

MAYFLOWER CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
A SERVICE OF MORNING WORSHIP

Sunday, October 6, 2024, 10:30 a.m.

Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost
Worldwide Communion Sunday

Welcome and Greeting - Pastor Mark

Prelude: "Jesus Loves Me" (William B. Bradbury, arr. Melody Bober) - DeeAnn

Opening Sentences - Jen

Hymn 373: "In Heavenly Love Abiding" - DeeAnn/Dave et al.

Opening Prayer - Jen

Consecration Moment - Tom

Anthem: "In This Very Room" (Ron and Carol Harris) - Barb/DeeAnn/Choir

Giving and Receiving of Our Gifts - Pastor Mark

Doxology - DeeAnn

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

Old Testament Reading: Job 1:1, 2:1-10 - Rachel

There was once a man in the land of Uz whose name was Job. That man was blameless and upright, one who feared God and turned away from evil. One day the heavenly beings came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan also came among them to present himself before the Lord. The Lord said to Satan, 'Where have you come from?' Satan answered the Lord, 'From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking up and down on it.' The Lord said to Satan, 'Have you considered my servant Job? There is no one like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man who fears God and turns away from evil. He still persists in his integrity, although you incited me against him, to destroy him for no reason.' Then Satan answered the Lord, 'Skin for skin! All that people have they will give to save their lives. But stretch out your hand now and touch his bone and his flesh, and he will curse you to your face.' The Lord said to Satan, 'Very well, he is in your power; only spare his life.' So Satan went out from the presence of the Lord, and inflicted loathsome sores on Job from the sole of his foot to the crown of his head. Job took a potsherd with which to scrape himself, and sat among the ashes. Then his wife said to him, 'Do you still persist in your integrity? Curse God, and die.' But he said to her, 'You speak as any foolish woman would speak. Shall we receive the good at the hand of God, and not receive the bad?' In all this Job did not sin with his lips.

Sermon: "THE COURAGE TO QUESTION" - Pastor Mark

Observance of Holy Communion - Pastor Mark/Rachel/Dave

Hymn 361: "My Faith Looks Up to Thee" - DeeAnn/Dave et al.

Benediction - Pastor Mark

Benediction Response 497 (v. 2): "Blest Be the Tie That Binds" - DeeAnn/Dave et al.

Before our Father's throne we pour our ardent prayers; our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our comforts and our cares.

Greet One Another - All

Participants: Pastor Mark and DeeAnn McCormick, Barb Fuller,
Rev. David Bandfield, Tom Hacker, Jen Hall, Rachel Gehres, 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.

In Heavenly Love Abiding

Anna L. Waring, 1823-1910

Traditional Finnish Melody

Adapt. and harm. by David Evans, 1874-1948

1. In heav'n-ly love a - bid - ing, No change my heart shall fear,
 2. Wher - ev - er He may guide me, No want shall turn me back;
 3. Green pas-tures are be - fore me, Which yet I have not seen;

And safe is such con - fid - ing, For noth - ing chang - es here.
 My shep-herd is be - side me, And noth - ing can I lack.
 Bright skies will soon be o'er me, Where the dark clouds have been.

The storm may roar with - out me, My heart may low be laid, But
 His wis - dom ev - er wak - eth; His sight is nev - er dim; He
 My hope I can - not meas-ure; The path to life is free; My

God is round a - bout me, And can I be dis-mayed?
 knows the way He tak - eth, And I will walk with Him.
 Sav - ior has my treas-ure, And He will walk with me. A-men.

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

361

Ray Palmer, 1808-1887, alt.

Lowell Mason, 1792-1872

1. My faith looks up to Thee, Thou Lamb of
 2. May Thy rich grace im - part Strength to my
 3. While life's dark maze I tread, And griefs a -
 4. When ends life's tran - sient dream, When death's cold,

Cal - va - ry, Sav - ior di - vine! Now hear me
 faint - ing heart, My zeal in - spire; As Thou hast
 round me spread, Be Thou my guide; Bid dark - ness
 sul - len stream Shall o'er me roll, Blest Sav - ior,

while I pray; Take all my guilt a - way; Oh, let me
 died for me, Oh, may my love to Thee Pure, warm, and
 turn to day; Wipe sor - row's tears a - way; Nor let me
 then, in love, Fear and dis - trust re - move; Oh, bear me

from this day Be whol - ly Thine.
 change - less be, A liv - ing fire.
 ev - er stray From Thee a - side.
 safe a - bove, A ran - somed soul. A - men.