

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

Sunday, March 3, 2024, 10:30 a.m.

Third Sunday in Lent  
Communion Sunday

**Welcome and Greeting** - Pastor Mark

**Prelude:** "I Want Jesus to Walk With Me" (Spiritual, arr. Cindy Berry) - DeeAnn

**Opening Sentences** - Wendy

**Hymn 382:** "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" - DeeAnn et al.

**Opening Prayer** - Wendy

**Anthem:** "Ubi Caritas" (Ola Gjeilo) - Barb/DeeAnn/Choir

Translation: Where charity and love are, God is there. The love of Christ has gathered us together. Let us rejoice and be glad in it. Let us revere and love the living God. And from a sincere heart let us love one another. Amen.

**Giving and Receiving of Our Gifts** - Pastor Mark

*Doxology* - DeeAnn et al.

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

**Gospel Reading:** John 2:13-22 - DeeAnn

The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money-changers seated at their tables. Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables. He told those who were selling the doves, 'Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a market-place!' His disciples remembered that it was written, 'Zeal for your house will consume me.' The Jews then said to him, 'What sign can you show us for doing this?' Jesus answered them, 'Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.' The Jews then said, 'This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?' But he was speaking of the temple of his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

**Sermon:** "BODIES AS TEMPLES" - Pastor Mark

**Observance of Holy Communion**

**Hymn 193:** "Ah, Holy Jesus, How Hast Thou Offended" - DeeAnn et al.

**Benediction** - Pastor Mark

**Benediction Response:** "Let Us Now Depart in Thy Peace" - DeeAnn et al.

Let us now depart in thy peace, blessed Jesus. Send us to our homes with God's love in our hearts. Let not the busy world claim all our loyalties. Keep us ever mindful, dear Lord, of Thee.

**Greet One Another** - All

Participants: Pastor Mark & DeeAnn McCormick, Barb Fuller, Wendy Kushion, 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.

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Based on Psalm 46

Martin Luther, 1483-1546

Martin Luther, 1483-1546

Trans. by Frederick H. Hedge, 1805-1890

1. A might - y for - tress is our God, A  
 2. Did we in our own strength con - fide, Our  
 3. And though this world, with dev - ils filled, Should  
 4. That word a - bove all earth - ly pow'rs, No

bul - wark nev - er fail - ing; Our help - er He a -  
 striv - ing would be los - ing, Were not the right man  
 threat - en to un - do us, We will not fear, for  
 thanks to them, a - bid - eth; The Spir - it and the

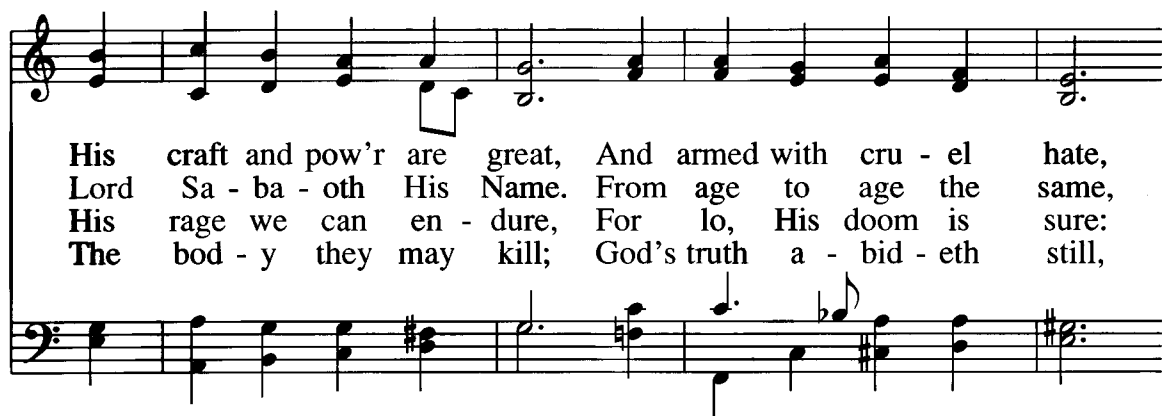
mid the flood Of mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing.  
 on our side, The man of God's own choos - ing.  
 God hath willed His truth to tri - umph through us.  
 gifts are ours Through Him who with us sid - eth.

For still our an - cient foe Doth seek to work us woe;  
 Dost ask who that may be? Christ Je - sus, it is He;  
 The prince of dark - ness grim, We trem - ble not for Him;  
 Let goods and kin - dred go, This mor - tal life al - so;

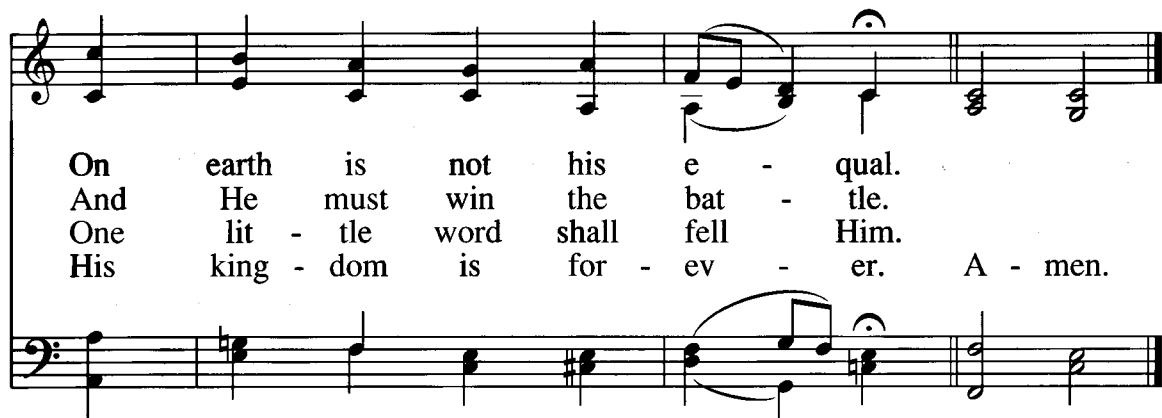
"He," "Him," or "His" may be replaced by "God(s)" or "You(r)."

EIN' FESTE BURG

## GOD'S COVENANT PEOPLE



His craft and pow'r are great, And armed with cru - el hate,  
Lord Sa - ba - oth His Name. From age to age the same,  
His rage we can en - dure, For lo, His doom is sure:  
The bod - y they may kill; God's truth a - bid - eth still,



On earth is not his e - qual.  
And He must win the bat - tle.  
One lit - tle word shall fell Him.  
His king - dom is for - ev - er. A - men.

Eternal God, we sing of Your strength and power.

We recall Your faithfulness and Your promises.

We proclaim that You have been our refuge and our help,  
our fortress and our shield, our helper and the One alongside us.

But we confess that sometimes, especially in trial and tragedy,  
we sit stunned, shocked, immobilized, or grief stricken.

We hurt and ache, pained in our own experience,  
or for others who face calamity, heartache, and violence.

Lord, we cry out to You to be our comforter, our healer, our hope.

We cry out to You to be the comforter and healer of others who suffer.

We long to feel Your arms of grace and love around us.

Lord, guide us to be those arms to one another.

And We give thanks that when all else seems lost, when darkness hovers,

Your light, Your word, Your grace, Your mercy,

Your peace, Your presence still remain;

and we put our trust in You.

In the power of the Resurrection. Amen.

## 193 Ah, Holy Jesus, How Hast Thou Offended

Johann Heermann, 1585–1647

Johann Crüger, 1598–1662

Trans. by Robert S. Bridges, 1844–1930

1. Ah, ho - ly Je - sus, how hast Thou of - fend - ed,  
 2. Who was the guilt - y? Who brought this up - on Thee?  
 3. For me, kind Je - sus, was Thy in - car - na - tion,  
 4. There - fore, kind Je - sus, since I can - not pay Thee,

That man to judge Thee hath in hate pre - tend - ed?  
 A - las, my trea - son, Je - sus, hath un - done Thee!  
 Thy mor - tal sor - row, and Thy life's ob - la - tion;  
 I do a - dore Thee, and will ev - er pray Thee,

By foes de - rid - ed, by Thine own re - ject - ed,  
 'Twas I, Lord Je - sus, I it was de - nied Thee;  
 Thy death of an - guish and Thy bit - ter pas - sion,  
 Think on Thy pit - y and Thy love un - swerv - ing,

O most af - flict - ed!  
 I cru - ci - fied Thee.  
 For my sal - va - tion.  
 Not my de - serv - ing. A - men.