

MAYFLOWER CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
A SERVICE OF MORNING WORSHIP

Sunday, April 12, 2026, 10:30 a.m.

Second Sunday of Easter
Communion Sunday

Welcome and Greeting - Pastor Mark

Prelude: "Blessed Assurance" (Phoebe P. Knapp, arr. Hal Leonard) - DeeAnn

Opening Sentences - Wendy

Hymn 313: "Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life" - DeeAnn et al.

Opening Prayer - Wendy

Anthem: "Amazing Grace" (arr. Jack Schrader) - Barb/DeeAnn/Choir

Giving and Receiving of Our Gifts - Pastor Margery

Doxology (Hymn 563) - DeeAnn et al.

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

New Testament Reading: Acts 2:14a, 22-32 - Rachel

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them: 'Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. 'You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know— this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. For David says concerning him, "I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken; therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; moreover, my flesh will live in hope. For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One experience corruption. You have made known to me the ways of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence." 'Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying, "He was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh experience corruption." This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.

Sermon: "CONFRONTING ANTI-SEMITISM" - Pastor Mark

Observance of Holy Communion - Pastor Mark, Pastor Margery, Rachel

Hymn 260: "We Cannot Own the Sunlit Sky" - 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, all are welcome in this place.

Greet One Another - All

Participants: Pastor Mark and DeeAnn McCormick, Barb Fuller, Pastor Margery Briggs,
Wendy Kushion, Rachel Gehres, Chancel Choir

Mayflower Church Covenant

We are a Christian church on a journey of worship, sacrament, fellowship, and service to God and our neighbors, both within our community and beyond. As God has made covenant with us, we covenant to love, care, and support one another, and to be prayerfully present with each other as we navigate the challenges of life. We celebrate diversity with the unique perspectives, backgrounds, and gifts each individual brings to our community. We seek to provide a safe space for questions, doubts, and exploration, encouraging lifelong quests of learning, growing, and deepening our understanding of scripture and the love of God. We pursue open and honest communication with respect for personal conscience. We commit ourselves to be faithful stewards of our time, talents, and treasures, to further the work of God's kingdom on earth. We affirm this covenant with open hearts and minds, trusting in the grace of God and the love of Christ.

COMMUNION RITUAL

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: God of grace and mercy, we confess that we haven't loved you with our whole hearts. We fall short of what you desire for us, as individuals caught up in selfishness and fear, and as a community of faith that sometimes forgets your call to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with you. Forgive us, O God. Lift us from despair to hope, from division to unity, and from apathy to love. Renew us by your Spirit, that we may walk in your ways and find joy in your will. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Minister: Hear the good news: no matter how far we wander, we cannot outrun the reach of God's grace. In Christ, we are forgiven, embraced, and made whole. At this table, we remember that Jesus welcomed all—the one who betrayed him, the ones who fled in fear, and all who longed for hope and belonging. We come, not because we are perfect, but because we are deeply loved.

All: Thanks be to God.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Minister: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

Minister: Let us give thanks to our God.

All: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Minister: It is right that we give you thanks, O God. You shaped us in your image and breathed life into us. Even when we turned away, your love never let us go. Through prophets, teachers, and covenant, you've kept calling us home. And so, with all creation, we join the unending hymn:

All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Minister: Friends, this is not my table, or the church's table. This is Christ's table, open to all who desire to know God's love. You need not be a member of any church. Bring only your hunger, your hope, your longing. Here, we acknowledge our sins, our failures, and our disappointments. Here, we present ourselves to God—who meets us as we are, loves us where we are, and draws us toward wholeness. So come, for all is ready.

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

Minister: On the night when he was handed over, Jesus gathered with his friends around a common table. He took bread, blessed it, broke it, and gave it to them saying: "Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way, he took the cup, saying: "This cup is the new covenant—my very life, poured out in love for you. Whenever you drink it, remember me." And so, when we eat this bread and drink this cup, we remember the life, death, and resurrection of Christ, and the love that will never let us go.

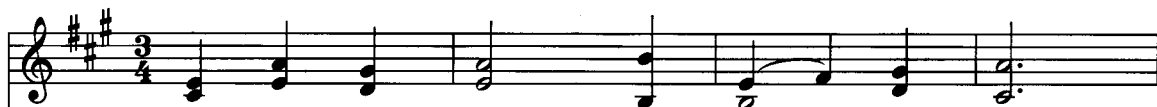
PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

All: Thank you, God, for this sacred meal where you have shared yourself with us. Here we are renewed and reminded that your love is stronger than fear, your hope is deeper than despair, and Christ lives within us always. Send us out strengthened in faith and love, ready to serve and build your Beloved Community, until all are fed, welcomed, and free. Amen.

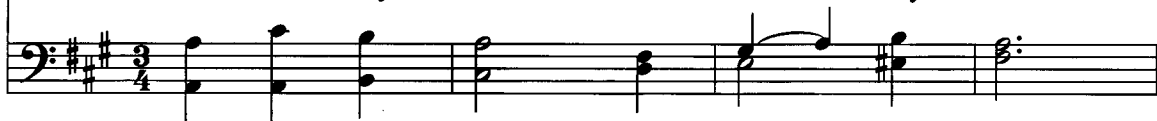
313 Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life

Frank Mason North, 1850-1935

Gardiner's *Sacred Melodies*, 1815



1. Where cross the crowd - ed ways of life,
 2. In haunts of wretch - ed - ness and need,
 3. From ten - der child - hood's help - less - ness,
 4. The cup of wa - ter giv'n for Thee
 5. O Mas - ter, from the moun - tain - side
 6. Till all Thy chil - dren learn Thy love



Where sound the cries of race and clan, A -
 On shad - owed thresh - olds dark with fears, From
 From wom - an's grief, man's bur - dened toil, From
 Still holds the fresh - ness of Thy grace; Yet
 Make haste to heal these hearts of pain; A -
 And fol - low where Thy feet have trod, Till,



bove the noise of self - ish strife, We
 paths where hide the lures of greed, We
 fam - ished souls, from sor - row's stress, Thy
 long these mul - ti - tudes to see The
 mong these rest - less throngs a - bid, O
 glo - rious from Thy heav'n a - bove, Shall



hear Thy voice, O Son of man.
 catch the vi - sion of Thy tears.
 heart has nev - er known re - coil.
 sweet com - pas - sion of Thy face.
 tread the cit - y's streets a - gain,
 come the cit - y of our God! A - men.



We Cannot Own the Sunlit Sky

Ruth Duck, 1947-

Robert Lowry, 1826-1899, alt.

1. We can-not own the sun-lit sky, The moon, the wild-flow'rs
 2. When bod-ies shiv-er in the night And, wea-ry, wait for
 3. God calls hu-man-i-ty to join As part-ners in cre-

grow-ing, For we are part of all that is With-
 morn-ing, When chil-dren have no bread but tears, And
 at-ting A fu-ture free from want and fear, Life's

in life's riv-er flow-ing. With o-pen hands re-
 war-horns sound their warn-ing, God calls hu-man-i-
 good-ness cel-e-brat-ing. That new world beck-ons

ceive and share The gifts of God's cre-a-tion, That
 ty to wake, To join in com-mon la-bor, That
 from a-far, In-vites our shared en-deav-or, That

all may have a-bun-dant life In ev-'ry earth-ly na-tion.
 all may have a-bun-dant life In one-ness with their neigh-bor.
 all may have a-bun-dant life And peace en-dure for-ev-er.