

MAYFLOWER

Congregational Church

SUNDAY WORSHIP

August 25, 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

Meditation from Thais
by Jules Massenet

Erin Gilbert, violin

WELCOME AND PASSING OF THE PEACE*

Rev. Ruth Bell Olsson

Greeting: The peace of Christ be with you.

Response: **And also with you.**

NEWS OF THE CHURCH

Rachael Cooley

CALL TO WORSHIP

Linda Chaffee

Leader: For the beauty of the summer day,

People: And the comfort of friends nearby;

Leader: For the invitation to love and be loved,

People: For our God who extends that call;

Leader: For time set apart to nourish the soul,

People: For time to go out into the world armed with love:

Leader: For all these things we give thanks.

People: Let us worship God.

OPENING HYMN 259*

For the Beauty of the Earth

DIX

OPENING PRAYER* (read in unison)

Linda Chaffee

As we rise in the morning, Beloved One, may we don garments of your truth. May we wear the mantle of your protective blessing, and shoes that will guide us on your path. May our every breath be a prayer, so that we might truly and fully proclaim the mystery of the gospel. It is through you and with you that we design our day. 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.

CELEBRATION OF BAPTISM

This morning we are pleased to baptize **Jordan Turner Lewis**, son of Tyler and Kaitlyn Lewis; and godson of Corey and Ali Turner.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

With joy and thanksgiving, we welcome you into Christ's church; for we are all one in Christ. We promise to love, encourage, and support you, to share the good news of the gospel with you, and to help you know and follow Christ.

HYMN 518*

Good Shepherd, Take This Little Child

AMY

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Rachael Cooley

SCRIPTURE READING

Ephesians 6:10-20
PEW BIBLE, PAGE 829

Linda Chaffee

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

Get Dressed for God

Rev. Ruth Olsson

HYMN 418*

Take Time to be Holy

HOLINESS

CALL TO OFFERING

Rev. Steve Armfield

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

I Will Sing New Songs of Gladness
by Antonin Dvorak

Erin Gilbert, soprano

I will sing new songs of gladness, I will sing Jehova's praises upon a ten-stringed psaltery. Every day will I extol Thee, and will bless Thy holy name. Great is God and great His mercy; who shall tell of all His greatness? Who shall His power declare? My song shall be of praise and honor, and of Thy glorious acts, Thy works are wonderful, past our knowing. Yea, men shall tell of Thy great kindness, and of Thy wondrous might, and my voice shall proclaim aloud Thy glory. (Psalm 144 and 145 selections)

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. Armfield

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

Rev. Armfield

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 353*

Be Thou My Vision

SLANE

BENEDICTION*

Rev. Bell Olsson

DISMISSAL*

Rev. Bell Olsson

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

Fanfare for Bells
by Mary G. McCleary

Summer Bell Choir

cover art taken from: www.nytimes.com/2024/06/06/science/ancient-greek-armor-marines-study.html

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 25, 2024

Mayflower news and details on upcoming events.

FALL KICK OFF | SEPT. 8

Sunday, September 8 will be the kick off for all our fall programming. **Sweet Dreams Ice Creams** truck will greet us after the service on the 8th to serve up ice cream treats!



ELEVATE YOUTH GROUPS | SEPT. 8

5-5:45pm

Middle School

5:45-6:15pm

Dinner for Middle & High School

6:15-7pm

High School



Join us to start the new year! Come enjoy Q'doba – Ohana Ice – T-shirts – 9 Square – Basketball – GAGA – and more!!!

MIDWEEK BEGINS | SEPT. 11 | 4PM

Families and children are invited to come and enjoy a **Bubbles party and Ohana Ice!** There will be a parent meeting at 5:45pm.

MAYFLOWER BELLS POSITION OPENING

We need one more ringer to complete our ranks. Come ring with us! We rehearse Wednesday evenings, 6-7pm and play in worship once every 5-7 weeks. Ringing bells is fun and a good way to **connect with our church family** in a small group setting. If you read music and can commit to weekly rehearsals, please talk to Julia.

MIDDLE SCHOOL FALL WEEKEND

CRANHILL RANCH | OCT. 25-27

Mark your calendars to be a part of this fun and meaningful weekend! We will spend the weekend participating in horseback riding, archery, sling shots, riflery, and more!



Saturday morning, we will serve at a work project at the camp. Use the QR Code to reserve your spot. More information to follow.

SAVE THE DATE: September 29, at 5pm the youth groups will be hosting a “Sock Hop” to raise funds for this trip. Come back to the 50’s and support our youth!

BRING A MEAL TO THE WALLINS

Gary Wallin is home from the hospital recovering from a recent fall. To **support Gary and Gwen** during this time, please consider bringing a meal to them. See the QR code sign up for details. Contact Rachael Cooley with questions.



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.



Looking Ahead

**Words in italics denote partnering organizations that meet at Mayflower*

Today, August 25

10:30am | Morning Worship
Rev. Ruth Bell Olsson, preaching
Erin Gilbert, violin and soloist
Summer Handbell Choir

AUGUST

27 Worship and Music Mtg | 4pm
Outreach Mtg | 5pm
Council Mtg | 6:30pm
*Widowed Persons Service** | 7pm

28 *Al-Anon** | 7pm

29 *Women's City Club** | 9:30am

SEPTEMBER

1 Communion Sunday
Morning Worship | 10:30am

2 Labor Day | Office Closed

4 *Al-Anon** | 7pm

8 Fall Kick Off Sunday
Morning Worship | 10:30am
Elevate | 5-7pm

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

10 Needlepoint | 10am
Men's Bible Study | 10:30am

11 Priscilla Circle | 12pm
Midweek | 4pm
Mayflower Bells | 6pm
*Al-Anon** | 7pm
Chancel Choir | 7:30

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!

12 Women's Bible Study | 10am
*Boy Scouts** | 6:30pm

13 Men's Bible Study | 7am

15 Morning Worship | 10:30am
Elevate | 5-7pm

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

17 Needlepoint | 10am
Men's Bible Study | 10:30am
*Chamber Choir of GR** | 6:30pm

18 Deacon Mtg. | 9:30am
Midweek | 4pm
Mayflower Bells | 6pm
*Al-Anon** | 7pm
Chancel Choir | 7:30pm
Finance Committee Mtg | 7:30pm

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](#)

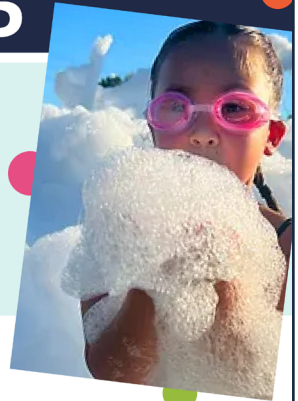
4:30pm-5pm | [Children's Choir \(3yo's-1st\)/2345 Dinner](#)

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](#)



Bring your voice...Grow your faith!



Contact
Julia@MayflowerChurch.org
for more information



Listening to the choirs at Mayflower sing is a wonderful thing, but singing in the choirs at Mayflower is even better.

As Fall is upon us, consider taking your Sunday morning worship to the next level by personally entering the song. There is a place waiting for you. In Luke 19 Jesus challenges each of us: "I tell you that if you keep your voice silent, the stones themselves will sing out."

Imagine what God can do through our Mayflower family when our congregational song becomes stronger. Bring your voice and grow your faith!

Jordan Turner Lewis



Jordan was born on October 11, 2023. Today we welcome him to Mayflower as he is baptized into the family of God.

Ladies' Luncheon



Ladies from Mayflower met at Gravity Taphouse for a recent luncheon.



Cheers to 50 Years!

Stephen and Nancy Miller celebrated 50 years of marriage on August 24. Their wedding ceremony was at Bethel Lutheran Church in St. Clair Shores, MI in 1974. Congratulations, Steve and Nancy!

Fall Bible Study Information - Starts the Week of Sept. 8

Men's Bible Studies

Monday | 7:30am | Dan Poortenga | Library
Monday | 5pm | Eric Britcher | Youth Rm
Tuesday | 10am | Harold Montgomery | Parlor
Friday | 7am | Greg Rhodes | Library

Women's Bible Studies

Monday | 9:30am | Parlor
Monday | 5pm | Helen Bell | Library
Thursday | 10am | Rev. Steve Armfield | Youth Rm

Praises and Prayers

Week of August 25, 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

We join with **Steve and Nancy Miller** as they celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary. (8/22)

Ellen Johnson wishes to thank everyone for their support and prayers at the time of her eye surgery. (8/22)

Praise for **Gwen and Gary Wallin's** daughter, **Carley**, and her baby, **Fisher**, who are healthy after a bout with Covid. (8/14)

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)

PRAY FOR THE NEEDS OF OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Sheila Hathaway had GI surgery on Aug. 16. She is at home and in some discomfort but is on the mend. Please pray for her as she recovers. (8/22)

Please pray for **Nathalie Lanne** as she recovers from ACL knee surgery. She will be attending Christopher Newport University this fall and is on the tennis team. Nathalie is the daughter of Kerri Orders and Michel Lanne. (8/13)

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

Prayers for **Gary Wallin**, as he continues his recovery and rehabilitation from hip surgery. (8/14)

Bert and Lindy Crandell's daughter and son-in-law, **Austin and Aaron Bartman**, welcomed twins, Adalae and Aaron, on July 19. The family asks for prayers for these twins. (7/30)

PRAY FOR FRIENDS OF MAYFLOWER

IlaFlo Barfuss' friend, **Bob Parriott**, has a cyst on his nose which is a rare form of cancer. Please pray that the decided plan of treatment will be successful. (8/22)

David and April Baker ask for prayers for their friend Sherry Siemon who is dealing with ongoing health challenges. (8/13)

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)

PRAY FOR THOSE WHO MOURN

Long time member, **Dick Stiffler**, died on Aug. 16. Dick was married to the late Tolly Stiffler. They were parents of members, Clay Stiffler and his wife, Kris, and sons, Andrew and Quincy. Keep the Stiffler family in our prayers as they mourn. (8/22)

PRAY FOR THE WORLD

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

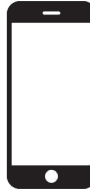
We pray for peace and safety in the world amid ongoing turmoil, specifically in Haiti, the Middle East, and Ukraine.

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. Ruth Bell Olsson, Interim Senior Pastor

Dr. Julia Brown, Director of Music and Organist | Scott Bosscher, Chancel Choir Director

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

For the Beauty of the Earth

Folliott S. Pierpoint, 1835-1917, alt.

Conrad Kocher, 1786-1872

Arr. by William H. Monk, 1823-1889

1. For the beau - ty of the earth, For the glo - ry
 2. For the beau - ty of each hour Of the day and
 3. For the joy of ear and eye, For the heart and
 4. For the joy of hu - man love, Broth - er, sis - ter,
 5. For Your church, that ev - er - more Lifts its ho - ly
 6. For Your - self, best Gift Di - vine! To this world so

of the skies, For the love which from our birth
 of the night, Hill and vale, and tree and flow'r,
 mind's de - light, For the mys - tic har - mo - ny
 par - ent, child, Friends on earth, and friends a - bove;
 hands a - bove, Off - 'ring up on ev - 'ry shore
 free - ly giv'n; Word In - car - nate, God's de - sign,

O - ver and a - round us lies:
 Sun and moon, and stars of light:
 Link - ing sense to sound and sight: Lord of all, to
 For all gen - tle thoughts and mild:
 Its pure sac - ri - fice of love:
 Peace on earth and joy in heav'n:

You we raise This our hymn of grate - ful praise. A - men.

DIX
7.7.7.7.7

Good Shepherd, Take This Little Child 518

Claire Cloninger, 1942-

Kenneth P. Barker, 1955-

Unison

1. Good Shep-herd, take this lit - tle child In - to Your lov - ing hands;
2. Good Shep-herd, we com - mit our - selves In ev - 'ry - thing we do
3. Good Shep-herd, now we place this child In - to Your gen - tle trust;

And in the days that lie a - head Pro - tect this lit - tle lamb.
To be Your fam - 'ly here on earth And love this child for You.
This pre - cious gift we give to You Is - one You've giv - en us.

bap - tized in the name of the Son; come, be bap - tized in the

name of the Spir - it; come, be bap - tized in love.

1. Take time to be ho - ly, Speak oft with thy Lord;
 2. Take time to be ho - ly, The world rush-es on;
 3. Take time to be ho - ly, Let Him be thy guide,
 4. Take time to be ho - ly, Be calm in thy soul,

A - bide in Him al - ways, And feed on His word.
 Spend much time in se - cret With Je - sus a - lone.
 And run not be - fore Him, What - ev - er be - tide.
 Each thought and each mo - tive Be - neath His con - trol.

Make friends of God's chil - dren, Help those who are weak,
 By look - ing to Je - sus, Like Him thou shalt be;
 In joy or in sor - row, Still fol - low the Lord,
 Thus led by His spir - it To foun - tains of love,

For - get - ting in noth - ing His bless - ing to seek.
 Thy friends in thy con - duct His like - ness shall see.
 And, look - ing to Je - sus, Still trust in His word.
 Thou soon shalt be fit - ted For serv - ice a - bove.