

MAYFLOWER

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

VISION SUNDAY

October 20, 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 in E Flat Major
by J. S. Bach

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

VISION MOMENT

Connecting for the Future Ken Goodson, Past Moderator

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

Rachel Blair, Past Moderator

Leader: We gather for worship today to celebrate our gifts.

People: **We are celebrating the gifts we give to this church, the commitments we are making for the upcoming year.**

Leader: We gather for worship today to celebrate our community.

People: **We are celebrating the love and support that we give to one another; the constant quest that we are on to be united by God's grace.**

Leader: We gather for worship today to celebrate our future.

People: **We are celebrating a future full of outreach, a future full of service, a future full of worship and a future full of growth. We are celebrating a future with hope.**

Leader: Let us gather in celebration!

People: **Let us worship God!**

PROCESSIONAL HYMN 1* *Our God, Our Help in Ages Past*

ST. ANNE
MS/HS Bells

OPENING PRAYER*

Rachel Blair

Leader: Holy God, we praise you and honor you as the author and creator.

People: Everything in heaven and on earth is yours.

Leader: Yours, Lord, is the kingdom.

People: Wealth and honor come from you; you are the ruler of all things.

Leader: Help us to join you in your holy kingdom work.

People: May we bring heaven to earth in all that we do.

All: 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

O God, Beyond All Praising

Combined Children
and Chancel Choir

by Richard Proulx

O God, beyond all praising, we worship you today and sing the love amazing that songs cannot repay;
for we can only wonder at ev'ry gift you send, at blessings without number and mercies without end:
we lift our hearts before you and wait upon your word, we honor and adore you, our great and mighty Lord.

The flower of earthly splendor in time must surely die, its fragile bloom surrender to you, the Lord most high;
but hidden from all nature the eternal seed is sown – though small in mortal stature,
to heaven's garden grown: for Christ the man from heaven from death has set us free,
and we through him are given the final victory.

please join the choirs in singing verse 3 below:

Then hear, O gracious Savior, accept the love we bring, that we who know your favor may serve you as our King; and whether tomorrows be filled with good or ill, we will triumph through sorrows and bless you still: to marvel at beauty and glory in your ways, and make a joyful duty our sacrifice of praise.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Rachael Cooley

SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 10: 35-45
PEW BIBLE, PAGE 716

Rachel Blair

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

Why Give?

Rev. Bell Olsson

VISION SUNDAY INVITATION

As we sing, you are invited to come forward to place your
2025 commitment form and morning offering in the box.

HYMN 353*

Be Thou My Vision

SLANE

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.**

ANTHEM

My Eternal King

Chancel Choir

by Jane Marshall

My God, I love Thee; not because I hope for heaven thereby, nor yet because who love Thee not must die eternally. Thou, o my Jesus, Thou didst me upon the cross embrace; for me didst bear the nails and spear, and manifold disgrace. Why, then, why, O blessed Jesus Christ, should I not love Thee well? Not for the hope of winning heaven, or of escaping hell; not with the hope of gaining aught, not seeking a reward; but as Thyself hast loved me, o ever-loving Lord! E'en so I love Thee, and will love, and in Thy praise will sing; solely because Thou art my God, and my Eternal King.

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

Fugue in E Flat "St. Anne"
by J. S. Bach

Dr. Brown

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"!



MONDAYS
AT
MAYFLOWER

mayflowerchurch.org/concerts

OCT. 21 | 7PM
JAMES KIBBIE, ORGANIST

*Music of Bach, Mozart,
Vierne and more*



OCT. 28 | 7PM | IRISH TRADITIONAL MUSIC
Eliot Grasso, piper and Adam Hendey, guitar

NOV. 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, October 20 - Vision Sunday

- 9:00am | New member class
- 10:30am | Rev. Ruth Bell Olsson, preaching
- 11:30 | Widowed Persons Group (**Library**)
- 11:45am | MS/HS Bells
- 5-6:15pm | MS Elevate - costume party
- 5:45-7pm | HS Elevate - costume party

OCTOBER

- 21 Men's Bible Study | 7:30am
Women's Bible Study | 9:30am
Women's Bible Study | 5pm
Men's Bible Study | 5pm
Mondays at Mayflower | 7pm
- 22 Breakfast Club | 6:30am
Needlepoint | 10am
Worship & Music | 4pm
Outreach | 4:30pm
Council | 6:30pm
*GRCC (Chamber Choir)** | 5pm

- 23 Congregational Events | 12
Midweek | 4pm
Mayflower Bells | 6pm
*Al-Anon** | 7pm
Chancel Choir | 7:30pm
- 24 *Women's City Club** | 9:30am
Women's Bible Study | 10am
69UP | 5pm
*Boy Scouts** | 6:30pm

TRUNK OR TREAT | OCT. 30 | 6-7PM



This is a fun and easy way to **be involved with our community!** Please come with your trunk decorated and ready to pass out candy to children and youth from our church and surrounding community! To sign up, scan the QR code or contact dawnperrywilliams@gmail.com



When you purchase symphony tickets to the following concerts, Mayflower will get **20% OF TICKET SALES** when you use the **code: MCC**

South American Heat

Friday, November 15th at 7:30 PM
Saturday, November 16th at 7:30 PM

DISNEY IN CONCERT A Dream is a Wish

Friday, January 17, 2025 7:30 PM
Saturday, January 18, 2025 7:30 PM

An Evening at Hogwarts: Music by Candlelight

Friday, April 11, 2025 at 7:30 PM
Saturday, April 12, 2025 at 7:30 PM



ONLINE

- Visit [ticketmaster.com](https://www.ticketmaster.com)
- Select your performance



- Before selecting seats, click the Unlock button and enter your promotional code



IN PERSON

Visit our office at
300 Ottawa Ave NW,
Suite 100
Grand Rapids, MI 49503



OVER THE PHONE

Call us at (616) 454-9451
x4 and mention the
promotional code

IHN Wrap UP

Thank you to everyone who has faithfully been a part of the IHN Host Week program for the past 12 years here at Mayflower! As we complete our final week of hosting, please read the following message and be blessed.

Rachael,

Last week, while picking up my mom's lunch at Porter Hills, I got into a conversation with one of the Porter Hills employees. She said she was sad that my mom was moving and I explained to her that it is a positive change. I also mentioned how happy my mom is at our new church, Mayflower.

Well, when she heard me say Mayflower, she smiled and said she loves the people of Mayflower! She shared with me that she and her children stayed at Mayflower when they were homeless. Of all the places she stayed, Mayflower was above and beyond the friendliest and most welcoming place. She wants me to pass along how grateful she is to those who fed and played with her children and she wants you to know that she is now on her feet and no longer homeless! Such a sweet lady. I'm glad things are going well for her now. Good work, Mayflower!

Sincerely,

Marjorie "Marjie" Gell



"Well done, good and faithful servant!"

-Matthew 25:23

JOIN US AT MAYFLOWER

Gratitude Sunday

A service to celebrate Thanksgiving
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24 | 10:30am



COLLEGE ESSAY WRITING WORKSHOP

Wednesday | Nov. 6 | 6-7pm



Caitlin Volovlek

As a respected and experienced English teacher for 25 years, Caitlin Volovlek knows that the right questions, high expectations, and personal attention can transform the stressful application process. Her passion is guiding seniors to craft meaningful and memorable college entrance essays.

Please join Caitlin as she shares her expertise and inspires your senior to begin the essay process with confidence!

Reach out to Rachael Cooley at rachael@mayflowerchurch.org with any questions.

Announcements for October 20, 2024

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

MEALS FOR NANCY & COBY MARTIN

We are providing meals for the Martins for the next 3 weeks as Nancy recovers from a fall. Bring by 3pm and put in the cooler by their front door. There are no known food allergies. See the QR sign up for available spots or reach out to Murry Idema or church office for assistance.



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

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

GROWN-UPS GATHER & GRAZE

OCT. 25 | 6-9PM

The Grown-ups Gather & Graze group (49/59UP) will meet Friday, 10/25 at the Bakers' home (1884 Radcliffe Ave.) April will be making "harvest festival food" and taking donations with proceeds going to the Youth Mission fund. Please bring a Michigan libation or beverage to share (RSVP to Psienstra@gmail.com). Save the date: 12/12/24 for a Christmas Soirée at Barbara Hohman's home.

MAHJONG | OCT. 29 | 6:30PM

Andrea Koster and Allison Houlihan will be teaching beginner Mahjong lessons. Please email MahjintheMitten@gmail.com or see Andrea or Allison for sign up details.

WIDOWED PERSONS' BREAKFAST

NOV. 3 | 9AM

The Mayflower widowed persons group invites those who are widowed to a breakfast on Nov. 3 at 9am in the Chapel. Contact Murry Idema or Ila Flo Barfuss for more information.

COLLEGE ESSAY WRITING WORKSHOP

NOV. 6 | 6PM

Please join Caitlin Volovlek in the parlor on Nov. 6 as she shares her expertise and inspires your senior to begin the essay process with confidence!

PRISCILLA CIRCLE BAKE SALE | NOV. 17

EVERYONE is invited to donate baked goods for the sale. On 11/17, bring your baked goods to the tables in the Atrium before the service.

A NOTE FROM ERIC BRITCHER

Dear Friends of Mayflower,
My sincere thanks for your cards, calls, visits and especially your prayers while I have been under medical care. I appreciate them more than I can express.
Blessings, Eric

ALL SAINTS DAY MEMORIALS DUE OCT. 28

If you had a loved one pass away this year and you would like them to be remembered in the 'All Saints Day' bulletin, please contact the church office by Oct. 28 at 616.459.6255 or office@mayflowerchurch.org

Praises and Prayers

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

The **Crandell** and **Bartman families** are all celebrating **Adalae Jane Bartman's** coming home after 63 days at Helen DeVos' NICU. (9/24)

PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Pray for **Nancy Martin** who is at home recovering from a fall. (10/10)

Katie Brenneman is recuperating from recent knee surgery. Please pray for a quick recovery. (10/08)

We pray for **Eric Britcher** as he is having rehabilitation services to help regain his strength. (10/01)

Bonnie Rottschafer fell and broke her knee cap which involves a lengthy recovery. We pray for healing and lessening of pain. (9/17)

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

PRAY FOR FRIENDS OF MAYFLOWER

Prayers for **Mona**, mother of visitor, Mike Saxena, for healing and readiness for chemo therapy.

PRAY FOR THOSE WHO MOURN

Bob Skilton died on Aug. 28. Our prayers go to his wife, **Jeanne**, and their family. A memorial service was held at Mayflower on Oct. 18. (9/01)

PRAY FOR THE WORLD

Our prayers go to all those who are affected by the devastating aftermath of recent hurricanes.

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.

Sunday Morning Greeters and Cookies Providers

We want to thank Mayflower groups and committees for providing cookies and greeting us! October is Outreach and House & Grounds month!

Outreach Committee: To facilitate outreach in our community through word, deed, and resources.

House & Grounds Committee: To maintain the church building and grounds in proper working order and aesthetically pleasing shape while meeting safety, security and stewardship goals.



House & Grounds Committee

(L-R) Clay Stiffler, Bert Sherman, Greg Conway, Karen Roth, Greg Scott (Chair), Chris Krupp

(not pictured: Tom Sherman and Peter Northouse)

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.

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

Mark Webb, Interim Children & Youth Music Director | Kristen Van Stee, Communications Coordinator


Jana DeShane and David Schellenberg | Facilities Team

Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

1

Isaac Watts, 1674-1748

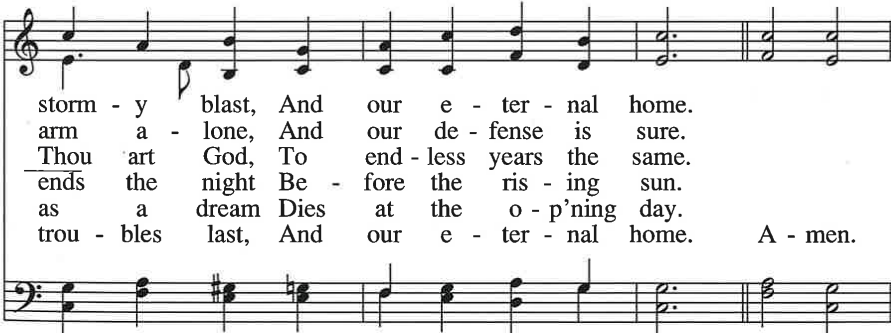
Attrib. to William Croft, 1678-1727



1. Our God, our help in a - ges past, Our
 2. Un - der the shad - ow of Thy throne Thy
 3. Be - fore the hills in or - der stood, Or
 4. A thou - sand a - ges in Thy sight Are
 5. Time, like an ev - er - roll - ing stream, Bears
 6. Our God, our help in a - ges past, Our



hope for years to come, Our shel - ter from the
 saints have dwelt se - cure, Suf - fi - cient is Thine
earth re - ceived her frame, From ev - er - last - ing
 like an eve - ning gone, Short as the watch that
 all its sons a - way; They fly for - got - ten,
 hope for years to come, Be Thou our guard while



storm - y blast, And our e - ter - nal home.
 arm a - lone, And our de - fense is sure.
 Thou art God, To end - less years the same.
ends the night Be - fore the ris - ing sun.
 as a dream Dies at the o - p'ning day.
 trou - bles last, And our e - ter - nal home. A - men.

ST. ANNE
CM

GOD'S COVENANT PEOPLE

353

Be Thou My Vision

Ancient Irish

Trans. by Mary E. Byrne, 1880–1931

Versified by Eleanor H. Hull, 1860–1935

Traditional Irish Melody

Harm. by David Evans, 1874–1948

Unison

1. Be Thou my Vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
 2. Be Thou my Wis - dom, and Thou my true Word;
 3. Rich - es I heed not, nor man's emp - ty praise,
 4. High King of heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,

Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art—
 I ev - er with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;
 Thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways;
 May I reach heav - en's joys, O bright heav'n's Sun!

Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
 Thou my great Fa - ther, I Thy true son,
 Thou and Thou on - ly, first in my heart,
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,

Wak - ing or sleep - ing, Thy pres - ence my light.
 Thou in me dwell - ing, and I with Thee one.
 High King of heav - en, my treas - ure Thou art.
 Still be my Vi - sion, O Rul - er of all. A - men.

Second verse: "Thou my great Father, till life be done" or "Thy will be done"

Third verse: "nor this world's praise"

SLANE

10.10.9.10

Harm. © 1927, Oxford University Press

THE CHRISTIAN LIFE

Aspiration and Consecration