TATUM WILLIAMSON, *Minister of Youth*

JENNY YOPP, *Director of The Cornwell Center*