

MAYFLOWER CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
A SERVICE OF MORNING WORSHIP

Sunday, October 4, 2020, 10:30 a.m.
Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
World-wide Communion Sunday

Welcome and Greeting

Prelude: "O, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing" (Carl G. Glaser, arr. Cindy Berry)

Opening Sentences

Hymn 520: "According to Thy Gracious Word"

Opening Prayer

Consecration Moment: Tom Hacker

Gospel Reading: Matthew 12:33-37

'Either make the tree good, and its fruit good; or make the tree bad, and its fruit bad; for the tree is known by its fruit. You brood of vipers! How can you speak good things, when you are evil? For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. The good person brings good things out of a good treasure, and the evil person brings evil things out of an evil treasure. I tell you, on the day of judgment you will have to give an account for every careless word you utter; for by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned.'

Special Music: "We Come to Your Feast" (Michael Joncas)

Old Testament Reading: Psalm 19

The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork. Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge. There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard; yet their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In the heavens he has set a tent for the sun, which comes out like a bridegroom from his wedding canopy, and like a strong man runs its course with joy. Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them; and nothing is hidden from its heat. The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the decrees of the Lord are sure, making wise the simple; the precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is clear, enlightening the eyes; the fear of the Lord is pure, enduring for ever; the ordinances of the Lord are true and righteous altogether. More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey, and drippings of the honeycomb. Moreover by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward. But who can detect their errors? Clear me from hidden faults. Keep back your servant also from the insolent; do not let them have dominion over me. Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression. Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.

Sermon: "THE POWER OF LANGUAGE"

Observance of Holy Communion

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

Hymn 255: "Wonderful Words of Life"

Benediction

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

Today's Participants: Pastor Mark and DeeAnn McCormick, Jacob Richards, Barb Fuller, Tom Hacker

COMMUNION RITUAL

CONFESSION

All: Forgiving God, we come to this table knowing that we often fall short of all that you desire for us. Sometimes we fail both as individuals and as a community of faith. We seek your mercy and grace, as we ask you for forgiveness and renewal, that we may better follow you. In the name of your Son, Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Minister: We have this assurance that no matter how far we wander, or how far away we feel from God, we never move outside the boundaries of God's gracious love for us. We are loved, we are forgiven, we are blessed. We celebrate open communion here at Mayflower Church, in the tradition of our Beloved Teacher who welcomed all to the Supper, even those who betrayed him, or ran away in fear.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Minister: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast. You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God, and spoke to us through your prophets. And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!

THE INVITATION

Minister: We welcome you to this table, whether you are a member of this church, another church, or no church. All you need is faith, or a desire for faith. This is the time when we all acknowledge our past failures, sins, and disappointments, and present ourselves to God, who offers us love, forgiveness, and wholeness. Remember, God accepts us just where we are and who we are at this very moment in our lives.

SHARING OF THE ELEMENTS

Minister: On the night when He was betrayed, as Jesus sat at supper with His disciples, He took the bread, blessed and broke it, and said to them, "Take, eat: this is My body, which is broken for you. Do this in remembrance of Me." After supper Jesus took the cup, gave thanks, and blessed it, saying, "This is the cup of the new testament in My blood: do this as often as you drink it in remembrance of Me. For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes again." Ministering to you in His name, I give you this bread. . . Ministering to you in His name, I give you this cup.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

All: We give thanks to you, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this memorial of your love, and have granted to us the presence of your Son, even Jesus Christ our Lord, and we ask you to strengthen our faith in you and to increase our love toward one another, through Him, our Redeemer. Amen.

According to Thy Gracious Word

520

James Montgomery, 1771-1854

Hugh Wilson, 1764-1824

1. Ac - cord - ing to Thy gra - cious word, In meek hu -
 2. Thy bod - y, bro - ken for my sake, My bread from
 3. Re - mem - ber Thee, and all Thy pains, And all Thy
 4. And when these fail - ing lips grow dumb, And mind and

mil - i - ty, This will I do, my dy - ing
 heav'n shall be; Thy tes - ta - men - tal cup I
 love to me; Yea, while a breath, a pulse re -
 mem - 'ry flee, When Thou shalt in Thy king - dom

Lord, I will re - mem - ber Thee.
 take, And thus re - mem - ber Thee:
 mains, Will I re - mem - ber Thee.
 come, Je - sus, re - mem - ber me. A - men.

1. Sing them o - ver a - gain to me— Won - der - ful words of
 2. Christ, the bless - ed One, gives to all Won - der - ful words of
 3. Sweet - ly ech - o the gos - pel call— Won - der - ful words of

Life; Let me more of their beau - ty see—
 Life; Lis - ten well to the lov - ing call—
 Life; Of - fer par - don and peace to all—

Won - der - ful words of Life. Words of life and
 Won - der - ful words of Life. All the won - drous
 Won - der - ful words of Life. Je - sus, on - ly

beau - ty, Teach me faith and du - ty:
 sto - ry, Show - ing us His glo - ry:
 Sav - ior, Sanc - ti - fy for - ev - er:

GOD'S REVELATION

Beau - ti - ful words, won - der - ful words,

The first system of music consists of two staves. The top staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature. It begins with a repeat sign and contains four measures of music, each with a chord. The bottom staff is in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature, also starting with a repeat sign and containing four measures of music, each with a chord. The lyrics 'Beau - ti - ful words, won - der - ful words,' are centered between the two staves.

Won - der - ful words of Life; Life.

The second system of music also consists of two staves. The top staff continues from the first system and includes a first ending bracket over the final two measures, labeled '1.' and '2.'. The bottom staff continues from the first system and includes a first ending bracket over the final two measures, labeled '1.' and '2.'. The lyrics 'Won - der - ful words of Life; Life.' are centered between the two staves.

Heavenly Father, You alone have the words of eternal life. We know that the presence of Your Word gives light to the world. Help us to hold and keep the Word in our hearts so that we will live lives that are pleasing to You. In Jesus' name. Amen.