

MAYFLOWER

Congregational Church

COMMUNION SUNDAY

MAY 5, 2024 - 10:30am



WE BELIEVE: Faith is a journey, God is good, Jesus saves, and the Spirit leads us to faith, hope, and love as we honor the dignity of all God's people.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

**Indicates please stand if you are able.*

Bolded text or music score indicates congregational response.

Please sign the friendship register located in your pew. Prayer request cards may be placed in the offering and will be added to our prayer list.

As you enter the sanctuary, we invite you to prepare your hearts for worship.

PRELUDE

Prelude on Ave Verum Corpus
by W. A. Mozart, arr. E. Power Biggs

Dr. Julia Brown

WELCOME AND PASSING OF THE PEACE*

Rev. Adam Lipscomb

Greeting: The peace of Christ be with you.

Response: And also with you.

NEWS OF THE CHURCH

Rachael Cooley

INTROIT

I Was Glad
by Larry Visser

Chancel Choir

I was glad when they said unto me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord." (Psalm 122:1)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor Ila Flo Barfuss

Leader: The Christ said, "This is my commandment: Love one another."

People: We come to worship the God who is love, that we may learn to love one another.

Leader: The Christ said, "No longer do I call you servants; but now I call you my friends."

People: We come to worship the God whose friends we are through Christ.

Leader: Let us sing praise to God, and live in love and friendship toward the human family, through Jesus our Christ. Amen.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN 14* *Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above* MIT FREUDEN ZART

PRAYER OF CONFESSION*

God of endless possibility, we confess that we do not always perceive the opportunities you place before us. Caught up in our own hopes, plans, and fantasies, and crushed when they disappoint us, we are slow to see the open pathways you set before us. Open our eyes, that we may accept the new life you offer us, and thus show forth the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON*

GLORIA PATRI*

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Rachael Cooley

CHILDREN'S BLESSING (sung by all)

**Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to Him belong, They are weak, but He is strong.
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.**

SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 10:44-48
PEW BIBLE, PAGE 779

Jana DeShane

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

Stranger Love

Rev. Lipscomb

HYMN 289*

Help Us Accept Each Other

BECK

CALL TO OFFERING

Rev. Lipscomb

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Alleluia
by Randall Thompson

Chancel Choir

DOXOLOGY*

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Rev. Lipscomb and Pastor Barfuss

(Our sacramental elements are gluten-free bread and grape juice)

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

6 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,
10 God of pow - er and might. Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry,
14 Ho-san-na in the high - est.
Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Christ has died, Christ is ris - en, Christ will come a - gain!

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

A - men, a - men, a - men.

SHARING COMMUNION

COMMUNION ANTHEM

Ave Verum
by W. A. Mozart

Chancel Choir

*Ave, verum corpus natum de Maria Virgine:
vere passum, immolatum in cruce pro homine:
cuius latus perforatum fluxit aqua et sanguine:
esto nobis praegustatum, in mortis examine.
O Jesu dulcis, O Jesu pie, O Jesu Fili Mariae.
Miserere mei. Amen.*

Hail the true body, born of the Virgin Mary:
You who truly suffered and were sacrificed
on the cross for the sake of man.
From whose pierced flank flowed water and blood:
Be a foretaste for us in the trial of death.
O sweet, O merciful, O Jesus, Son of Mary.
Have mercy on me. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.

Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth, as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

HYMN 579*

Lord, Dismiss Us With Thy Blessing

SICILIAN MARINERS

BENEDICTION*

Rev. Lipscomb

DISMISSAL*

Leader: To wherever God has called you this week, go in peace
to love and serve the Lord.

People: **Amen! We go forth in the name of Christ. Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

Festival Finale
by Malcolm Archer (b. 1952)

Dr. Brown

WELCOME! We are so glad you joined us today!

WELCOME! If this is your first time worshiping with us, please stop by the Welcome Center in the narthex outside the sanctuary if you have questions about our church. You are invited to join us after the service for refreshments and fellowship in the atrium.

HEARING ASSISTANCE is available on the main floor by using the T-switch on your hearing aid. Handheld receivers with earphones are also available from the ushers.

NURSERY is available for children birth through 3 years. Please sign your child(ren) in prior to the service and receive a pager if needed.

SUNDAY SCHOOL for children age 4 through 5th grade meet during the service following the Children's Message in the lower-level Youth Rooms. Children are asked to bring their Bibles. We will share "highs and lows" from the week, play Bible trivia, sing, have a Bible story lesson, and engage in a related activity.

Announcements for May 5, 2024

Mayflower news and details on upcoming events.

May 12 | Rev. Ruth Bell Olsson, preaching

May 19 | Pentecost Sunday

Rev. Steve Armfield, preaching

May 26 | Trinity Sunday

Rev. Eric Britcher, preaching



2025 COMMITTEE/COUNCIL NOMINATIONS

The Nominating Committee is collecting committee/council nominations for 2025. Brief descriptions are listed on the following page, more detailed descriptions are available at the welcome table. Nominations will be accepted by filling out the pew card, completing the Google form on our website (mayflowerchurch.org), or contacting the church office ([616-459-6255](tel:616-459-6255)).

PRAYER RETREAT FOR RECONCILIATION AND HEALING: MAY 8, 5:30PM

You're invited to a 'Prayer Retreat for Reconciliation and Healing' on Wednesday, May 8, 5:30pm-8pm, led by Rev. Steve Armfield and Rev. Eric Britcher. A light dinner will be provided. For additional information, please contact Murry Idema (murry@mayflowerchurch.org) or Patty Sienstra (psienstra@gmail.com).

MAYFLOWER "COOKIEBOOK" SALE: MAY 12

Are you looking for some new recipes for treats? On May 12, the Coffee Reception Team will be selling their "Cookiebook", full of delicious recipes from the Mayflower Church family. Proceeds from this sale will go toward future coffee receptions.

THE GRAND RAPIDS CHOIR OF MEN & BOYS CONCERT, WALKING THE PATH OF PRAISE: MAY 18, 7PM & MAY 19, 3PM

The concert will feature the music of Tallis, Gibbons, Purcell, Handel, Ireland, Rutter & more. Accompanied by Chamber Orchestra Scott Bosscher, directing and Dr. Julia Brown, Organ. Hosted at Mayflower, Sat., May 18 at 7:00pm and Sun., May 19 at 3:00pm.

MAYFLOWER ANNUAL MEETING: JUNE 9

Members of the congregation are invited to the annual meeting following the worship service on June 9, where we will vote on new leadership and approve the budget.

INTERIM PASTOR SEARCH

The Council is continuing to identify an Interim Pastor. The Personnel Committee has been asked to generate candidates for the Interim Pastor Job Description (copies available in the office and on the Mayflower website). If you know of anyone who may fit this role, please share name, contact & pertinent information with the Personnel Committee by 5/15. - *Kateri Schutt, Sue Stoddard, Chris Edgar, Shari Graham & Carl VerBeek*

Committee Descriptions

*Mayflower Committees are listed below followed by the purpose of each.
Please read through these as you consider your nominations for 2025.*

Christian Outreach Committee

Facilitates outreach in our community through word, deed, and resources.

Congregational Care Committee

Oversees sending cards to those on the prayer list, brings meals to those in need, welcomes babies, and gets volunteers for cookies and greeters for the Sunday coffee reception.

Congregational Events Committee

Develops, organizes, and leads social events.

Council

Responsible for the overall operation, spiritual life, and financial health of the church.

Endowment Trust Board of Trustees

Oversees the Mayflower Endowment Fund, which is a separate entity established by MCC and is governed by a formal Trust Agreement.

Executive Committee

Acts on behalf of the Council between Council meetings. Advises the Council and the Senior Minister on all church personnel matters, and provides advice, wisdom, and support to the Moderator and Senior Pastor.

Finance Committee

Provides financial oversight of Church finances, develop the annual budget, monitor actual results and recommends needed adjustments to the budget to Council to keep MCC financially viable.

House and Grounds Committee

Maintains the church building and grounds in proper working order and aesthetically pleasing shape while meeting safety, security and stewardship goals.

Membership Committee

Supports current members of the church and actively works to promote the ministries of Mayflower to Sunday visitors and guests.

Nominating Committee

Recruits Council members and committee members and any other special committees as required.

Personnel Committee

Provides direction and decision making to Council for employee policies, compensation and benefits, legal compliance, performance management and staff training.

Worship and Music Committee

Coordinates various aspects of the worshipping life of the church fostering and supporting active, vital worship, and supports concerts and other music outreach.

Youth Committee

Supports the children and youth ministries and the Mayflower staff who lead them.

This Week

What's happening at Mayflower this week

Sunday, May 5

- 9am New Members Class
- 10:30am Rev. Adam Lipscomb, preaching
- 4pm Scouts Derby

Monday, May 6

- 7:30am Men's Bible Study
- 9:30am Women's Bible Study
- 5pm Men's Bible Study
- 5pm Women's Bible Study

Tuesday, May 7

- 10am Needlepoint
- 10am Worship Planning Mtg
- 10:30am Men's Bible Study
- 6:30pm Council Mtg

Wednesday, May 8

- 5:30pm Prayer Retreat
- 6pm Handbell rehearsal
- 7pm Al-Anon
- 7:30pm Chancel Choir rehearsal

Thursday, May 9

- 9:45am Women's City Club
- 10am Women's Bible Study
- 6pm Boy Scouts

Friday, May 10

- 7am Men's Bible Study

Looking Ahead

Upcoming dates to note

MAY

- 12** Mothers' Day
Morning Worship | 10:30am
*Rev. Ruth Bell Olsson, preaching
- 13** Baroque Concert | 7pm
- 18** GR Choir of Men and Boys | 7pm
- 19** New Members Class | 9am
Pentecost Sunday | 10:30am
*Rev. Steve Armfield, preaching
GR Choir of Men and Boys | 3pm
- 26** Morning Worship | 10:30am
*Rev. Eric Britcher, preaching
- 27** Memorial Day | Office Closed
- 28** Council Mtg | 6:30pm

JUNE

- 2** Morning Worship | 10:30am
*Rev. Ruth Bell Olsson, preaching
- 3-7** Writing Camp | 9am-12pm, 1pm-4pm
- 9** All Comer's Choir | 9:30
Morning Worship | 10:30am
*Rev. Steve Armfield, preaching
Annual Meeting | following worship
- 10-13** Art Camp | 9am-12pm
- 16** Fathers' Day
Morning Worship | 10:30am
*Rev. Kathryn Baker, preaching
- 23** Morning Worship | 10:30am
*Rev. Ruth Bell Olsson, preaching
- 30** Morning Worship | 10:30am
*Rev. Kathryn Baker, preaching

Honoring High School Seniors



Eve Orban:

"My favorite memory from growing up at Mayflower is the family Christmas Eve service. I loved all of the beautiful decorations and singing my favorite Christmas carols with my friends."



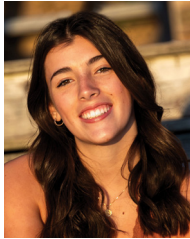
Ben Ruppert:

Ben has many favorite memories, but a few of them would be the Christmas Eve service, youth group floor hockey, and breakfast at Wolfgang's!



Hope Orban:

"My favorite memory of Mayflower is helping my Mom teach Sunday School. I had so much fun working with the children and all the great crafts."



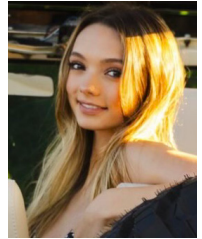
Rehn Oosterman:

Rehn loves attending Breakfast Club at Wolfgang's with the group. It is a nice time to start the day and catch up with church friends not often seen with busy schedules.



Ryan Brinker:

"My favorite memory from Mayflower from Church is tutoring at Mulick Park Elementary with my youth group peers."



Lucy Millwood:

"My favorite memory from my time at Mayflower was singing in the choir. It was so special being on the steps in the front of the church singing with the rest of my peers and Ms. Heidi. It was something I looked forward to so often."



Carter Barnes:

"My favorite memory of Mayflower is hanging out with my friends at youth group!"



Oskar Dicke:

"My favorite memory from youth group is making lasagna with everyone for families in need, because it allowed me to have fun while also helping others out."



Lucy Houlihan:

Lucy especially loved the Chicago middle school mission trips and tutoring at Mulick Park.



Charlie Seufert:

"I would say just breakfast club in general. Nothing too specific, just hanging out with Mrs Conway."



Nathalie Lanne:

"A favorite memory was probably going on the mission trip to Chicago!"



Clare Sherman:

"One of my favorite memories from my time at Mayflower has to be volunteering at the Summer Art Camp. I enjoyed helping the kids through the stations and getting to know them individually. Similarly, I have loved getting to know more members of the church! I am a relatively new member, but I love our church family and I can't wait to continue meeting new people."



Mayflower Council

not pictured: Martin Grin



Rachel Blair



Anne-Marie Church



Amy Conway



Susan Orban



Dan Poortenga



John Schneider



Kateri Schutt



Patty Sienstra



Courtney Weiler



Kris Wilson



Kathy Wynsma



Christopher Yates

Council Members are available in the library every Sunday after worship. Please stop in to say, “hi!”



MONDAYS
AT
MAYFLOWER

May 13 | 7pm

**BAROQUE IN THE ATRIUM
with Duo Tarasque & Friends**



Luce Burrell, theorbo and Howell Petty, soprano
Grace Kim, violin; Andrew Laven, cello; and Julia Brown, organ
performing music of Telemann, Purcell, and more.

MAYFLOWER
Congregational Church

2345 Robinson Road SE, GR, MI 49506
616-459-6255 | MayflowerChurch.org

Praises and Prayers

Week of May 5, 2024

If you would like to receive, or make note of someone to be added to the weekly Prayer List, please contact the church office to be included on the list (616.459.6255 or office@mayflowerchurch.org.) Prayer Cards are also in the pews and collected during Sunday morning services.

PRAISE FOR THOSE WHO CELEBRATE

Bless those who are attending Mayflower's **new member** classes.

Praise for this year's **Bible Study group participants** as they've grown, learned and come together in community.

We give praise for the **high school seniors** who are graduating this year. We are thankful for God's faithfulness through the past grade school years. (4/25)

We celebrate **Helen Bellows** who was a founder of Priscilla Circle in 1958. (4/21)

PRAY FOR THE NEEDS OF OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Please pray for **Suzanne Shippy**, daughter-in-law of **Ron Shippy**, as she has been hospitalized with a blood disorder. (5/1)

Pray for **Bill Potts** who is back in the hospital. (4/25)

Pray for **Maris Rosema** who is dealing with heart and lung issues. (4/18)

Please pray for **Lizann Donley** who is experiencing severe pain due to a compression fracture in her back. (4/3)

Marcia Oetting is now at home, recovering from a mini stroke. Pray for continued rapid improvement. (4/3)

Please pray that God may continue to walk with **Mayflower Church**, and guide us all on our journey of faith.

PRAY FOR FRIENDS OF MAYFLOWER

Pray for **Paula Gaylord** who is struggling with health issues. (4/11)

PRAY FOR THOSE WHO MOURN

Please pray for members **Tom, Terri and Jessica Visser** as they grieve the death of Tom's mother, Arola Visser, who died April 20. The funeral service was held April 24, at Trinity United Reformed Church. (4/25)

We pray for **Rupert Samuel** and his family as they mourn the death of his mother. (4/23)

Prayers for **Julie Holt** and **Kristin Ruud** and their families. Their father, **Doug Hoogerhyde**, passed away 4/18. Visitation was April 29 at the Metcalf & Jonkhoff Funeral Home. A Celebration of Life was held April 30 at Mayflower. (4/18)

Pray for **Jan Cornelius** whose mother, **Doris VanEss** passed away 4/22. (4/22)

Mary Brace Scharff, niece of **Susan and Ray Lovell**, died April 12. Please pray for the Lovell and Scharff families as they grieve their loss. (4/18)

PRAY FOR THE WORLD

We pray for peace and safety in the world amid ongoing turmoil, specifically in Haiti, the Middle East, and Ukraine.

ELECTRONIC GIVING OPTIONS



Scan the QR Code with your phone to give/pay directly through E-Zekiel: no sign-up required.

Download the app and create an account for future secure scan-and-go transactions.



TEXT TO GIVE

On your phone, simply text the word: GIVE To: 16163446255 (no spaces) and then follow the prompts.

YOU'RE INVITED: PRAYER RETREAT FOR RECONCILIATION AND HEALING

WEDNESDAY, MAY 8 | 5:30PM-8PM

SCHEDULE FOR THE EVENING

(Childcare available 6-8pm)

- 5:30-6 Light Refreshments
- 6-6:45 Opening | Rev. Steve Armfield
Prayer Session | Rev. Eric Britcher
- 7-7:45 Prayer Session | Rev. Steve Armfield
- 7:45-8 Celebrating Reconciliation and Healing

For additional information, please contact
Murry Idema (murry@mayflowerchurch.org) or Patty Sienstra (psienstra@gmail.com)

MAYFLOWER CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

2345 Robinson Road SE, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49506
616-459-6255 www.MayflowerChurch.org

Rev. Adam Lipscomb, Pastor | Pastor Ila Flo Barfuss

Dr. Julia Brown, Director of Music and Organist

Scott Bosscher, Chancel Choir Director | Abby Brooks, Director of Children's Choirs

Melia Colwell, Children's Choir Accompanist

Rachael Cooley, Interim Executive Administrator | Murry Idema, Director of Congregational Care

Amy Dunham, Office Manager | Andy Ely, Business Manager

Kristen Van Stee, Communications Coordinator

Jon Lang, Facility Manager | Jana DeShane, Custodial Services

THE TRIUNE GOD

14 Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above

Johann J. Schütz, 1640–1690

Bohemian Brethren's *Kirchengesänge*, 1566

Trans. by Frances E. Cox, 1812–1897

1. Sing praise to God who reigns a - bove, The
 2. What God's al - might - y pow'r hath made, His
 3. Then all my glad - some way a - long, I
 4. O ye who name Christ's ho - ly name, Give

God of all cre - a - tion, The God of pow'r, the
 gra - cious mer - cy keep - eth; By morn - ing glow or
 sing a - loud Thy prais - es, That men may hear the
 God all praise and glo - ry; All ye who own His

God of love, The God of our sal - va - tion; With
 eve - ning shade His watch - ful eye ne'er sleep - eth; With -
 grate - ful song My voice un - wea - ried rais - es; Be
 pow'r, pro - claim A - loud the won - drous sto - ry! Cast

heal - ing balm my soul He fills, And ev - 'ry faith - less
 in the king - dom of His might, Lo! all is just and
 joy - ful in the Lord, my heart, Both soul and bod - y
 each false i - dol from his throne, The Lord is God, and

"He," "Him," or "His" may be replaced by "God(s)" or "You(r)."

MIT FREUDEN ZART
 8.7.8.7.8.8.7

THE TRIUNE GOD

mur - mur stills: To God all praise and glo - ry.
all is right: To God all praise and glo - ry.
bear your part: To God all praise and glo - ry.
He a - lone: To God all praise and glo - ry. A - men.

Loving God, our hearts are filled with praise when we contemplate Your wonderful and marvelous works. We cannot contain our gratitude for the unending grace which You bestow upon us. Even when we believe we see the fullness of Your love working in our lives, help us to understand that we are seeing only a glimpse of Your immense capacity for loving Your children.

We praise You for Your mercy and compassion when we face difficulty. We praise You for Your help and guidance when we feel lost and alone. We praise You for Your gentleness when we feel vulnerable. We praise You for Your strength when we feel weak and unsure. For Your greatness surpasses every earthly might, O God, and Your generosity in all things exceeds our expectations. Praise be to You, O God, the source of our deepest joy and the very foundation of our faith. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Rev. Lisa Howes

Help Us Accept Each Other

John 15:12
Fred Kaan, 1929-

John Ness Beck, 1930-1987

Unison

1. Help us ac - cept each oth - er As Christ ac - cept-ed us;
2. Teach us, O Lord, Your les - sons, As in our dai - ly life
3. Let Your ac - cept-ance change us, So that we may be moved
4. Lord, for to - day's en - coun - ters With all who are in need,

Teach us as sis - ter, broth - er, Each per - son to em - brace.
We strug - gle to be hu - man And search for hope and faith.
In liv - ing sit - u - a - tions To do the truth in love;
Who hun - ger for ac - cep - tance, For right - eous - ness and bread,

Be pres - ent, Lord, a - mong us And bring us to be - lieve
Teach us to care for peo - ple, For all, not just for some,
To prac - tice Your ac - cept - ance Un - til we know by heart
We need new eyes for see - ing, New hands for hold - ing on:

We are our - selves ac - cept - ed, And meant to love and live.
To love them as we find them, Or as they may be - come.
The ta - ble of for - give - ness, And laugh - ter's heal - ing art.
Re - new us with Your Spir - it; Lord, free us, make us one!

SERVICE MUSIC

579 Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing

Attr. to John Fawcett, 1740–1817, alt.

Sicilian Melody
Tattersall's *Psalmody*, 1794

1. Lord, dis - miss us with Thy bless - ing; Fill our hearts with
 2. Thanks we give and ad - o - ra - tion For Thy Gos - pel's
 3. So that when Thy love shall call us, Sav - ior, from the

joy and peace; Let us each, Thy love pos - sess - ing,
 joy - ful sound; May the fruits of Thy sal - va - tion
 world a - way, Fear of death shall not ap - pall us,

Tri - umph in re - deem - ing grace: Oh, re - fresh us,
 In our hearts and lives a - bound: Ev - er faith - ful,
 Glad Thy sum - mons to o - bey: May we ev - er,

Oh, re - fresh us, Trav - 'ling through this wil - der - ness.
 ev - er faith - ful To the truth may we be found.
 may we ev - er Reign with Thee in end - less day. A - men.

SICILIAN MARINERS
8.7.8.7.8.7