

McPHAIL MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH AT WORSHIP  
Sunday, April 28, 2024

“I do not pretend to understand the moral universe; the arc is a long one, my eye reaches but little ways; I cannot calculate the curve and complete the figure by the experience of sight; I can divine it by conscience. And from what I see I am sure it bends towards justice”.

— *Theodore Parker*

THE PRELUDE AS WE GATHER

“O Saviour, Precious Saviour”  
“Brother James Air”

Healey Willan  
arr. Dale Wood

INVITATION TO WORSHIP (congregation standing)

LEADER: We gather today to worship the One who created us,

PEOPLE: **Before Jesus who taught us of its fullness**

LEADER: Be still before the mystery of Life

PEOPLE: **Before the Spirit who breathes it into us all**

LEADER: Be still before the mystery of Life

PEOPLE: **With praise and thanksgiving we open our lives to you**

HYMN OF PRAISE

“O Praise Ye the Lord ”

Tune: LAUDATE DOMINUM

O praise ye the Lord! Him in the height;  
Rejoice in His word, Ye angels of light;  
Ye heavens, adore Him by whom ye were made,  
And worship before Him in brightness arrayed.

O praise ye the Lord! Thanksgiving and song  
To Him be outpoured all ages along;  
For love in creation, for heaven restored,  
For grace of salvation, O praise ye the Lord!

O praise ye the Lord, all things that give sound;  
Each jubilant chord re-echo around;  
Lord organs, His glory forthtell in deep tone,  
And sweet harp, the story of what He hath done.

PRAYER (together, seated)

Almighty God! Awaken our awareness when our daily life hides your presence from us, when we forget how near you are. Our words of thanks are poor and often we cannot find words at all. Give us the power, at such times, to keep our hearts open to the abundance of life, and in silent gratefulness, to experience your unchanging, eternal presence. Keep our hearts and our minds open to you always! Amen.

— *Paul Tillich*

Sung Softly Together

Breathe on me, breath of God, fill me with life anew  
That I may love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do.

Breathe on me, breath of God, till I am wholly thine,  
Until this earthly part of me glows with thy fire divine.

RESPONSIVE PSALM

From Psalm 143

I stretch out my hands to you;

**My soul thirsts for you like a parched land.**

Let me hear of your steadfast love in the morning,

**For in you I put my trust.**

Teach me the way I should go,

**For to you I lift up my soul.**

Teach me to do your will, for you are my God.

**Let your good spirit lead me on a level path.**

THE SCRIPTURE READING Luke 18:2-5 (NRSV)

“In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, ‘Grant me justice against my opponent.’ For a while he refused; but later he

said to himself, 'Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.'"

HYMN "Open My Eyes, That I May See" #557

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE GIVING OF OUR OFFERINGS

Offertory Music "Arietta" W.A. Mozart  
Sung Response

Grant us, God, the grace of giving  
With a spirit large and free,  
That ourselves and all our living  
We may offer unto Thee.

Offering Prayer

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN "And Can it Be That I Should Gain" #473  
(vv. 1,2,4,5)

SERMON "Half The Curve"

CLOSING HYMN "I Then Shall Live" #507

BENEDICTION

THE GOING FORTH (together) Forth In Your Name, O Christ, We Go  
Tune: CANONBURY

Forth in your name, O Lord, we go, our daily labour to pursue,  
You, only you, resolved to know in all we think, or speak, or do.

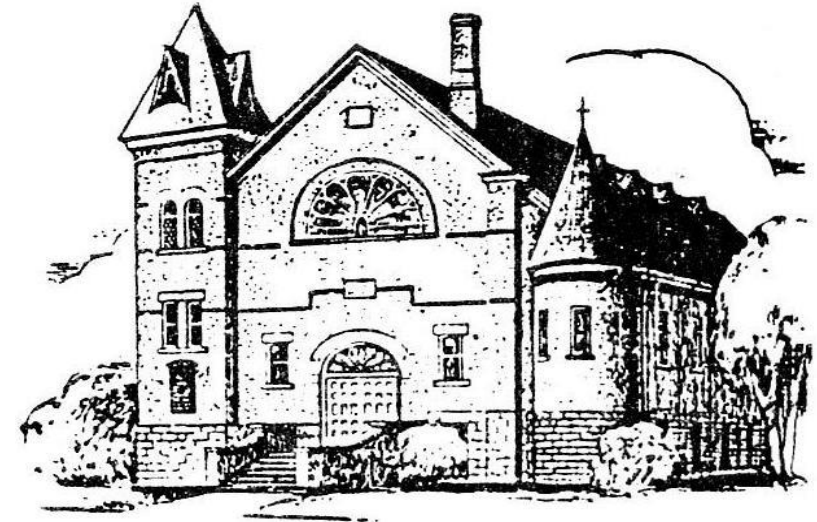
Help us to bear your easy yoke, in every moment watch and pray,  
And still to things eternal look, and hasten to that glorious day.

ORGAN POSTLUDE "Fantasia on 'Old One Hundredth'" R. Wilson

**OUR SERVICE OF WORSHIP IS ENDED: OUR SERVICE IN THE WORLD BEGINS**

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Welcome to our service of worship today. Please join us downstairs following the service for coffee and refreshments. If you are visiting with us, please sign the guest book at the back of the sanctuary.

## McPHAIL MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH



***Since 1888, a church  
Creating Hope, Changing Lives.  
Yesterday. Today. Tomorrow.***

***Everyone is Welcome!***

Minister: Rev. Steve Zink  
Minister Emeritus: Rev. Ernie Cox  
Director of Music: Sue Sparks

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