

MAYFLOWER CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
**A SERVICE OF MORNING WORSHIP**

Sunday, January 8, 2023, 10:30 a.m.

Baptism of the Lord  
Communion Sunday

***Welcome and Greeting***

***Prelude:*** "Just as I Am, Without One Plea" (William Bradbury, arr. Cindy Berry)

***Opening Sentences***

***Hymn 516:*** "I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry"

***Opening Prayer***

***Giving and Receiving of Our Gifts***

*Doxology (Hymn 563)*

***A Moment for Missions:*** Dorothy Frederickson, Baby Boxes for Haiti

***Gospel Reading:*** Matthew 3:13-17

Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, 'I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?' But Jesus answered him, 'Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfil all righteousness.' Then he consented. And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.'

***Sermon: "THE SACRAMENTS"***

***Observance of Baptism***

***Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer*** (using debts and debtors)

***Anthem:*** "Come, Christian, to the Table" (John W. Carter)

***Observance of Holy Communion***

***Hymn 526:*** "We Come as Guests Invited"

***Benediction***

***Benediction Response Hymn 578 (v. 2):*** "Sent Forth By God's Blessing"

With praise and thanksgiving to You ever living, the tasks of our ev'ryday life we will face, our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring, embracing Your children of each tribe and race. With Your feast You feed us; with Your light now lead us. Unite us as one in this life that we share. Then may all the living with praise and thanksgiving give honor to Christ and His name that we bear.

***Greet One Another***

Participants: Pastor Mark & DeeAnn McCormick, Barb Fuller, Gail Sawyer, Dorothy Frederickson, Chancel Choir

## 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."

### 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.

*Unison*

1. "I was there to hear your born - ing cry, I'll be  
 2. "When you heard the won - der of the Word I was  
 3. "In the mid - dle a - ges of your life, Not too

there when you are old. I re - joiced the day you  
 there to cheer you on; You were raised to praise the  
 old, no long - er young, I'll be there to guide you

were bap - tized To see your life un - fold. I was  
 liv - ing Lord, To whom you now be - long. If you  
 through the night, Com - plete what I've be - gun. When the

there when you were but a child, With a  
 find some - one to share your time And you  
 eve - ning gen - tly clos - es in And you

# GOD'S COVENANT PEOPLE

faith to suit you well; In a blaze of light you  
join your hearts as one, I'll be there to make your  
shut your wea - ry eyes, I'll be there as I have

wan - dered off To find where de - mons dwell."  
vers - es rhyme From dusk till ris - ing sun."  
al - ways been With just one more sur - prise."

4. "I was there to hear your born - ing cry, I'll be

there when you are old. I re - joiced the day you

were bap - tized, To see your life un - fold."

1. We come as guests in - vit - ed When Je - sus bids us dine,  
 2. We eat and drink, re - ceiv - ing From Christ the grace we need,  
 3. One bread is ours for shar - ing, One sin - gle fruit - ful vine,

His friends on earth u - nit - ed To share the bread and wine;  
 And in our hearts be - liev - ing On Him by faith we feed;  
 Our fel - low-ship de - clar - ing Re - newed in bread and wine:

The bread of life is bro - ken, The wine is free - ly poured  
 With won - der and thanks - giv - ing For love that knows no end,  
 Re - newed, sus - tained, and giv - en By to - ken, sign, and word,

For us, in sol - emn to - ken Of Christ our dy - ing Lord.  
 We find in Je - sus liv - ing Our ev - er - pres - ent Friend.  
 The pledge and seal of heav - en, The love of Christ our Lord.