

# MAYFLOWER

Congregational Church

SUNDAY WORSHIP

September 15, 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.***

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## **PRELUDE**

*Fountain Reverie*  
by Percy Fletcher

Dr. Julia Brown

## **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

## **INTROIT**

*From the Rising of the Sun*  
by Eric Thiman

Chancel Choir

From the rising of the sun unto the going down of the same, the Lord's Name be praised

## **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Amy Conway, Council Member

Leader: The heavens are telling the glory of God, and the firmament  
proclaims his handiwork

**People: The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul;**

Leader: the decrees of the LORD are sure, making wise the simple;

**People: The precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart;**

Leader: the commandment of the LORD is clear, enlightening the eyes;

**People: the fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever;**

Leader: the ordinances of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

**People: More to be desired than gold; sweeter also than honey**

**All: Come let us worship the LORD.**

**PROCESSIONAL HYMN 537\*** *Lift High the Cross*

CRUCIFER

**OPENING PRAYER\***

Amy Conway

Leader: Holy God, LORD of all, we pray as the Psalmist prayed, together with one voice:

**All: Let the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts be acceptable to you, O LORD, our rock and our redeemer. 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.**

**ANTHEM**

*God Be In My Head*

Chancel Choir

by John Rutter

God be in my head and in my understanding. God be in mine eyes and in my looking. God be in my mouth and in my speaking. God be in mine heart and in my thinking. God be at my end and in my departing.

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

Rachael Cooley

**SCRIPTURE READING**

James 3:1-12

Amy Conway

PEW BIBLE, PAGE 855

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

**SERMON**

*Words Matter*

Rev. Bell Olsson

**HYMN 372\***

*Lord, Speak to Me, That I May Speak*

CANONBURY

**CALL TO OFFERING**

Amy Conway

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM**

*Lord, Make Me an Instrument of Thy Peace*

Chancel Choir

by John Rutter

Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace;

where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy; and all for thy mercy's sake. O divine master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love; for it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

**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. Bell Olsson

**CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER**

Rev. Bell Olsson

**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 74\***

*O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing*

AZMON

**SUNG BENEDICTION**

*The Lord Bless You and Keep You*

Chancel Choir &  
Congregation

by Peter C. Lutkin

**The Lord bless you and keep you,  
the Lord lift His countenance upon you; and give you peace.  
The Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious unto you. Amen.**

**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**

*Praeludium in C Major*  
by Dietrich Buxtehude

Dr. Brown

## Welcome Our Sunday Morning Hosts



**Selam Kefyalew's** home is in Ethiopia and she is currently studying as a senior at Cornerstone University.



**Brittany Steffes** is a Middle School English teacher at Grand Rapids Prep Academy.

## CONNECT TODAY TO BUILD THE VISION

We all need connections to each other and our community. As humans we are perfectly imperfect and desire a deeper connection with our God. Over the next five weeks, we invite you to CONNECT with Mayflower. Each week will feature ways we come together as a community to care for each other and the world around us. Come, be a part of Mayflower, CONNECT TODAY TO BUILD THE VISION of tomorrow!

### **September 22 | *Where We Connect - House and Grounds***

Come to the atrium at 9:30 am to take a tour of the building and grounds of Mayflower. Grab a cup of coffee as you walk through the preschool, experience the beauty of the columbarium, and be inspired for a cookie bake in the lower level kitchen. Tours will be leaving every 5 minutes from the Atrium prior to the service.

### **September 29 | *Who We Connect - The People of Mayflower***

### **October 6 | *How We Connect - Music and Worship***

### **October 13 | *Why We Connect - Outreach Partners***

### **October 20 | *Vision Sunday***

# CONNECT

MAYFLOWER CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

NEXT SUNDAY | 9:30am | BUILDING TOURS



# Announcements for September 15, 2024

Mayflower news and details on upcoming events. Visit [MayflowerChurch.org/events](https://www.MayflowerChurch.org/events) for more information.

## NEW MEMBERS CLASS INFORMATION

Beginning **Oct. 6, 9-10am**, Rev. Ruth Bell Olsson will lead a class for those interested in becoming members at Mayflower. This **4-week class** will conclude on Oct. 27 with new members being introduced at the morning service. **DID YOU KNOW: Mayflower members receive early registration for Mayflower preschool!** Contact rachael@mayflowerchurch.org for details.

## LADIES LUNCHEON | SEPT. 17 | 11:30AM

Join us at Cascade Roadhouse Tuesday, Sept. 17. RSVP to Maris Rosema at 616-821-0413.

## MEALS FOR THE HENRY FAMILY

The gift of a meal is something that cannot be measured when going through a difficult season. Chuck and Margaret Henry would cherish Mayflower's support in providing a meal twice a week as they navigate health issues. Sign up with the QR code and place meals in the cooler located at the front door of their home. Contact Rachael Cooley for details (rachael@mayflowerchurch.org).



## 69UP EVENT | OCT. 24 | 5PM-7PM

Everyone in the age group of 69+ is invited to a social event at the Lovell Hand Center. RSVP with what you will bring (appetizer or white wine) to Murry@mayflowerchurch.org or 616-243-2764.

## MIDDLE SCHOOL FALL WEEKEND

### CRANHILL RANCH | OCT. 25-27



Mark your calendars for this meaningful weekend! We will participate 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 coming soon. **SAVE THE DATE: September 29, at 5pm** the youth groups will be hosting a "Sock Hop" to raise funds for this trip.

## 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](https://www.kidsmusicgrandrapids.com)

## BELL RINGER NEEDED

We need one more ringer to complete our ranks. We rehearse Wed. 6-7pm and play in worship once every 5-7 wks. Ringing bells is a good way to **connect with our church family**. If you read music and can commit to rehearsals, please talk to Julia.

## MAHJONG | 9/17 & 10/8 | 6:30PM

Andrea Koster and Allison Houlihan will be teaching beginner Mahjong lessons at 6:30pm on 9/17 and 10/8 at Mayflower. Cost is \$90. Please email MahjintheMitten@gmail.com or see Andrea or Allison for sign up details.

# MIDWEEK WEDNESDAYS

## SCHEDULE:

Midweek is an evening of intergenerational fellowship and programs.

4pm-4:30pm | Elementary Chimes/Dinner

4:30pm-5pm | Children's Choir (3yo's-1<sup>st</sup>)  
Dinner (2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>)

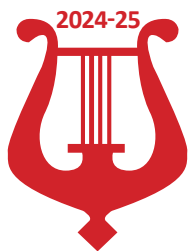
5pm-5:45pm | Carol Choir (2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>)  
Dinner (3yo's-1<sup>st</sup>)

5:45pm-6:10pm | Chapel

6pm-7pm | Mayflower Bells

6:10pm-6:40pm | Midweek Youth Group

7:30pm-9pm | Chancel Choir



MONDAYS  
AT  
MAYFLOWER

[mayflowerchurch.org/concerts](http://mayflowerchurch.org/concerts)

## You're Invited!



**OCTOBER 7 | 7PM | CASTALIA QUARTET**

*Mary Scanlan, piano; Jenna Buchner and Letitia Jap, violin;*

*Leslie VanBecker, viola; Alicia Eppinga, cello*

**OCTOBER 14 | 7PM | AN EVENING OF ORATORIO AND ART SONG**

*Bass-baritone Benjamin Clements sings a concert in memory of Bill Potts*

**OCTOBER 21 | 7PM | JAMES KIBBIE, ORGANIST**

*Music of Bach, Mozart, Vierne and more*

**OCTOBER 28 | 7PM | IRISH TRADITIONAL MUSIC**

*Eliot Grasso, piper and Adam Hendey, guitar*

**NOVEMBER 18 | 7PM (6:15pm pre-concert conversation) | TO BE DVOŘÁK!**

*Clara Lyon, violin; Hannah Collins, cello; Sookkyung Cho, piano*

# Looking Ahead

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

## Today, September 15

**10:30am** | Rev. Ruth Bell Olsson, preaching

**11:30** | Parent meeting for MS/HS Choir and Bells participants

**5-7pm** | Elevate Youth Groups

## SEPTEMBER

**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

Ladies' Luncheon | 11:30am

*Mahj in the Mitten\** | 6:30pm

*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

**19** Women's Bible Study | 10am

*Boy Scouts\** | 6:30pm

**20** Men's Bible Study | 7am

*Joyful Sounds\** | 9:30am

**21** *Writing Camp\** | 9am

**22** Building & Grounds Tours | 9:30am

Morning Worship | 10:30am

Mayflower Picnic | 11:30am

Elevate | 5-7pm

**23** Men's Bible Study | 7:30am

Women's Bible Study | 9:30am

Women's Bible Study | 5pm

Men's Bible Study | 5pm



**24** Needlepoint | 10am

Congregational Events Mtg | 12pm

Outreach Mtg | 5pm

Council Mtg | 6:30pm

*Widowed Persons\** | 7pm

**25** *Sisters of Faith\** | 10:30am

Midweek | 4pm

Mayflower Bells | 6pm

*Al-Anon\** | 7pm

Chancel Choir | 7:30pm

**26** *Women's City Club\** | 9:30am

Women's Bible Study | 10am

*Boy Scouts\** | 6:30pm

**27** Men's Bible Study | 7am

*Joyful Sounds\** | 9:30am

**29** Morning Worship | 10:30am

MS/HS Bells | 11:45am

MS/HS Choir | 12:15pm

Elevate | 5-7pm

**30** Men's Bible Study | 7:30am

Women's Bible Study | 9:30am

Women's Bible Study | 5pm

Men's Bible Study | 5pm



# High School and Middle School Programming

The goal of youth ministry is to help young people through their teen years with spiritual guidance and fun! Youth ministries can create meaningful relationships with adult believers, which can help students stay connected with the church and flourish in their faith.

## MEET THE 2024/25 MAYFLOWER YOUTH MINSITRY TEAM



Amy Conway

Breakfast Club  
Elevate



Shari Graham

Elevate



Rachael Cooley

Elevate



Allison Houlihan

Breakfast Club  
Mulick Tutoring



Ben King

Elevate



Mark Webb

Choir and Bells



Melia Colwell

Chimes  
Children's Choir



CLICK QR  
TO SIGN UP  
FOR WEEKLY  
REMINDER  
EMAILS

## WEEKLY SCHEDULE

### Sundays

11:45am-12:15pm | MS/HS Bells

12:15pm-12:45pm | MS/HS Choir

5:00pm-5:45pm | Elevate (MS Youth Group)

5:45pm-6:15pm | Dinner (MS and HS Youth Group)

6:15pm-7:00pm | Elevate (HS Youth Group)

### Tuesdays

6:30am | HS Breakfast Club at Wolfgang's Restaurant

Lunch hour | HS Tutoring at Mulick Park Elementary



## Last Sunday's Baptisms



## Fall Bible Study Information

All are invited to connect with us this fall through a Bible study that best fits you and your schedule. Feel free to jump in when you are able. More details to come.

### MEN'S BIBLE STUDIES

**Monday | 7:30am | Bill Robson | Library**



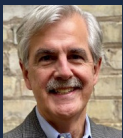
Beginning Sept. 9, we will be studying Isaiah.

**Monday | 5pm | Eric Britcher | Youth Rm**



This Fall we will begin a 12 week study of the book of Hebrews. Beginning date Monday, Sept. 9

**Friday | 7am | Greg Rhodes | Library**



We will kick off this group on Sept. 13 and choose a book to study at that time.

### WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDIES

**Monday | 9:30am | Cindy DeBoer | Parlor**



Cindy is a writer and a speaker who documents her journey on her website. Read more about her here: [cindydeboer.com](http://cindydeboer.com)

**Monday | 5pm | Helen Bell | Library**



Church History: 400-1054 CE, especially seeking out the faith of women, and September and October, the book of James

**Thursday | 10am | Rev. Steve Armfield | Youth Rm**



Pastor Steve will lead a study about "Bringing our Stories to Light." He will incorporate the stories of the people we find in the Bible whose lives were changed as they asked "what," not "why". Suggested pre-reading for this study is "Telling Stories in the Dark" by Jeff Munroe. Copies of the books are in the church office.

## Sunday Morning Greeters and Cookies Providers

We want to thank Mayflower groups and committees for providing cookies and greeting us! September is Congregational Care and Membership month

**Congregational Care Committee** provides connection and support to our college students, baptism families, new members, those receiving meals and more.

**Membership Committee** identifies and implements opportunities for both new and current congregants to connect with the ministries of Mayflower and each other.



### Congregational Care Committee

(L-R) Barbara Hoeksema, Kathy Wynsma, IlaFlo Barfuss, Worth Hages, Beth Wood, Janna Melville, Murry Idema, Sandy VerBeek, Steve Miller (Not Pictured: Anneli Koets and Wendy Jacobs, Rachael Cooley, Staff Support)

# Praises and Prayers

Week of September 15, 2024

*If you would like to receive prayer, 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 celebrate with **Jonathan White** and **Maggie Bethel** on their marriage Sept. 14. (9/11)

**Jeff and Kim Peterson** have a new grandson. **Katie and Kaylee Peterson** welcomed **Henry Oliver Peterson** on Aug. 27. (9/01)

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

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

## PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY

**Lizann Donley** is being monitored for heart issues and continues to suffer with back issues. Pray for helpful diagnosis and treatment. (9/10)

**Margaret Henry** is dealing with atrial fibrillation and Parkinson's disease and **Chuck Henry** is recovering from painful cornea eye surgery. Please pray for both of them as they struggle with these issues. (9/10)

**Terry Zylman** had eye surgery on Monday. We pray that it was successful and that his vision is restored to normal. (9/10)

**Tom Visser** had a heart catheterization on Aug. 28 and is recovering at home. (9/03)

**Mary Barr** was in an accident and sustained back and rib injuries. Pray for healing. (9/03)

**Ann Wells** had surgery on Aug. 25 for a fractured hip resulting from a fall. She is now rehabilitating at Freedom Village in Holland. (8/28)

**Maris Rosema** asks for continued prayer for healing. (8/27)

**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)

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

## PRAY FOR FRIENDS OF MAYFLOWER

**IlaFlo Barfuss'** friend, **Bob Parriott**, had successful surgery to remove a cancerous growth and will have follow up treatment. (8/22)

## PRAY FOR THOSE WHO MOURN

**Bob Skilton** died on Aug. 28. Our prayers go to his wife, **Jeanne**, and their family. A memorial service will be held at Mayflower on Oct. 18 at 11am with a luncheon to follow. (9/01)

**Bert and Lindy Crandell's** daughter and son-in-law, **Austin and Aaron Bartman**, gave birth to twins Adalae and Aaron on July 19. Sadly, Aaron passed away at three weeks of age. We extend our sympathy to the families and continue to pray for Austin, who is recovering from complications from childbirth. (8/27)

**Dick Stiffler**, died on Aug. 16. Dick was married to the late Tolly Stiffler were parents of members, **Clay and Kris Stiffler**, and children, **Andrew and Quincy**. There was a visitation at Mayflower on Sept. 4. (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: 6163446255 (no spaces) and then follow the prompts.

## WELCOME! We are so glad you joined us today!

**WELCOME!** If this is your first time worshipping 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. Middle Schoolers are encouraged to join us in Sunday school as small group helpers - they earn "CIT Bucks"!

## MAYFLOWER CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

2345 Robinson Road SE, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49506  
616-459-6255 [www.MayflowerChurch.org](http://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

Lift High the Cross

537

George William Kitchin, 1827-1912 and  
Michael Robert Newbolt, 1874-1956, alt.

Sydney Hugo Nicholson, 1875-1947

Refrain *Unison*

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro-claim till  
all the world a-dore His sa-cred name.

Verses *Harmony*

1. Come, Chris-tians, fol-low this tri-umphant sign. The
2. Each new-born ser-vant of the Cru-ci-fied Bears
3. O Lord, once lift-ed on the glo-rious tree, As
4. So shall our song of tri-umph ev-er be: Praise

D.C.

hosts of God in u-ni-ty com-bine.  
on the brow the seal of Him who died.  
Thou hast prom-ised, draw the world to Thee.  
to the Cru-ci-fied for vic-to-ry!

CRUCIFER  
10.10 with Refrain

# Lord, Speak to Me, That I May Speak

372

Frances R. Havergal, 1836-1879

Arr. from Robert A. Schumann, 1810-1856

1. Lord, speak to me, that I may speak In  
2. O strength - en me, that while I stand Firm  
3. O teach me, Lord, that I may teach The  
4. O fill me with Thy full - ness, Lord, Un -

liv - ing ech - oes of Thy tone; As Thou hast sought, so  
on the rock, and strong in Thee, I may stretch out a  
pre - cious things Thou dost im - part; And wing my words, that  
til my ver - y heart o'er - flow In kin - dling thought and

let me seek Thy err - ing chil - dren lost and lone.  
lov - ing hand To wres - tlers with the trou - bled sea!  
they may reach The hid - den depths of man - y a heart!  
glow - ing word, Thy love to tell, Thy praise to show! A - men.

CANONBURY  
LM

*Obedience and Commitment*

THE CHRISTIAN LIFE

THE TRIUNE GOD

74

O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing

Charles Wesley, 1707–1788

Carl G. Glaser, 1784–1829  
Mason's *Modern Psalms*, 1839

1. O for a thou - sand tongues to sing My  
2. My gra - cious Mas - ter and my God, As -  
3. Glo - ry to God and praise and love Be

great Re - deem - er's praise, The glo - ries of my  
sist me to pro - claim, To spread through all the  
ev - er, ev - er giv'n By saints be - low and

God and King, The tri - umphs of His grace!  
earth a - broad The hon - ors of Thy name.  
saints a - bove, The Church in earth and heav'n. A - men.

AZMON  
CM

Great God and King, we find it difficult to articulate our faith. Our thoughts, our feelings, our lives are but poor witnesses to what You continue to do with us and for us. But deep within our souls, we hear Your voice, and our spirits and Yours are joined in wonder, love, and praise. Strengthen our spirits so that we might glorify You. Amen.

Dick Hotchkin