

MAYFLOWER

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

GRATITUDE SUNDAY

November 24, 2024 - 10:30am



*Give thanks to the Lord,
for he is good; his
love endures forever.*

-Psalm 107:1

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*.

Bold 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 *Two settings of KREMSER (We gather together)* Dr. Julia Brown
by Alice Jordan & Healey Willan

DRUM PROCESSIONAL

WELCOME AND PASSING OF THE PEACE* Rev. Ruth Bell Olsson &
Greeting: The peace of Christ be with you. Rev. Dr. Bob Livingston
Response: And also with you.

NEWS OF THE CHURCH Rachael Cooley

GRATITUDE MOMENT Marjie Gell

INTROIT *Holy, Holy, Holy* Chancel Choir
by Franz Schubert

Holy is the Lord; holy evermore adored; Saints in heaven praise him, gathered round the throne;
saints on earth adore him, God, the Lord alone.

CALL TO WORSHIP Rev. Dr. Livingston

Leader: Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.

People: Know that the Lord is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

Leader: Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name.

People: For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.

All: Come let us worship!

HYMN 285*

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

ST. GEORGE'S WINDSOR

OPENING PRAYER*

Rev. Dr. Livingston

Leader: Your love, Lord, reaches to the heavens, your faithfulness to the skies.

People: Your righteousness is like the highest mountains, your justice like the great deep. You, Lord, preserve both people and animals.

Leader: How priceless is your unfailing love, O God! People take refuge in the shadow of your wings.

People: May our gratitude overflow and may we find healing in it.

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

When Morning Gilds the Skies (Laudes Domini)

MS/HS Bells

Joseph Barnaby

If you would like to follow the text, please turn to #60 in the Hymnal

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Rachael Cooley

SCRIPTURE READING

Philippians 4:4-7

Janice Yates

PEW BIBLE, PAGE 832

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

Gratitude Heals

Rev. Bell Olsson

HYMN 552*

We Gather Together

KREMSER

CALL TO OFFERING

Rev. Dr. Livingston

OFFERTORY

A Song of Thanksgiving

Chancel Choir

by John Ferguson

Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to another. Your love never ceases, your mercies never end. For you are good, your steadfast love endures forever. Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voices, who wondrous things has done, in whom his world rejoices; who, from our mother's arms, has blest us on our way with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

(Psalm 90:1, Lamentations 3:22; Psalm 100:5)

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

CHORAL CALL TO PRAYER *Lacquiparle (Dakota melody)*

Chancel Choir

Many and great, O God, are thy things, Maker of earth and sky.
Thy hands have set the heavens with stars; thy fingers spread the mountains and plains.
Lo, at thy word the waters were formed; deep seas obey thy voice

SPOKEN PRAYER

CHORAL PRAYER RESPONSE

Grant unto us communion with thee, thou star abiding one;
come unto us and dwell with us; with thee are found the gifts of life.
Bless us with life that has no end, eternal life with thee.

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 287*

For the Fruit of All Creation

AR HYD Y NOS

BENEDICTION*

Rev. Bell Olsson

POSTLUDE

Now Thank We All Our God
by Siegfried Karg-Elert

Dr. Julia Brown

Altar flowers are placed today by Patty and Greg Rhodes
in loving memory of Patty's mother, Marguerite Donahue.

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"!

Thank You Pilgrim Family!



Matt, Robin, Tenley, and Maddox Dhaseler

A GUIDE TO INDIGENOUS LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT



NATIVE GOVERNANCE
CENTER



Looking Ahead

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

Today, November 24

10:30am | Gratitude Sunday

5pm | MS/HS Elevate | Main Event

NOVEMBER

25 Men's Bible Study | 7:30am

Women's Bible Study | 9:30am

Men's Bible Study | 5pm

26 Breakfast Club | 6:30am

*Widowed Persons Service** | 7pm

27 *Al-Anon** | 7pm

28 Thanksgiving Day - Office Closed

29 Office Closed

DECEMBER

1 First Sunday in Advent | 10:30am

2 Men's Bible Study | 7:30am

Women's Bible Study | 9:30am

Women's Bible Study | 5pm

Men's Bible Study | 5pm

3 Breakfast Club | 6:30am

Needlepoint | 10am

*Mahj in the Mitten** | 6pm

4 *Garden Club** | 9:30am

Priscilla Circle | 11am

Advent Alive | 4:30pm

Advent Learning Series | 6pm

Mayflower Bells | 6pm

*Al-Anon** | 7pm

Chancel Choir | 7:30pm

THIS ADVENT/CHRISTMAS SEASON, WE INVITE YOU TO
Come
IN THE *Midst* of...

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP | 10:30am

Dec. 1 | In the midst of despair bring HOPE

Dec. 8 | In the midst of division bring PEACE

Dec. 15 | In the midst of grief bring JOY

Dec. 22 | In the midst of apathy bring LOVE

Dec. 29 | In the midst of change bring SONG

Jan. 5 | Epiphany

DECEMBER 8 | CANTATA SUNDAY

Chancel Choir, soloists and GR Symphony musicians perform

V. Williams - *Fantasia on Christmas Carols*
and

J. S. Bach / Kuhnau - *For Us a Child is Born*
within the context of worship

Mayflower Advent Calendar

The season of **Advent begins next Sunday, Dec. 1**. To prepare our hearts for the miracle of Christmas, **Mayflower Advent Calendars are available** at the welcome table in the Atrium, the church office, or online at the QR code listed below.

Each week during the season of Advent, the calendar will feature an outreach partner of Mayflower Congregational Church. As we await the miracle of Christ's birth, may we let the love of God inspire our actions each day!



ADVENT LEARNING SERIES

Mary the Mother of Jesus: Favor, Consent, and Action

WEDNESDAYS | Dec. 4, 11, 18 | 6-7pm | SANCTUARY



Helen Bell and
Rev. Ruth Bell Olsson

Come study the life of Mary with Helen Bell and Rev. Ruth Bell Olsson. We will learn about her extraordinary path to becoming the mother of Jesus and how this changed the world.

Grateful for the People of Mayflower!



We are blessed by the opportunities to serve alongside our many outreach partners. Thank you to all who came last week to support our partnership with Hope Village - a division of Mel Trotter Ministries.



We offer gratitude to all those who organized, performed, and enjoyed this season of Mondays at Mayflower.

To Be Dvořák!



Thank you to the leaders and child care providers who minister to our children throughout the week.



We are grateful for the leadership and staff at Mayflower. This week Council showed staff appreciation with a brunch.



Many hands make light work - Thank you, volunteers!



Priscilla Circle raised more than \$1,500 at the bake sale, going toward the purchase of new bells! Thank you for the donated baked goods and your generous support of Mayflower ministries!

COLLECTING WINTER GEAR

ADULT & CHILDRENS SIZES | COATS, GLOVES, HATS, BOOTS

Please bring donations to the church for the next two weeks and place in the donation boxes located at the Atrium entrance. The Outreach team will donate items to our Outreach Partners, Mulick Elementary School and Exodus Place. Contact Rachael Cooley (rachael@mayflowerchurch.org) with questions.

Senior Minister Search Committee Update

The Senior Minister Search Committee was elected by the congregation at our July Annual Meeting, and since August has been working together to lay the foundation for a successful search process on behalf of the people of Mayflower. They will be providing general progress updates to the congregation during Sunday service every 6 weeks, and special updates as needed.



Chris Edgar
Co-chair

chrisedgar@comcast.net



Peter Houlihan
Co-chair

peter@brightformat.com



Janice Yates
Recording Secretary



Matthew Dhaseleer



Barbara Gordon



Dave Hathaway



Barbara Hohman



Patrick Miller



Courtney Weiler

Announcements

Mayflower news and details on upcoming events. Visit MayflowerChurch.org/events for more information.

WHO IS MARY? | WEDNESDAYS | 6-7PM

Wednesdays in December from 6-7pm join Helen Bell and Pastor Ruth in the sanctuary as they discuss, "Who is Mary?"

MONDAY AM WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Beginning Mon. Dec. 2, you are invited to join us for the season of Advent. We will be reading, Scott Erikson's "Honest Advent" (purchase copies at honestadvent.com). Join us!



ADVENT ALIVE | DEC. 4 | 4:30PM

Please join us for the annual tradition of Advent Alive on Wednesday, Dec. 4. We will sing carols and enjoy a meal. All are welcome to this joyous event!

THURSDAY AM WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Beginning Thursday, Dec. 5, all are invited to join a Bible study during the Advent season. Pastor Steve Armfield will lead us in studying, "It All Happened in Real Time."

CANTATA SUNDAY | DEC. 8 | 10:30AM

Join us Sunday for music-filled worship! Vaughan Williams' *Fantasy on Christmas Carols* and J. S. Bach's *For Us a Child is Born*.

69 UP | TUESDAY, DEC. 10 | 5-7PM

Elaine Matthews will host this festive event in her home with its unique Christmas decorations on display. Everyone aged 69 and above is invited to share in the joyful occasion. Please RSVP to murry@mayflowerchurch.org and indicate if you will bring an appetizer or a bottle of white wine to share.

GROWNUPS GATHER & GRAZE | DEC. 12

Christmas Soirée is Dec. 12, 6-8:30pm at Barbara Hohman's (3715 Cook Valley Blvd.) Please bring white wine and an appetizer. Dessert will be provided. Holiday sing-a-long to round out the festivities. Please RSVP to karenroth01@gmail.com

POINSETTIA ORDERS

8" double stem red poinsettias will adorn the sanctuary Dec. 22 through Christmas Eve. Dedicate one for \$20 to take home after the Christmas Eve Service. Order by Dec.15, contact office@mayflowerchurch.org or call 616.459.6255.

Advent Alive - We Need Crafts!



Our annual Midweek Advent event is Dec. 4 and we need help - **WE NEED CRAFTS**. If you are able, please donate a craft (or two!) for 30 kids prior to that Wednesday. You may leave your craft in the church office. Contact Rachael@MayflowerChurch.org with questions.

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

We celebrate with **Ruth Blair** who turned 100 earlier this month on Nov. 4! Happy Birthday, Ruth!

Praise God for the recent baptism and new members we welcomed to Mayflower. (10/27)

PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY

We pray for **Eric Britcher** as he is receiving treatment at Mary Free Bed outpatient. (11/19)

Prayers for **Chip George** as he recovers from surgery after falling off a ladder. (11/19)

Wendy Jacobs appreciates the prayers, food, and cards from Mayflower following her knee surgery. Please continue to pray as she is experiencing a painful recovery. (11/19)

Pray for **Gary Wallin**. Gary has been recently hospitalized with multiple health issues. His doctors are trying to plan how to treat them. (11/19)

Ann Trost who is in hospice care at Trillium Woods. We pray for peace and comfort for Ann at this time. (10/29)

PRAY FOR FRIENDS OF MAYFLOWER

Prayers for **Sara Stainbrook**, a friend of Barbara Hohman's daughter Jennifer, who is experiencing health issues. (11/19)

Pray for **Elaine Matthews'** family friend, **David Layman**, who is experiencing serious health issues. (11/11)

PRAY FOR THOSE WHO MOURN

Ron Beuker passed away on Oct. 26. Pray for his wife **Helen** and daughter **Sarah Von Hof** in your prayers as they mourn his passing. (10/29)

PRAY FOR THE WORLD

We pray for Eden Ministries serving vulnerable children in Doma, Zimbabwe.

Pray for Energy for Mission and Pastor Marcel doing peace work and faith restoration in Goma, Democratic Republic of the Congo

We pray for peace on Earth.

We pray for world leaders to seek the flourishing of all people.

Sunday Morning Greeters and Cookies Providers

We want to thank Mayflower groups and committees for providing cookies and greeting us! November is *Worship & Music* and *Children & Youth* month!



CHILDREN & YOUTH COMMITTEE

Amy Conway, *Chair & CR*
Martin Grin
Allison Houlihan
Kate Schneider
Meredith Starnes
Kyle Morrison

WORSHIP & MUSIC COMMITTEE

Linda Edgar, *Co-chair*
Cheryl Blair, *Co-chair*
David Blair, *CR*
Janice Yates
Matt Dhaseleer
Kay Scott
Michelle Muza-Moons
Janet Armfield
Dave Baker

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 REV. DR. ROBERT "BOB" LIVINGSTON

In Mayflower's interim season, Bob is bringing his church consulting expertise to help us transition well. He will work with church leadership and staff while also serving the church through pastoral care, guest preaching, and special projects in support of the congregation.

Bob will be consulting with Mayflower from November 2024 to May 2025.

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

GOD'S REVELATION

285

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

Henry Alford, 1810-1871

George J. Elvey, 1816-1893

1. Come, ye thank-ful peo-ple, come, Raise the song of
 2. All the world is God's own field, Fruit un-to His
 3. For the Lord our God shall come, And shall take His
 4. E - ven so, Lord, quick - ly come To Thy fi - nal

har - vest home; All is safe - ly gath - ered in,
 praise to yield; Wheat and tares to - geth - er sown,
 har - vest home; From His field shall in that day
 har - vest home; Gath - er Thou Thy peo - ple in,

Ere the win - ter storms be - gin; God, our Mak - er,
 Un - to joy or sor - row grown; First the blade, and
 All of - fens - es purge a - way, Give His an - gels
 Free from sor - row, free from sin; There for - ev - er

doth pro - vide For our wants to be sup - plied;
 then the ear, Then the full corn shall ap - pear;
 charge at last In the fire the tares to cast,
 pu - ri - fied, In Thy pres - ence to a - bid;

ST. GEORGE'S WINDSOR

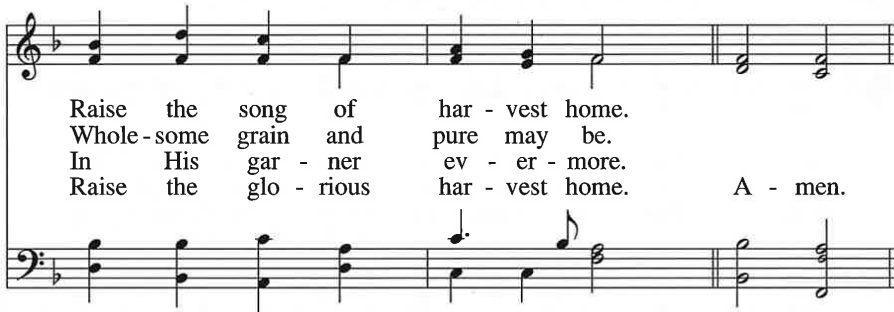
7.7.7.7 D

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

GOD'S REVELATION



Come to God's own tem - ple, come,
Lord of har - vest, grant that we
But the fruit - ful ears to store
Come, with all Thine an - gels, come,

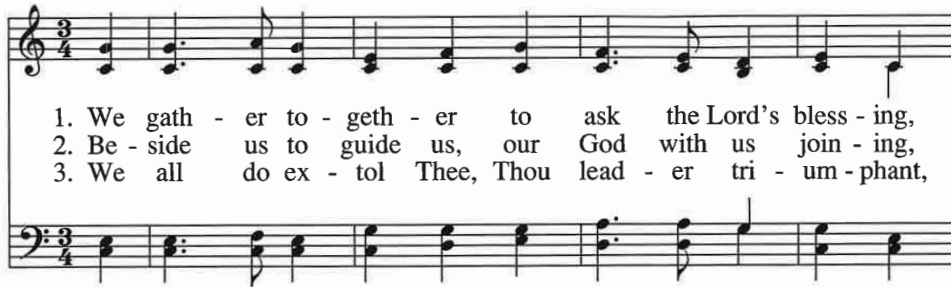


Raise the song of har - vest home.
Whole - some grain and pure may be.
In His gar - ner ev - er - more.
Raise the glo - rious har - vest home. A - men.

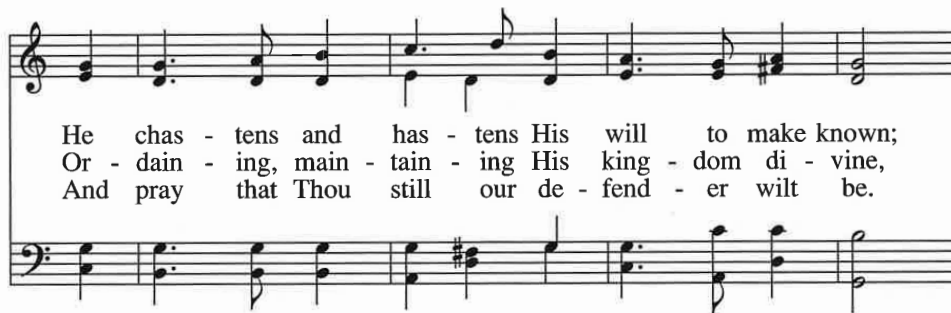
We Gather Together

Netherlands Folk Hymn, 1626
Trans. by Theodore Baker, 1851-1934

Nederlandsch Gedenck-clanck, 1626
Arr. by Edward Kremser, 1838-1914



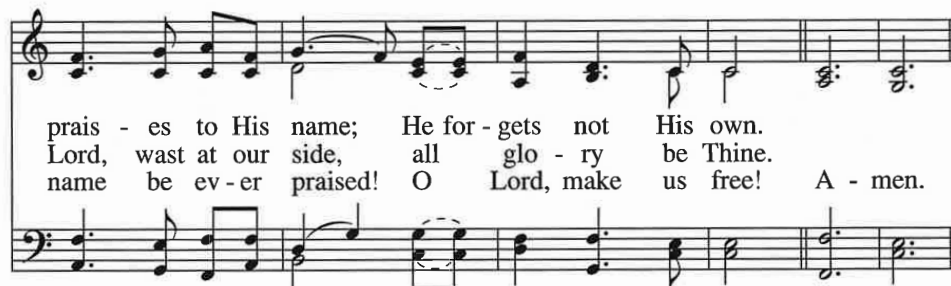
1. We gath - er to - geth - er to ask the Lord's bless - ing,
2. Be - side us to guide us, our God with us join - ing,
3. We all do ex - tol Thee, Thou lead - er tri - um - phant,



He chas - tens and has - tens His will to make known;
Or - dain - ing, main - tain - ing His king - dom di - vine,
And pray that Thou still our de - fend - er wilt be.



The wick - ed op - press - ing now cease from dis - tress - ing. Sing
So from the be - gin - ning the fight we were win - ning; Thou,
Let Thy con - gre - ga - tion es - cape trib - u - la - tion. Thy



prais - es to His name; He for - gets not His own.
Lord, wast at our side, all glo - ry be Thine.
name be ev - er praised! O Lord, make us free! A - men.

GOD'S REVELATION

287

For the Fruit of All Creation

Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000

Welsh Hymn

1. For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, Thanks be to
 2. In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is
 3. For the har - vests of the Spir - it, Thanks be to

God. For these gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion,
 done. In the help we give our neigh - bor,
 God. For the good we all in - her - it,

Thanks be to God. For the plow - ing,
 God's will is done. In our world - wide
 Thanks be to God. For the won - ders

sow - ing, reap - ing, Si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,
 task of car - ing For the hun - gry and de - spair - ing,
 that a - stound us, For the truths that still con - found us,

AR HYD Y NOS
 8.4.8.4.8.8.8.4

GOD'S REVELATION

The musical score consists of two staves. The top staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature. The melody begins with a quarter note chord (F#4, A4), followed by quarter notes G4, A4, B4, and C5. The bottom staff is in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature. It begins with a quarter note chord (D2, F#2), followed by quarter notes G2, A2, B2, and C3. The lyrics are centered between the two staves.

Fu - ture needs in earth's safe keep-ing, Thanks be to God.
In the har-vests we are shar-ing, God's will is done.
Most of all, that love has found us, Thanks be to God.