Vance Cole, age 8

A Service of Christian Worship
February 28, 2021

Second Sunday in Lent

WE GATHER

Gathering Music
God of Grace
Paul Manz

Chiming of the Holy Trinity

Welcome
Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days
Land of Rest
Lord, who throughout these forty days,
For us didst fast and pray,
Teach us with thee to mourn our sins,
And close by thee to stay.

The Sacrament of Baptism

Call to Worship
† Hymn No. 127
Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah,
pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but thou art mighty;
hold me with your powerful hand.

Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
feed me till I want no more,
feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain,
where the healing stream doth flow.

Let the fire and cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through.

Strong Deliverer, strong Deliverer,
be thou still my strength and shield,
be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside.

Death of death, and hell's Destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side.

Songs of praises, songs of praises
I will ever sing to you,
I will ever sing to you.

† 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,

Mission Moment

WE HEAR AND RESPOND TO THE WORD

† The Gospel Reading

Mark 2:1-12

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

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon
Anthem
Prayer of Mother Teresa
Craig Courtney

Lord, help me spread your fragrance wherever I go.
Flood my soul with your spirit and life.
Penetrate and possess my whole being
so utterly that my life may be only a radiance of yours.
Shine through me, and be so in me
that every soul I know will feel your presence in my soul.
Let them look up and see no longer me, but only you. Amen.

Prayers of the People

† The Lord’s Prayer No. 895

WE GO OUT TO SERVE

† Closing Hymn
Everyone Needs a Little
Ed Cash, Kari Jobe, Chris Tomlin

Come all ye weary and ye broken
Come to the table of the Lord
Come sing the song of the forgiven
Come lay your burden on the Word

Chorus
(Come and find) peace
Ev'ryone needs a little rest
Ev'ryone needs a little joy
And a song to sing in the darkest night
(And) Life even when it gets you down
Hope will turn it all around
But love is the greatest of these
Ev'ryone needs a little

Sing all ye saints and ye sinners
Call upon the mercy of the Lord
Come sing the song of redemption
Sing about the hope that is to come

Chorus

He will lift you up
He will lift you up higher than sorrow
He will lift you up
Cover your soul with healing

Chorus
† Benediction

† Benediction Response
Lift High the Cross
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
Toccata Brevis
Daniel Gawthrope

† Stand as you are able

WORSHIP LEADERS

PREACHER
Dr. James C. Howell, Senior Pastor

LITURGISTS
Rev. Jessica Dayson, Pastor for Young Adults and Lay Involvement
Rev. Taylor Pryde Barefoot, Pastor for Emerging Ministries
Rev. Nathan Arledge, Pastor of Missions and Community Engagement

WORSHIP LEADERS
Jean Sullivan
XXX
Betsy Scott

LAY READER
Chuck Wright

MUSICIANS
James R. Jones, Director of Music and Organist
Evan Wesley Currie, Music Associate and Organist
Brian Childers, Director of Music for Children, Youth, and Handbells
Dr. Jennifer Hough, Church in the Round Music Director
Zachary Tarlton, Church in the Round Music Associate
Church in the Round Worship Leaders
Chancel Choir
Brian Winegardner, trumpet
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

The Flowers on the Altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Robert I. Dalton by his family.

Sacrament of Holy Baptism: These children received the sacrament of Baptism on February 21: Lottie Coble Craig, daughter of Laura Jane and Daniel Craig; Walker Wilkins Pittman, son of Kirsten and Reese Pittman; Gwyneth Elaine White, daughter of Erin and Bryan White.

Because of your generosity to our church’s Operating Fund, discipleship is alive at our church! Our church continues to welcome new members, offer Lenten programs for our children and youth and provide opportunities to grow our faith and love for God. Make your offering today at 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 or 704-295-4808.

Easter Lilies, now-March 21: Purchase an Easter lily in honor or memory of a loved one here or send a check for $15 per lily to the church along with the name of the person you are honoring/remembering. Dedications will be shared in the Easter Sunday worship bulletins.

Lenten Small Groups, now-March 22: Our “We Speak for Such a Time as This” studies continue with both co-ed and women’s groups. Online sessions are held at various times throughout the week. View the schedule and information on our website.

Youth In-Person Lenten “Deep Dive” Bible Study, Thursdays, now-April 1, 6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.: Join us for a “deep dive” Bible study for Lent. This is a great opportunity for youth who want community and a deeper look at the Bible as we follow along with the congregation in the slow read of Mark. Mary Helen will lead the middle school group, and Jason will lead the high school group. Register here.
Prayer Cross, now–April 2, Sanctuary Lawn: During this Lenten season we invite you to come to our Prayer Cross. Tie a ribbon (provided for you) as you join your church in a guided Lenten prayer practice.

In-Person Confirmation, today, 5:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m. or 7:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.: Please come at your assigned time. If you do not feel comfortable attending in person, please join our Zoom at 5:30 p.m.

Faith Ministry Virtual Mission Trip, March 1-5: Mark your calendars for a virtual Mission Week hosted by Faith Ministry! Each day they will post a video on their Facebook page showing the process of building “Casa #1,” a house being built in memory of Angel, a beloved foreman who passed away from COVID-19. You will also have the opportunity to see how some of their other programs are operating and hear from some familiar friends. Click here to watch their footage throughout the week!

Pastors' Bible Study, March 3, Live at 11:00 a.m. or 8:00 p.m. and viewable later: This week Dr. Howell will discuss what we're learning and why reading Mark matters, with our youth and discipleship staff. Watch live on Facebook live or Livestream.

Midday Music - Live at MPUMC! March 3, 12:00 p.m.: Join James Jones, Director of Music, and Evan Wesley Currie, Music Associate and Organist, for some special music. Click here to watch live or view previous concerts.

“In The Spirit of What Came Before” Virtual Discussion, March 4, 4:00 p.m., Zoom: As we conclude this true story and spoken word series, we invite you to join us for a virtual discussion hosted by Epoch Tribe. The discussion will further explore the series’ themes, tell more about the people and places in the poems, and provide action items for continued ways to learn, understand, and get involved. This will be a safe space for open dialogue.

Youth Reflection, Remembering and Rejoicing, March 7, Middle School 6:00 p.m.- 7:00 p.m., High School 6:00 p.m.- 7:30 p.m., Parish Life Building Parking Lot: As we approach the one-year anniversary of the start of the pandemic, join us for a night of worship and reflection as we remember the people we’ve lost and the obstacles we’ve overcome. We are resilient and want to rejoice in the hope that resurrection brings. Youth Praise Band will lead us in music, which will be followed by prayer stations and a candle-lighting. Sign up here.
**Grief Support, March 8, 6:30 p.m., Zoom:** Offered by Rev. Bill Roth and Parish Nurse Lauren Smith, this is a safe place for people looking to share, learn, and connect with others who are coping with loss. Register in Realm or with Carmen Rivera at crivera@mpumc.org. You may also directly join the Zoom meeting at your convenience.

**Mindful Mondays on Zoom, March 15, 10:30 a.m., Zoom:** Offered by Rev. Bill Roth and Parish Nurse Lauren Smith. Learn to embody the present moment with compassionate awareness and discover the emotional, physical, and spiritual benefits of meditative practices. Open to first-timers or those who wish to renew their mindful practice. Register in Realm or with Carmen Rivera at crivera@mpumc.org. You may also directly join the Zoom meeting at your convenience.

**Coffee, Conversation, and Connection, March 23, 1:00 p.m., Zoom:** Join Rev. Bill Roth and Parish Nurse Lauren Smith for emotional support and care. We will share, connect, and explore how we can increase our well-being and resilience. Register with Carmen Rivera at crivera@mpumc.org. You may also directly join the Zoom meeting at your convenience.

**Did You Welcome a Child in 2020?:** If so, send us his or her picture! They will be featured in a special video celebrating all children welcomed into families during 2020. Email pictures along with your child's name and date of birth to Betsy Scott at bscott@mpumc.org.

**New Beyond Baptism Podcast Episode: Parenting Myths:** Director of Children’s Ministries Amy Jo Alspaugh and The Children’s Circle Director Susan Wade share their thoughts on the myth of the perfect parent and offer humorous insights and reassurance based on their parenting experiences and their work with children. *Beyond Baptism: Wisdom, Encouragement and Hope for Parents,* created by Children’s Ministries and Youth Ministries, is intended for parents and adults invested in the young people of our church. Access all episodes here. Subscribe, rate, and review today!

**Children’s Ministries’ Missions Bingo Card:** We invite you to explore mission opportunities throughout the month of March with the Children’s Ministries Missions Bingo Card. Opportunities include praying for our agency partners, reading books as a family to develop empathy and understanding, participating in hands-on missions and exploring what it means to love one another.
Find Peace on the Labyrinth, *Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m., Francis Chapel*: Allow yourself to be centered in the presence of God on our beautiful indoor Labyrinth. COVID-19 precautions are in place, and we ask you to be masked during your time inside the church. Make your 30-minute appointment here: [https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0A49A9A729A20-your](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0A49A9A729A20-your)

**Children’s Lenten Prayer Calendar**: Our 2021 Children's Lenten Prayer Calendar has prayer prompts and visuals for each day in Lent. Children will learn to pray through music, scripture, hands-on activities, and more. Download and print the calendar from [our website](https://www.mpumc.org) and watch for the daily prayer prompts on [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com) and [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com).

**Children’s Lenten Sunday School Series and Weekly Activities**: Journey to the Cross, our video-based Lenten Sunday School series, features third graders reading scripture from the book of Mark and contributions from Music, Children's Ministries staff, clergy and children at home. In addition, the weekly Sunday School email, Lenten Journey at Home, includes suggested activities intended to enrich your family's faith formation experience at home and support you on your Lenten journey.

**2021 Stephen Ministry Lenten Devotional Booklet**: The 2021 Lenten Devotional Book, prepared by our Stephen Ministers, is available online [here](https://www.mpumc.org) and on our website (click the Lenten Devotional button at the top of the page). Please share it widely with your family and friends.

**“Middle School Among Us” Game Night, Wednesdays, 5:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.**: Please have a computer or your phone to play. The Zoom link is at [www.mpumcyoung.org](http://www.mpumcyoung.org).

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*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.*
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Rev. Nathan Arledge, Pastor of Missions & Community Engagement
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Rev. Jessica Dayson, Pastor for Young Adults & Lay Involvement
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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.