

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

Sunday, October 13, 2024, 10:30 a.m.

Twenty-first Sunday After Pentecost  
Recognition of Lay Ministers

**Welcome and Greeting** - Pastor Mark

**Prelude:** "El Shaddai" (Michael Card and John W. Thompson, arr. Steve Millikan) - Laura

**Opening Sentences** - Jerry

**Hymn 380:** "Jesus, Lover of My Soul" - Laura et al.

**Opening Prayer** - Jerry

**Consecration Moment** - Betty

**Anthem:** "The Prayer" (Carole Bayer Sager and David Foster, arr. Teena Chinn) - Barb/Laura/Choir

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

*Doxology* - Laura

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

**Old Testament Reading:** Job 23:1-9 and 16-17 - Lorraine

Then Job answered: 'Today also my complaint is bitter; his hand is heavy despite my groaning. O that I knew where I might find him, that I might come even to his dwelling! I would lay my case before him, and fill my mouth with arguments. I would learn what he would answer me, and understand what he would say to me. Would he contend with me in the greatness of his power? No; but he would give heed to me. There an upright person could reason with him, and I should be acquitted for ever by my judge. 'If I go forward, he is not there; or backward, I cannot perceive him; on the left he hides, and I cannot behold him; I turn to the right, but I cannot see him. God has made my heart faint; the Almighty has terrified me; if only I could vanish in darkness, and thick darkness would cover my face!

**Sermon: "THE ELUSIVE GOD"** - Pastor Mark

**Recognition of Lay Ministers:** Betty Briggs, Kathy Farnum, Daun Ketcheson - Pastor Mark

**Hymn 386:** "His Eye Is on the Sparrow" - Laura et al.

**Benediction** - Pastor Mark

**Benediction Response 497 (v. 3):** "Blest Be the Tie That Binds" - Laura et al.

We share each other's woes, each other's burdens bear; and often for each other flows the sympathizing tear.

**Greet One Another** - All

Participants: Pastor Mark McCormick, Barb & Jerry Fuller, Laura Sparks, Betty Briggs, Lorraine Finison, Chancel Choir

1. Je - sus, lov - er of my soul, Let me to Thy  
 2. Oth - er ref - uge have I none; Hangs my help - less  
 3. Plen - teous grace with Thee is found, Grace to cov - er

bos - om fly, While the near - er wa - ters roll,  
 soul on Thee; Leave, ah! leave me not a - lone,  
 all my sin; Let the heal - ing streams a - bound,

While the tem - pest still is high; Hide me, O my  
 Still sup - port and com - fort me. All my trust on  
 Make and keep me pure with - in. Thou of life the

Sav - ior, hide, Till the storm of life is past;  
 Thee is stayed, All my help from Thee I bring;  
 foun - tain art, Free - ly let me take of Thee;

## GOD'S COVENANT PEOPLE

Safe in - to the ha - ven guide,  
Cov - er my de - fense - less head  
Spring Thou up with - in my heart,

O re - ceive my soul at last!  
With the shad - ow of Thy wing.  
Rise to all e - ter - ni - ty. A - men.

I Thank You, Jesus, that You are the lover of my soul. The nature and extent of Your love is large enough to encompass the universe, the world, and all of time, but You are the lover of “my” soul. The psalmist looks at the stars and wonders, “What are mortals that You are mindful of them?”—and yet You are mindful. I think of all of the people in the world—six billion stars populating the galaxy of humanity—and stand in awe that You love me personally—me, so ordinary; me, so conflicted; me, so “me.”

Is it true that if I were the only person in the world, You would have died for me? Can I insert my name into John 3:16, “For God so loved \_\_\_\_\_?” Thank You for the truth proclaimed in this song, reflected by Your Incarnation and timelessly expressed in Your Word: that I am loved—personally. Help me, by Your Spirit, to respond to this love, to live in it, and to bask in it. As it flows to me, may it flow through me. As I receive, so let me give. Your song of love is my prayer. I sing it in full voice and with all my heart—in the name of the One who is the lover of my soul. Amen.

His Eye Is on the Sparrow

Civilla D. Martin, 1866-1948

Charles H. Gabriel, 1856-1932

*Solo on stanzas is optional*

1. Why should I feel dis - cour - aged? Why should the shad - ows  
 2. "Let not your heart be trou - bled," His ten - der words I  
 3. When - ev - er I am tempt - ed, When - ev - er clouds a -

come? Why should my heart be lone - ly  
 hear; And rest - ing on His good - ness,  
 rise, When songs give place to sigh - ing,

And long for heav'n and home When Je - sus is my  
 I lose my doubt and fear. Though by the path He  
 When hope with - in me dies, I draw the clos - er

por - tion? My con - stant Friend is He: His  
 lead - eth But one step I may see: His  
 to Him; From care He sets me free. His

# GOD'S COVENANT PEOPLE

eye is on the spar-row, And I know He watch-es me. His  
eye is on the spar-row, And I know He watch-es me. His  
eye is on the spar-row, And I know He watch-es me. His

eye is on the spar-row, And I know He watch-es me.  
eye is on the spar-row, And I know He watch-es me.  
eye is on the spar-row, And I know He watch-es me.

I sing be-cause I'm hap-py, I sing be-cause I'm free;

For His eye is on the spar-row, And I know He watch-es me.