

MAYFLOWER CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
A SERVICE OF MORNING WORSHIP

Sunday, February 2, 2025, 10:30 a.m.
Fourth Sunday After Epiphany

Welcome and Greeting - Pastor Mark

Handbell Prelude: "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" (arr. Anna Laura Page) - Barb/Ringers

Opening Sentences - Gretta

Hymn 48: "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" - DeeAnn et al.

Opening Prayer - Gretta

Anthem: "Amazing Grace" (Early American Melody, arr. William D. Hall) - Barb/DeeAnn/Laura/Choir

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

New Testament Reading: 1 Corinthians 13:1-13 - Rachel

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

Sermon: "LOVE'S IMPOSSIBILITY" - Pastor Mark

Installation of Officers and Committee Members - Pastor Mark

Hymn 292: "The Gift of Love" - DeeAnn et al.

Benediction - Pastor Mark

Benediction Response 497 (v. 1): "Blest Be the Tie That Binds" - DeeAnn et al.

Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love; the fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.

Greet One Another - All

Participants: Pastor Mark & DeeAnn McCormick, Barb Fuller, Gretta Delaney, Rachel Gehres, Choir, Laura Sparks, Ringers

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Pastor: Before you are the duly elected members of the Beloved Community who have been called to serve the Mayflower Congregational Church in various positions of leadership and service. It is good to remember that all who belong to the Church of Jesus Christ are called to serve one another in his name. Jesus calls us to share in a life of discipleship and service. Let us now respond to that call.

Pastor: Jesus said, "If one of you wants to be great, you must be servant of all."

People: Master, we hear your call: help us to follow.

Pastor: Jesus said, "Unless you change and become humble like little children, you can never enter the kingdom of heaven."

People: Master, we hear your call: help us to follow.

Pastor: Jesus said, "Blessed are those who are humble, for they will receive what God has promised."

People: Master, we hear your call: help us to follow.

Pastor: Jesus said, "Be merciful just as your Father is merciful; love your enemies and do good to them."

People: Master, we hear your call: help us to follow.

Pastor: Jesus said, "Love one another, just as I have loved you; for by this shall everyone know that you are my disciples if you have love, one for another."

People: Master, we hear your call: help us to follow.

Pastor: Jesus said, "Go to all peoples everywhere and make them my disciples and I will be with you always, to the end of the world."

People: Master, we hear your call: help us to follow.

Pastor: Lord, you have redeemed us and called us to your service: give us grace to hear your call and carry out your commandment. Amen.

Statement of Commission

Pastor: As we belong to Christ's Beloved Community, we all have a part to play in the life of the church. We give witness to God's mighty act of calling us out of darkness into Christ's marvelous light. Let us now live our lives of service, loving him who first loved us. May we exercise our differing gifts in accordance with the grace given to each of us in diligence, compassion, and cheerfulness.

Right Hand of Fellowship

Pastor: In the name of Jesus Christ, with the authority of the Mayflower Congregational Church, we extend to you the right hand of fellowship, recognizing that God has called you to serve the fellowship of this Church. May God bless you in the ministry which you now share with us all. May God, who has begun this good work in you, give you the grace to complete it and to serve God's people in joy and peace. Amen.

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt.

John Zundel, 1815-1882

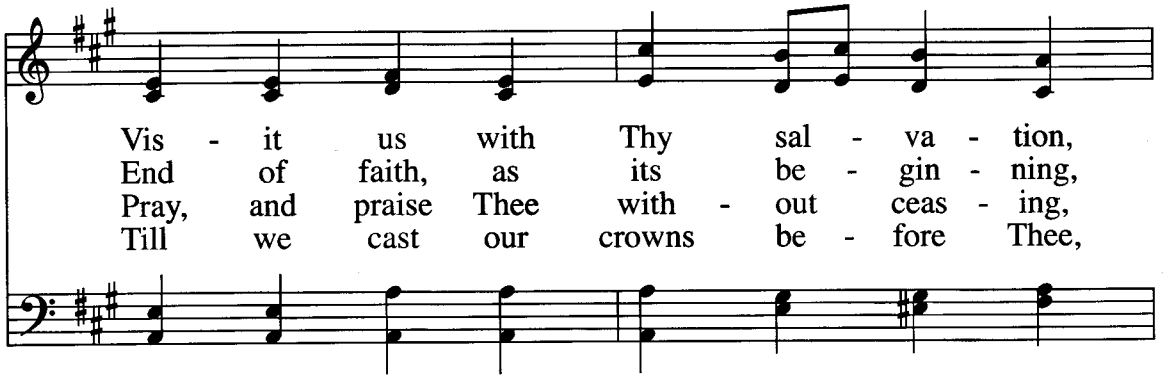
1. Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heav'n, to
 2. Breathe, O breathe Thy lov - ing Spir - it In - to ev - 'ry
 3. Come, Al - might - y to de - liv - er, Let us all Thy
 4. Fin - ish, then, Thy new cre - a - tion; Pure and spot - less

earth come down, Fix in us Thy hum - ble dwell - ing,
 trou - bled breast; Let us all in Thee in - her - it,
 life re - ceive; Sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er,
 let us be; Let us see Thy great sal - va - tion

All Thy faith - ful mer - cies crown; Je - sus, Thou art
 Let us find Thy prom - ised rest; Take a - way the
 Nev - er - more Thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be
 Per - fect - ly re - stored in Thee; Changed from glo - ry

all com - pas - sion, Pure, un - bound - ed love Thou art;
 love of sin - ning; Al - pha and O - me - ga be;
 al - ways bless - ing, Serve Thee as Thy hosts a - bove,
 in - to glo - ry, Till in heav'n we take our place,

THE TRIUNE GOD



Vis - it us with Thy sal - va - tion,
End of faith, as its be - gin - ning,
Pray, and praise Thee with - out ceas - ing,
Till we cast our crowns be - fore Thee,



En - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.
Set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
Glo - ry in Thy per - fect love.
Lost in won - der, love, and praise. A - men.

The Gift of Love

1 Corinthians 13:1-3
Hal H. Hopson, 1933-

Traditional English Melody
Adapt. by Hal H. Hopson, 1933-

1. Though I may speak with brav - est fire,
2. Though I may give all I pos - sess,
3. Come, Spir - it, come, our hearts con - trol,

And have the gift to all in - spire,
And striv - ing so my love pro - fess,
Our spir - its long to be made whole.

And have not love, my words are vain,
But not be giv'n by love with - in,
Let in - ward love guide ev - 'ry deed;

As sound - ing brass, and hope - less gain.
The prof - it soon turns strange - ly thin.
By this we wor - ship, and are freed.