

MAYFLOWER CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
A SERVICE OF MORNING WORSHIP

Sunday, May 3, 2026, 10:30 a.m.

Fifth Sunday of Easter
Communion Sunday

Welcome and Greeting - Pastor Mark

Prelude: "It Is Well With My Soul" (Philip P. Bliss, arr. Faye Lopez) - DeeAnn
(Inspired by Sergei Rachmaninoff's *Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini*)

Opening Sentences - Sue

Hymn 341: "You Are My Wholeness" - DeeAnn et al.

Opening Prayer - Sue

Anthem: "I Will Sing Praise" (Joseph M. Martin) - Barb/Choir/DeeAnn

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: John 14:1-14 - Lorraine

Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling-places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.' Thomas said to him, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?' Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.' Philip said to him, 'Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.' Jesus said to him, 'Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, "Show us the Father"? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

Sermon: "WHEN SCRIPTURE BECOMES A WEAPON" - Pastor Mark

Hymn 526: "We Come as Guests Invited" - DeeAnn et al.

Observance of Holy Communion - Pastor Mark and Pastor Margery

Benediction - Pastor Mark

Benediction Response 576: "May the Lord Bless You" - DeeAnn et al.

May the Lord, mighty God, bless and keep you forever; grant you peace, perfect peace, courage for ev'ry endeavor. Lift up your eyes and seek His face, and His grace forever. May the Lord, mighty God, bless and keep you forever.

Greet One Another - All

Participants: Pastor Mark and DeeAnn McCormick, Barb Fuller, Pastor Margery Briggs, Sue Kohler, Lorraine Finison, 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.

You Are My Wholeness

Roy Salmond and Mike Mulder

Roy Salmond and Mike Mulder

Arr. by Helen Gierke

Refrain *Unison*

You, You are my whole - ness. You

are my com - plete - ness. My soul, my thirst - y

soul can rest in the depths of Your love. *Last time*

Verses

1. In You, I find for - give - ness,
 2. In You, I find true friend - ship,
 3. Like a fa - ther You long to pro - tect me.

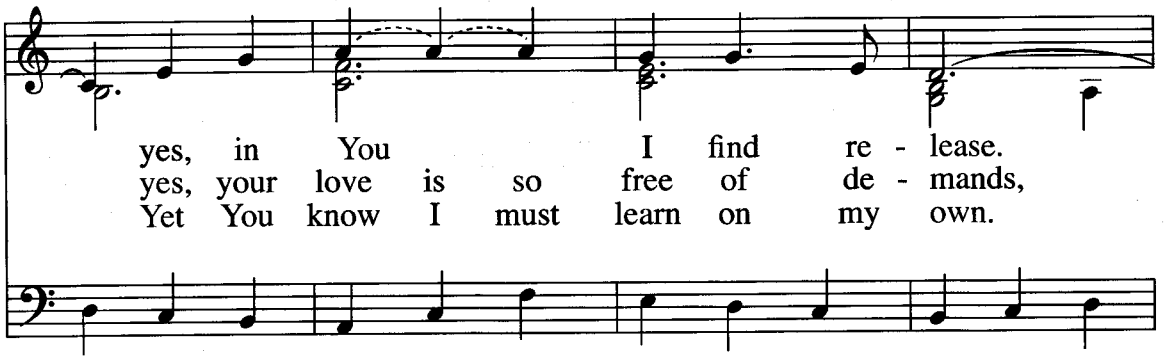
1. We come as guests in - vit - ed When Je - sus bids us dine,
 2. We eat and drink, re - ceiv - ing From Christ the grace we need,
 3. One bread is ours for shar - ing, One sin - gle fruit - ful vine,

His friends on earth u - nit - ed To share the bread and wine;
 And in our hearts be - liev - ing On Him by faith we feed;
 Our fel - low-ship de - clar - ing Re - newed in bread and wine:

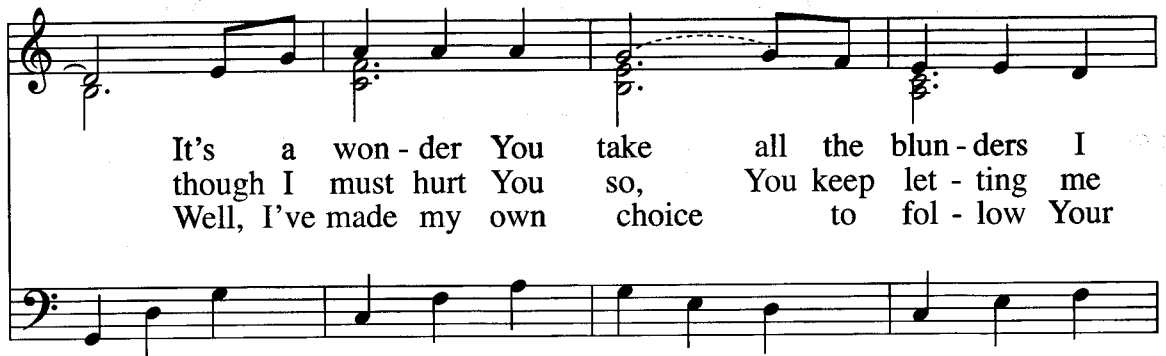
The bread of life is bro - ken, The wine is free - ly poured
 With won - der and thanks - giv - ing For love that knows no end,
 Re - newed, sus - tained, and giv - en By to - ken, sign, and word,

For us, in sol - emn to - ken Of Christ our dy - ing Lord.
 We find in Je - sus liv - ing Our ev - er - pres - ent Friend.
 The pledge and seal of heav - en, The love of Christ our Lord.

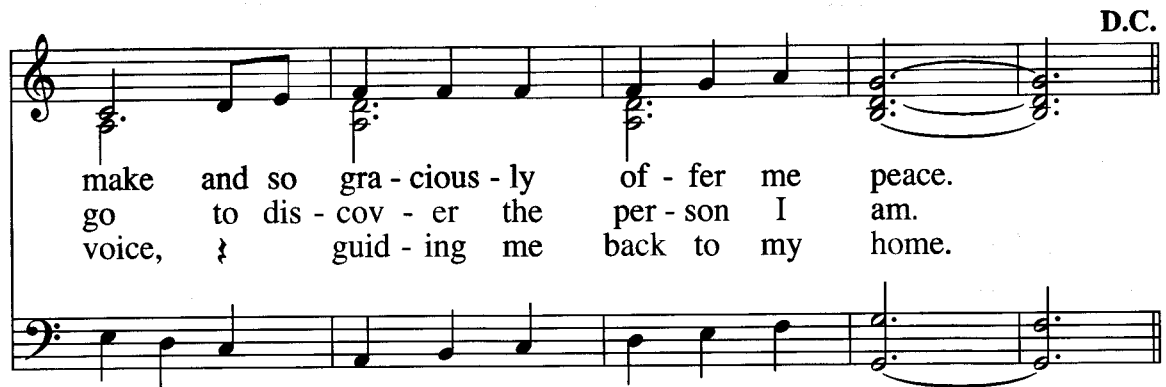
GOD'S COVENANT PEOPLE



yes, in You I find re - lease.
yes, your love is so free of de - mands,
Yet You know I must learn on my own.



It's a won - der You take all the blun - ders I
though I must hurt You so, You keep let - ting me
Well, I've made my own choice to fol - low Your



make and so gra - cious - ly of - fer me peace.
go to dis - cov - er the per - son I am.
voice, † guid - ing me back to my home.

D.C.

Mighty God, Creator of us all, it is You who guide and strengthen us. With heartfelt gratitude, we praise You this day for Your never-ending love and protection. Enrich our lives with the beauty of all Your creation. Unite us in fellowship with sisters and brothers close to home as well as those far away. Empower us to know Your will and Your ways. Let us follow You, realizing that only in discipleship to You are we complete. Make us whole. We ask this in the name of the One who gave His life for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Unison

May the Lord, might - y God, bless and

keep you for - ev - er; Grant you peace,

per - fect peace, cour - age for ev - 'ry en - deav - or.

Lift up your eyes and seek His face, and His

grace for - ev - er. May the Lord,

might - y God, bless and keep you for - ev - er.