MAYFLOWER CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

A SERVICE OF MORNING WORSHIP

Sunday, December 14, 2025, 10:30 a.m.
Third Sunday of Advent
Reception of New Members

Welcome and Greeting - Pastor Mark

Prelude: "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" (HYFRYDOL, arr. Mark Hayes) - DeeAnn

Opening Sentences - Gretta

Hymn 550: "All Are Welcome" - DeeAnn et al.

Opening Prayer - Gretta

Lighting of the Advent Candles: The Candle of Joy - Gretta and Aubree

Anthem: "Christ in the Stranger's Guise" (Old English Rune, arr. Alfred Burt) - Barb/DeeAnn/Choir <u>Text</u>: I met a stranger yest're'en; I put food in the eating place, drink in the drinking place, music in the list'ning place, and in the name of the Triune, He blessed myself and my house. My cattle and my loves ones, and the lark sang in His song. Often goes the Christ in the stranger's guise.

Receiving New Members (see insert): Kathy Helma and Marty Taylor

Giving and Receiving of Our Gifts - Pastor Mark Doxology (Hymn 563) - DeeAnn et al.

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

Gospel Reading: Matthew 11:2-11 - Rachel

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me." As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written, 'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.' Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

Sermon: "CHRIST AS STRANGER" - Pastor Mark

Hymn 51: "He's Got the Whole World in His Hand" - DeeAnn et al.

Benediction - Pastor Mark

Benediction Response 550 (v. 4): "All Are Welcome" - DeeAnn et al.

Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone to heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the Word they've known. Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God's face; let us bring an end to fear and danger: all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Greet One Another - All

Participants: Rev. Mark and DeeAnn McCormick, Barb Fuller, Gretta Delaney, Aubree Grimes, Rachel Gehres, Chancel Choir

550

All Are Welcome





He's Got the Whole World in His Hand

Spiritual

Spiritual Arr. by Hezekiah Brinson, Jr., 1958–

