

MAYFLOWER CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
A SERVICE OF MORNING WORSHIP

Sunday, May 24, 2020, 10:30 a.m.
The Seventh Sunday of Easter

Welcome and Greeting

Prelude: "O God, Our Help in Ages Past" (William Croft, arr. Cindy Berry)

Opening Sentence

Hymn 53: "God Moves in a Mysterious Way"

Opening Prayer

Special Music: "Patriotic Medley" (arr. Christine D. Anderson)

(This Is My Father's World, America, For the Beauty of the Earth, Battle Hymn of the Republic)

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

Scripture Reading: Mark 4:35 - 5:20

On that day, when evening had come, he said to them, 'Let us go across to the other side.' And leaving the crowd behind, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. Other boats were with him. A great gale arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was already being swamped. But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and they woke him up and said to him, 'Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?' He woke up and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, 'Peace! Be still!' Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm. He said to them, 'Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?' And they were filled with great awe and said to one another, 'Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?'

They came to the other side of the lake, to the country of the Gerasenes. And when he had stepped out of the boat, immediately a man out of the tombs with an unclean spirit met him. He lived among the tombs; and no one could restrain him any more, even with a chain; for he had often been restrained with shackles and chains, but the chains he wrenched apart, and the shackles he broke in pieces; and no one had the strength to subdue him. Night and day among the tombs and on the mountains he was always howling and bruising himself with stones. When he saw Jesus from a distance, he ran and bowed down before him; and he shouted at the top of his voice, 'What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I adjure you by God, do not torment me.' For he had said to him, 'Come out of the man, you unclean spirit!' Then Jesus asked him, 'What is your name?' He replied, 'My name is Legion; for we are many.' He begged him earnestly not to send them out of the country. Now there on the hillside a great herd of swine was feeding; and the unclean spirits begged him, 'Send us into the swine; let us enter them.' So he gave them permission. And the unclean spirits came out and entered the swine; and the herd, numbering about two thousand, rushed down the steep bank into the lake, and were drowned in the lake.

The swineherds ran off and told it in the city and in the country. Then people came to see what it was that had happened. They came to Jesus and saw the demoniac sitting there, clothed and in his right mind, the very man who had had the legion; and they were afraid. Those who had seen what had happened to the demoniac and to the swine reported it. Then they began to beg Jesus to leave their neighborhood. As he was getting into the boat, the man who had been possessed by demons begged him that he might be with him. But Jesus refused, and said to him, 'Go home to your friends, and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and what mercy he has shown you.' And he went away and began to proclaim in the Decapolis how much Jesus had done for him; and everyone was amazed.

Sermon: "THE GALE, THE GHOUL, AND THE GALLOWS"

Hymn 389: "Be Still, My Soul"

Benediction

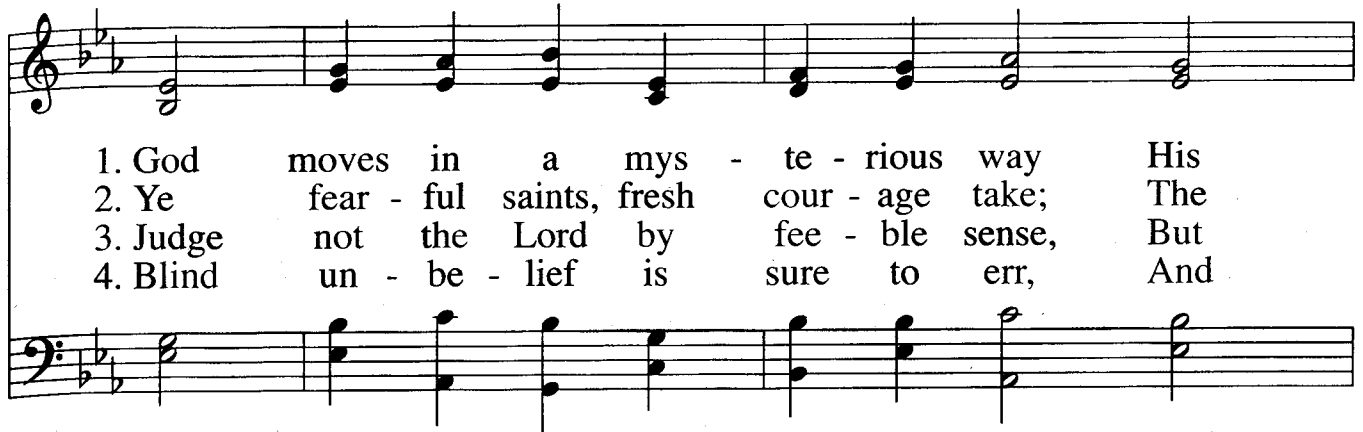
Benediction Response 580 (v. 1): "God Be With You 'Til We Meet Again"

God Moves in a Mysterious Way

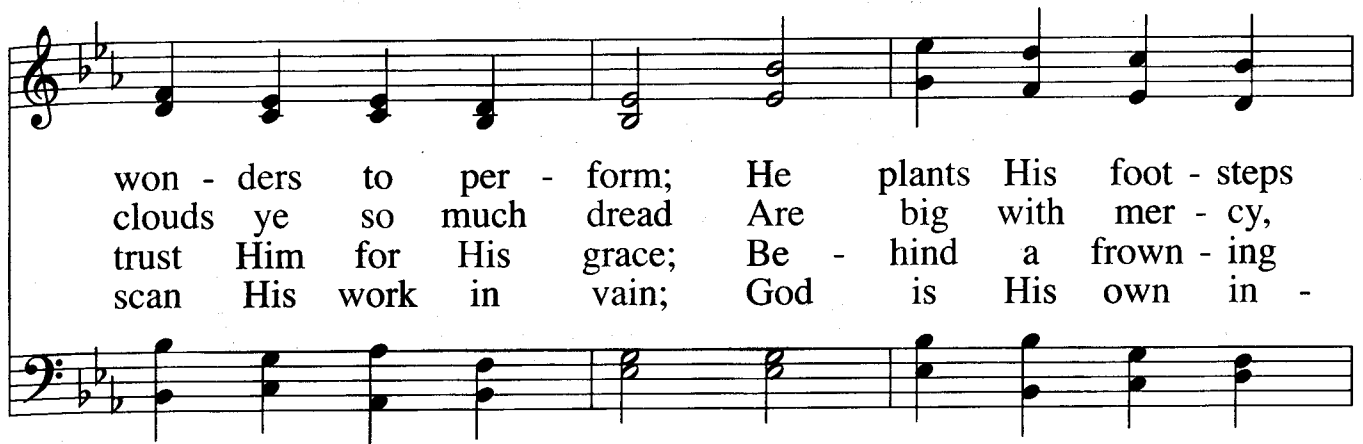
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William Cowper, 1731-1800

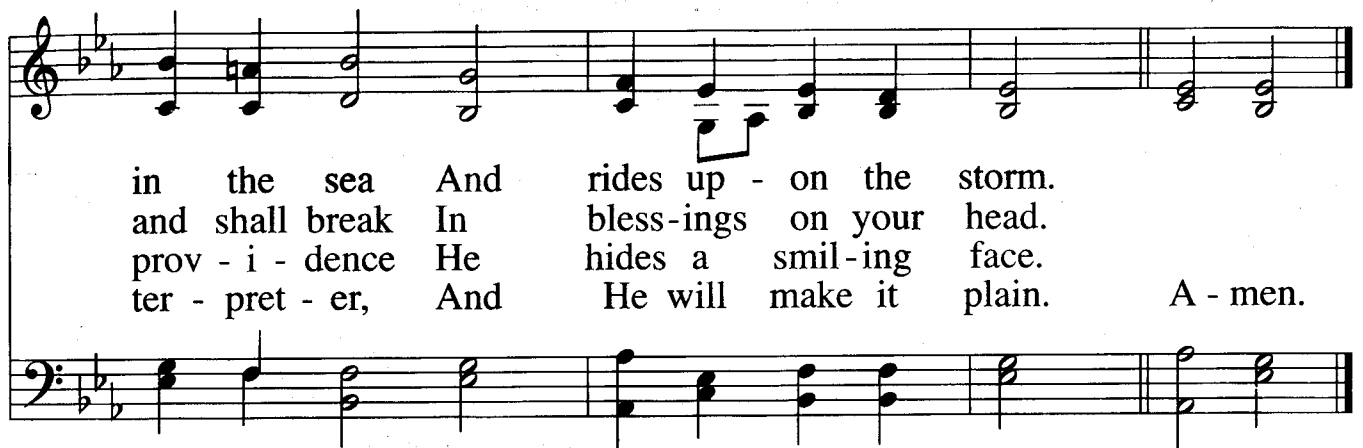
Scottish Psalter, 1615



1. God moves in a mys - te - rious way His
2. Ye fear - ful saints, fresh cour - age take; The
3. Judge not the Lord by fee - ble sense, But
4. Blind un - be - lief is sure to err, And



won - ders to per - form; He plants His foot - steps
clouds ye so much dread Are big with mer - cy,
trust Him for His grace; Be - hind a frown - ing
scan His work in vain; God is His own in -



in the sea And rides up - on the storm.
and shall break In bless - ings on your head.
prov - i - dence He hides a smil - ing face.
ter - pret - er, And He will make it plain. A - men.

"He," "Him," or "His" may be replaced by "God('s)" or "You(r)."

DUNDEE
CM

Be Still, My Soul

Katharina von Schlegel, 1697-?

Jean Sibelius, 1865-1957

Trans. by Jane L. Borthwick, 1813-1897

1. Be still, my soul: the Lord is on thy side!
 2. Be still, my soul: thy God doth un - der - take
 3. Be still, my soul: the hour is has - t'ning on

Bear pa - tient - ly the cross of grief or pain;
 To guide the fu - ture as He has the past;
 When we shall be for - ev - er with the Lord,

Leave to thy God to or - der and pro - vide:
 Thy hope, thy con - fi - dence let noth - ing shake:
 When dis - ap - point - ment, grief, and fear are gone,

In ev - 'ry change He faith - ful will re - main.
 All now mys - te - rious shall be bright at last.
 Sor - row for - got, love's pur - est joys re - stored.

GOD'S COVENANT PEOPLE



Be still, my soul: thy best, thy heav'n - ly Friend
Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still know
Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past,



Through thorn - y ways leads to a joy - ful end.
His voice who ruled them while He dwelt be - low.
All safe and bless - ed we shall meet at last.



Gracious God, quiet the tremors of my mind and heart so that I might know of Your ever-present and ever-generous power in my life and in all life.

Amid the challenges, insecurities and equivocations of my world, help me to see Your Spirit at work. Open my mind, open my heart, break open my life so that Your free-flowing and ever-loving presence might pour generously into my daily affairs, and into the lives of all who are hurting this day.

For in Your presence, God, our lives encounter the majesties of Your life. Our anxieties are calmed, our hearts are rested, our thoughts are ordered; for the Dayspring of Your eternal life is ours in Christ Jesus, the One who knows our suffering.

Emboldened with the promise of Your presence, I go forth to reflect Your light in all I encounter, confident that You are there, present and able.

Your peace permeates all there is. And all is well.

Amen.

Rev. Samuel Schaal