

MAYFLOWER CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
A SERVICE OF MORNING WORSHIP

Sunday, May 2, 2021, 10:30 a.m.

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Communion Sunday

Welcome and Greeting

Prelude: "Ashokan Farewell" (Jay Ungar, arr. Dan Coates)

Opening Sentences

Hymn 501: "In Christ There Is No East or West"

Opening Prayer

Special Music: "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" (John Zundel, arr. Jan Sanborn)

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

New Testament Reading: Acts 8:26-40

Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, 'Get up and go towards the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.' (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, 'Go over to this chariot and join it.' So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, 'Do you understand what you are reading?' He replied, 'How can I, unless someone guides me?' And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: 'Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.' The eunuch asked Philip, 'About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?' Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, 'Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?' He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

Sermon: "EXPANDING OUR BORDERS"

Observance of Holy Communion

Hymn 550: "All Are Welcome"

Benediction

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

Today's Participants: Rev. Mark McCormick, Barb Fuller, Lorraine Finison, Kim Finison

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.

In Christ There Is No East or West

501

John Oxenham, 1852-1941

Alexander R. Reinagle, 1799-1877

1. In Christ there is no east or west, In
2. In Him shall true hearts ev - 'ry - where Their
3. Join hands, then, broth - ers of the faith, What -
4. In Christ now meet both east and west, In

Him no south or north, But one great fel - low -
high com - mun - ion find; His serv - ice is the
e'er your race may be; Who serves my Fa - ther
Him meet south and north; All Christ - ly souls are

ship of love Through - out the whole wide earth.
gold - en cord Close - bind - ing all man - kind.
as a son Is sure - ly kin to me.
one in Him Through - out the whole wide earth. A - men.

Second verse: "Close-binding humankind."

Third verse: "Join hands, then, *children* of the faith" and
"Who serves my Father as a *child*"

ST. PETER
CM

All Are Welcome

Marty Haugen, 1950-

Marty Haugen, 1950-

Unison

C7 F C/E F B \flat C

1. Let us build a house where love can dwell And
 2. Let us build a house where proph - ets speak, And
 3. Let us build a house where love is found In
 4. Let us build a house where hands will reach Be -
 5. Let us build a house where all are named, Their

Dm C/E F B \flat C F/A Dm7

all can safe - ly live, A place where saints and
 words are strong and true, Where all God's chil - dren
 wa - ter, wine and wheat: A ban - quet hall on
 yond the wood and stone To heal and strength-en,
 songs and vi - sions heard And loved and treas - ured,

Gm7 C Gm7 F/A B \flat C7

chil - dren tell How hearts learn to for -
 dare to seek To dream God's reign a -
 ho - ly ground, Where peace and jus - tice
 serve and teach, And live the Word they've
 taught and claimed As words with - in the

B \flat /F F Am7 Dm7 Gm7 C

give. Built of hopes and dreams and vi - sions, Rock of
 new. Here the cross shall stand as wit - ness And as
 meet. Here the love of God, through Je - sus, Is re -
 known. Here the out - cast and the stran - ger Bear the
 Word. Built of tears and cries and laugh - ter, Prayers of

TWO OAKS
9.6.8.6.8.7.10 with Refrain

Gathering

SERVICE MUSIC

F F/A Bb

faith and vault of grace; Here the
 sym - bol of God's grace; Here as
 vealed in time and space; As we
 im - age of God's face; Let us
 faith and songs of grace, Let this

F Bb A7 Dm

love of Christ shall end di - vi - sions:
 one we claim the faith of Je - sus:
 share in Christ the feast that frees us:
 bring an end to fear and dan - ger:
 house pro - claim from floor to raft - er:

Gm Dm Am7 Gm/Bb F/C

All are wel-come, all are wel-come, all are wel-come

Gm7/C C7 F Bb/F F Bb/F F Bb/F F Bb/C

in this place. Last time Last time