

MAYFLOWER

Congregational Church

SUNDAY WORSHIP

August 11, 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

Amazing Grace! How Sweet the Sound
by Jean Langlais

Dr. Julia Brown

WELCOME AND PASSING OF THE PEACE*

Rachael Cooley

Greeting: The peace of Christ be with you.

Response: And also with you.

NEWS OF THE CHURCH

Rachael Cooley

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rachel Blair

Leader: Holy One,

People: As we gather this morning to worship you,

Leader: May we speak truth,

People: So that our words may give grace to those who hear.

Leader: May we pray in faith,

People: So that our words may give grace to those who hear.

Leader: May we sing with joy,

People: So that our words may give grace to those who hear.

Leader: May we listen with open minds and receptive hearts,

People: So that Your words may give grace to us who hear.

OPENING HYMN 5*

Praise the Lord, His Glories Show

LLANFAIR

OPENING PRAYER* (read in unison)

Rachel Blair

Spirit of God, move among us and free us to love and serve you and all people. Refresh our spirits, that we may not be weary in seeking your ways. Whisper to us in a still small voice; show us what you have for us to do. Guide us to others with whom we may share the labors of peace and justice; through the grace of Jesus Christ. Amen.

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

SCRIPTURE READING

Ephesians 4:25 – 5:2
PEW BIBLE, PAGE 829

Rachel Blair

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

A Higher Calling

Rev. Dr. Robert Livingston

HYMN 442*

The Servant Song

THE SERVANT SONG

CALL TO OFFERING

Rev. Dr. Livingston

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Old Irish Blessing
by Dennes Agay

Ryan Potts, tenor

May the road rise to meet you, may the wind be always at your back.

May the sun shine warm upon your face, the rains fall soft upon your fields.

And until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of his hand.

May the Lord bless you and keep you, may the Lord cause his face to shine upon you, and give you peace.

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.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION*

Rev. Dr. Livingston

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

Rev. Dr. Livingston

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 334*, VS. 1-4; 6

Amazing Grace

AMAZING GRACE

BENEDICTION*

Rev. Dr. Livingston

DISMISSAL*

Rev. Dr. Livingston

Leader: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: **We go into the world rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.**

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Toccata

Dr. Brown

by Jean-Marie Plum

Today's flowers in the sanctuary are given by the Stiffler family
in loving memory of Thalia (Tolly) Stiffler, Frank Yacopino, and Lisa Yacopino.

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.

SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL AND NURSERY CARE Children **ages birth through 3 yrs. old** can go to the nursery at the beginning of the service. Following the Children's Message, children will be dismissed to play on the playground.

Summer Preaching Schedule



REV. RUTH BELL OLSSON
JUNE 23 & AUG. 25

Rev. Bell Olsson is an activist in spirit and an ally at heart. Her writings and teachings on a variety of subjects wrestle with the deep mysteries of living a life of faith in a complicated world. Ruth earned her BA in philosophy from Wheaton College and her Masters in global leadership from Fuller Seminary. She was ordained at Mayflower Church in 2019.



REV. KATHERINE LEE BAKER
JUNE 16 & 30

Rev. Lee Baker is an Interfaith Minister and DEI Consultant, ordained in the Reformed Church in America. Having served in various settings, she is passionate about community engagement, intersectionality, and all things cultivating emotional agility and spiritual resiliency. She is a trustee for the Foundation at Mary Free Bed, the incoming President for Grand Rapids Sister Cities International, and a member of the Master Planning Steering Committee for the City of Grand Rapids. revkatherinelee baker.com



REV. CHRISTY CARLIN KNETSCH
JULY 7

Inspiring others to know that *in Christ the past does not have to determine the future* is the mission statement that has guided the career of Rev. Carlin Knetsch. Each day she has lived this out as the Executive Director of New City Kids and as a minister at Madison Church: South Hill Campus. A graduate of Grand Rapids Theological Seminary, she and her husband Brad are raising their four children.



REV. MAURICE A. FETTY
JULY 14

Rev. Fetty is a retired Congregational UCC Minister. He holds degrees from Union Theological Seminary, Butler University and Christian Theological Seminary, and Minnesota Bible College. He is the author of 13 books and does pulpit supply, lectures, baptisms, weddings, and funerals. He and his wife Sara have 14 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren and live in Grand Rapids, MI.



REV. RICARDO TAVÁREZ
JULY 21

Rev. Tavárez is the Executive Director of New City Neighbors, a non-profit ministry partner of Mayflower that empowers youth through urban farming while supplying healthy food to households and pantries in the Grand Rapids area. He is also the founder and pastor of En Vivo Church, a growing church community in the Creston neighborhood. Rev. Tavárez uses storytelling to encourage and challenge his audience with new perspectives.



REV. JEFF MUNROE
JULY 28 & AUG. 18

Rev. Munroe is the author of *Telling Stories in the Dark*, editor of the *Reformed Journal*, and author of *Reading Buechner*. He is an ordained minister in the Reformed Church of America and retired as Executive Vice President of Western Theological Seminary in 2020.



REV. DR. JONATHAN WHITE
AUG. 4

Rev. Dr. White is a longtime member of Mayflower Church. Having served as interim senior pastor in 2019, Rev. Dr. White has a strong background in history and religion. He was fully ordained in 1992 and has served as a parish pastor around West Michigan. Having recently retired from GVSU as executive director of homeland security, he also served for the Department of Justice with his vast experience in the world of counter-terrorism.



REV. DR. ROBERT K. LIVINGSTON
AUG. 11

Rev. Dr. Robert K. Livingston (Bob), who grew up in the Grand Rapids area and served Mayflower Congregational Church in the 1990's, will be with us on Sunday, August 11. Bob comes to us from Ann Arbor, Michigan, where, until his retirement in 2022, he was the Senior Minister of The First Congregational Church of Ann Arbor for twenty-five years. Most recently Bob has been the interim minister at Edgewood United Church in East Lansing, MI.

Announcements for August 11, 2024

Mayflower news and details on upcoming events.

MIDWEEK FAMILIES' SURVEY

Please complete the survey found at this QR code at your earliest convenience. We are already planning for fall and would love your input!



FAIRY GARDEN MAGIC IS COMING TO MAYFLOWER CHURCH | AUG. 12-14

Ms. Jody brings the magic of the woods alive with imagination and creativity as she guides grade school students in crafting a home for gnomes and fairies.

Classes offered Aug. 12-14 at 9:30, 11am, and 1pm. Please use QR code to sign up.



MAYFLOWER LOVES COOKIES!

We are looking for cookie donations for Sunday mornings in August. Cookies can be homemade, or store bought, they are yummy just the same! Please email Rachael with cookie donation Sundays at rachael@mayflowerchurch.org.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY PICNIC

AUG. 12 | 6PM

Join us at Salvation Army Little Pine Island Camp and Retreat Center in Comstock Park. Wives and partners are included. Any Mayflower men, members or friends are invited. Contact Eric Britcher britchereric@gmail.com for more details.

DO YOU HAVE A STORY TO SHARE?

Reverend Jeff Munroe is a part of our Summer Preaching Series and has shared his recent book, "Telling Stories in the Dark". It is a beautiful blend of stories and faith.

Many of you at Mayflower have written works that we would love to share with the congregation as well.

If you have been published, please consider letting us know. Emails can be sent to office@mayflowerchurch.org. If you would like to donate a copy of your work, we will proudly display alongside fellow writers.

LADIES' LUNCHEON | AUG. 20 | 11:30AM

Ladies are invited to join us for lunch on Aug. 20 at Gravity Taphouse Grill (3210 Deposit Dr NE). RSVP to Maris Rosema 616-821-0413.

JOYFUL SOUNDS FALL SESSION

This fall, join our pianist, Melia Colwell and Joyful Sounds Music Studio for some musical fun! Using the acclaimed *Music Together* curriculum, we'll explore, sing, clap,

and wiggle along to the *Fiddle Collection*, which contains twenty-five beloved songs. These 45-minute classes geared for 0-5 year olds are packed with musical experiences, bonding activities, and fun! Fridays at 9:30am, Sept. 13 - Nov. 15. Sign up today!

kidsmusicgrandrapids.com



Building Update

Update on Hallway and Sanctuary Flooring Replacement

Three weeks ago the sewage line backed up and came up through the drain in the women's bathroom by the elevator. The sewage water covered the hallway flooring and came down the stairs and into the sanctuary flooring. We have filed a claim with our insurance company and will be replacing the flooring that was affected, as well as lower-level ceiling drywall. We are working with our drain and sewer line specialists to put safeguards into place in our sump pumps, drains, and bathrooms to ensure this doesn't happen again.

The flooring in the hallway and sanctuary will be replaced with the same quality and color that we currently have.

Please feel free to reach out to Rachael Cooley (rachael@mayflowerchurch.org) directly if you have any other questions.

Book Discussion with Jeff Munroe Next Sunday, 9am

We are excited to welcome Rev. Jeff Munroe to Mayflower Church this summer. Rev. Munroe, along with preaching on Aug. 18, will have a book talk on Aug. 18, 9-10am prior to the service. He'll discuss his most recent publication *Telling Stories in the Dark: Finding healing and hope in sharing our sadness, grief, trauma, and pain* (Reformed Journal Books, 2024).

"Millions of us live with sorrow, grief and trauma. Jeffrey Munroe and a national array of experts explore true stories of resiliency and hope as people transform their pain and find fresh inspiration."



Rev. Munroe is the editor of *The Reformed Journal* and an ordained minister in the Reformed Church in America. To read more about Rev. Munroe, visit jeffreymunroe.com.



Telling Stories in the Dark is available at the Welcome Table in the Atrium.

Looking Ahead

Upcoming dates to note

Today, August 11

9am | Coffee Hour w/Rev. Livingston

10:30am | Morning Worship

Rev. Dr. Robert K. Livingston, preaching
Ryan Potts, soloist

AUGUST

12 Men's Bible Study Picnic | 6pm

12-14 Fairy House Camp | 9:30am, 11am, 1pm

18 Book Discussion with Rev. Munroe | 9am

Morning Worship | 10:30am

*Rev. Jeff Munroe, preaching
Brandon Harris, soloist

20 Ladies' Luncheon | 11:30am

25 Morning Worship | 10:30am

*Rev. Ruth Bell Olsson, preaching
Erin Gilbert, violin and soloist

27 Council Mtg | 6:30pm

SEPTEMBER

1 Communion Sunday

Morning Worship | 10:30am

Scott Bosscher, soloist

2 Labor Day | Office Closed

8 Fall Kick Off Sunday

Morning Worship | 10:30am

9 Women's Bible Study | 5pm

Men's Bible Study | 5pm

11 Priscilla Circle | 12pm

Midweek | 4pm

12 Women's Bible Study | 10am

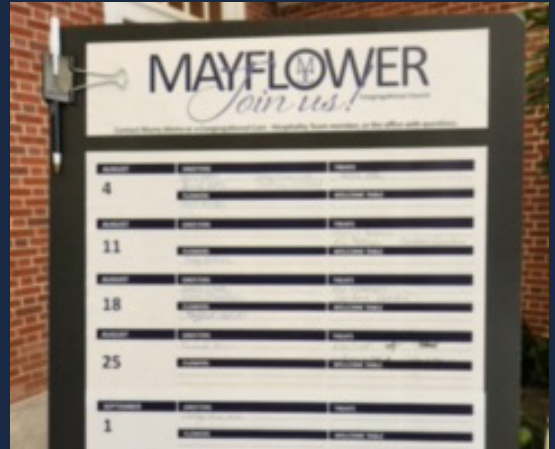
15 Morning Worship | 10:30am

22 Morning Worship | 10:30am

Mayflower Picnic | 11:30am

24 Council Mtg | 6:30pm

Greeters Needed!



Please consider being a Sunday morning greeter. We need greeters for August 25. Visit the welcome table to sign up or contact the church office (office@mayflowerchurch.org).

Do You Have a College Student?



The Congregational Care Committee wants to keep in touch with our Mayflower college students throughout the year. Submit names and addresses to office@mayflowerchurch.org and get signed up!

Mom's Night Out



MIDWEEK '24-'25

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

4:00PM | Kick off party!

Be ready for BUBBLES and OHANA Ice!
Bring a Friend Frenzy, win a Prize!

5:45PM | Parent Meeting

MIDWEEK SCHEDULE:

4pm-4:30pm | [Elementary Chimes/Dinner](#)

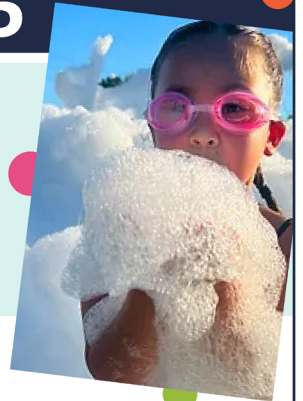
4:30pm-5pm | [Children's Choir \(3yo's-1st\)/2345 Dinner](#)

5pm-5:45pm | [Carol Choir \(2nd-5th\)/Younger Dinner](#)

5:45pm-6:10pm | [Chapel](#)

6:10pm-6:40pm | [Midweek Youth Group](#)

7pm-7:45pm | [MS/HS Bells](#)



Council Update

Dear Mayflower members and friends,

The Council had a meeting on July 23. Our first priority was to address a full-time Interim Senior Pastor role. The Personnel Committee was tasked to find, interview, and recommend who to hire. The Personnel Committee consists of: Chris Yates, Courtenay Oosterman, Chris Edgar, Ken Goodson, and Carl VerBeek. Chris Yates reported on the interview process and gave their recommendation. We had an amazing pool of candidates and are thankful for all the candidates who offered their gifts and talents to our church. I am excited to announce that Rev. Ruth Bell Olsson has accepted to serve as Mayflower's Interim Senior Pastor! We welcome Ruth back to our church beginning on September 1st.

Ruth was ordained at Mayflower in 2019 and served as an interim pastor in 2021. We are confident that Ruth will do a fantastic job leading our church again during another time of transition. We will be working with Ruth to make sure she has the staff and Council support she needs. We could not be more excited to welcome back Ruth as she works closely with our Church and Council members during this time of transition.

I offer a prayer for Ruth and our church community.

Lord, We give you thanks and glory. Please give our church & Rev. Ruth Bell Olsson wisdom and grace. Continue to be with us and guide Mayflower Congregational Church. You are our rock and redeemer. Amen.

Kateri Schutt, Moderator



Praises and Prayers

Week of August 11, 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

Mayflower celebrates the announcement that **Rev. Ruth Bell Olsson** will serve as Interim Senior Pastor! She will begin Sept. 1. (7/29)

Maris Rosema is thankful for the many prayers. She is now off oxygen and doing well. (7/25)

As a congregation we give thanks to the Holy Spirit for blessing our church community with an atmosphere of **vibrance and positivity**. We are thankful for an increase in summer attendance and fellowship among our members and friends. (7/16)

We give praise for the unanimous affirmation of the **Senior Pastor Search Committee**. (7/16)

PRAY FOR THE NEEDS OF OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Pray for **Steve and Janet Armfield** and family. Steve's sister, Nancy, passed away Aug. 7. (8/08)

Prayers for **Gary Wallin**, who suffered a serious fall and underwent emergency hip surgery last week, and for Gwen as she cares for him. (8/02)

Prayers for **Gwen and Gary Wallin's** daughter, **Carley**, and her baby, **Fisher**, who both tested positive for Covid when they returned home after visiting them. (8/02)

Bert and Lindy Crandell's daughter and son-in-law, **Austin and Aaron Bartman**, welcomed twins, Adalae and Aaron, on July 19. Aaron is in critical condition, weighing 2 lbs., 14 oz. Adalae weighing 4 lbs., 4 oz. is doing well. The family asks for prayers for these twins. (7/30)

Ellen Johnson had glaucoma surgery on Aug. 7. Pray for Ellen and Geoff at this time. (7/29)

Prayers for **Lon Barr** as he is recovering from heart surgery. (6/27)

PRAY FOR FRIENDS OF MAYFLOWER

Continue to pray for **Don and Linda Chaffee's friend**. His father recently died and his wife is recovering from brain surgery. (7/30)

Pray for Ellen DeHaan's brother, **Michael Hedges**, who is dealing with heart-related issues. (7/16)

PRAAY FOR THOSE WHO MOURN

Please pray for the family of **Dr. Raymond Fuller** who died July 15. (7/25)

We extend our condolences to Mayflower friend, **Merrily Holladay** and her family, upon the death of her husband, Bob Holladay who died July 13. (7/18)

Please pray for **Nola Wetherbee** and family as they mourn the death of Paul Wetherbee, who died July 8. (7/10)

PRAY FOR THE WORLD

Please pray for victims of ongoing gun violence in our communities and 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.

MAYFLOWER CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

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

Rev. Dr. Robert K. Livingston, Guest Pastor | Rev. Steve Armfield, Interim Pastor of Congregational Care

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

5

Praise the Lord, His Glories Show

Psalm 150

Henry F. Lyte, 1793–1847

Robert Williams, ca. 1781–1821

1. Praise the Lord, His glo - ries show, Al - le -
 2. Earth to heav'n, and heav'n to earth, Al - le -
 3. Praise the Lord, His mer - cies trace, Al - le -
 4. Strings and voic - es, hands and hearts, Al - le -

lu - ia! Saints with - in His courts be - low,
 lu - ia! Tell His won - ders, sing His worth,
 lu - ia! Praise His prov - i - dence and grace,
 lu - ia! In the con - cert bear your parts;

Al - le - lu - ia! An - gels round His
 Al - le - lu - ia! Age to age and
 Al - le - lu - ia! All that He for
 Al - le - lu - ia! All that breathe, your

throne a - bove, Al - le - lu - ia!
 shore to shore, Al - le - lu - ia!
 man hath done, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Lord a - dore, Al - le - lu - ia!

"He," "Him," or "His" may be replaced by "God(s)" or "You(r)."
 Third verse: "All that He for us hath done"

LLANFAIR
 7.7.7.7 with Alleluias

THE TRIUNE GOD

Musical score for 'THE TRIUNE GOD'. The score is written for a single voice part on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment on a bass clef staff. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are: All that see and share His love. Praise Him, praise Him ev - er - more! All He sends us through His Son. Praise Him, praise Him ev - er - more!

Unison

Musical score for 'Al - le - lu - ia! A - men.' The score is written for a single voice part on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment on a bass clef staff. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men.

To You, O Lord, we join our sincere thanks for all Your mercies; for who we are, with all the gifts of reason and the endowments and faculties of body and soul; for health, friends and the blessings of physical comforts and conveniences of life. Yet more than these, we praise You for Jesus our Redeemer and the knowledge we have of our duty towards You. Your patience with us is overwhelming; the comfort and guidance of the Holy Spirit encompass us; Your watchful providence and constant care encourage us.

O Lord, we entreat You to continue these blessings all our days and give us grace to show our thankfulness in a sincere obedience to Your will. All this we ask in the name of Your Son and our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Rev. Eric Britcher

The Servant Song

Richard Gillard, 1953-

Richard Gillard, 1953-

D Em/D D G/D D A/C# D Em/D D

Unison

1., 6. Will you let me, be your ser - vant, Let me be as
 2. We are pil - grims on a jour - ney, We are trav - 'lers
 3. I will hold the Christ - light for you In the night - time
 4. I will weep when you are weep - ing; When you laugh I'll
 5. When we sing to God in heav - en We shall find such

G/D D A G D/F# Em7 D/A A7 Bm

Christ to you; Pray that I may have the grace to
 on the road; We are here to help each oth - er
 of your fear; I will hold my hand out to you,
 laugh with you. I will share your joy and sor - row
 har - mo - ny, Born of all we've known to - geth - er

G D/G Em/G G G/A A A7 D

Let you be my ser - vant, too.
 Walk the mile and bear the load.
 Speak the peace you long to hear.
 'Til we've seen this jour - ney through.
 Of Christ's love and ag - o - ny.

THE SERVANT SONG
 8.7.8.7

GOD'S COVENANT PEOPLE

334

Amazing Grace

John Newton, 1725-1807
St. 6, anonymous

Traditional American Melody
Carrell and Clayton's *Virginia Harmony*, 1831
Arr. by Edwin O. Excell, 1851-1921

1. A - maz - ing grace! how sweet the sound That
2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, And
3. Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I
4. The Lord has prom - ised good to me, His
5. Yea, when this flesh and heart shall fail, And
6. When we've been there ten thou - sand years, Bright

saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
grace my fears re - lieved; How pre - cious did that
have al - read - y come; 'Tis grace hath brought me
word my hope se - cures; He will my shield and
mor - tal life shall cease, I shall pos - sess, with -
shin - ing as the sun, We've no less days to

now am found; Was blind, but now I see.
grace ap - pear The hour I first be - lieved.
safe thus far, And grace will lead me home.
por - tion be, As long as life en - dures.
in the veil, A life of joy and peace.
sing God's praise Than when we'd first be - gun.

AMAZING GRACE
CM