

MAYFLOWER

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

SUNDAY WORSHIP

January 26, 2025 - 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*. **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 *Nimrod from Enigma Variations* Dr. Julia Brown
by Edward Elgar

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 *I Was Glad* Chancel Choir
by Larry Visser

I was glad when they said unto me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord." (Ps. 122:1)

CALL TO WORSHIP Chris Yates

Leader: The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of God's hands.

People: **Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they reveal knowledge.**

Leader: They have no speech, they use no words; no sound is heard from them.

People: **Yet their voice goes out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world.**

Leader: In the heavens God has pitched a tent for the sun. It is like a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, like a champion rejoicing to run his course.

People: **It rises at one end of the heavens and makes its circuit to the other; nothing is deprived of its warmth.**

All: **All praise be to God for the heavens, the sun, moon and sky. We see and honor God's glory.**

PROCESSIONAL HYMN 22* *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

HYMN TO JOY

OPENING PRAYER* (read in unison)

Chris Yates

We come to you now, God of all things, and we prepare ourselves for what you have in store for us. Open our eyes, ears, and hearts for your Word. Help us to see, hear and follow your perfect commands. 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

If Ye Love Me

Chancel Choir

by Thomas Tallis (ca. 1505-1585)

If ye love me, keep my commandments, and I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another comforter, that he may abide with you forever, even the spirit of truth. (John 14:15-17)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Rachael Cooley

SCRIPTURE READING

Genesis 37:1-4
PEW BIBLE, PAGE 727

Chris Yates

Luke 4:14-24
PEW BIBLE, PAGE 28

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

Life is Difficult: Learning from Joseph and Jesus

Rev. Bell Olsson

HYMN 226*

Spirit of the Living God

IVERSON

CALL TO OFFERING

Rev. Bell Olsson

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

My Eternal King
by Jane Marshall

Chancel Choir

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! 'en so I love Thee, and will love,
and in Thy praise will sing, solely because Thou art my God, and my Eternal King.

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 547* *Lord of the Church, We Pray for Our Renewing*

LONDONDERRY AIR

BENEDICTION*

Rev. Bell Olsson

DISMISSAL*

Rev. Bell Olsson

Leader: You are beloved. May you go forth assured of this, and may God's
love overflow to those you encounter.

People: **We are assured. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

POSTLUDE

Fugue in A minor
by J. S. Bach

Dr. Brown

The altar flowers are placed today by Patty Sienstra
in loving memory of her husband, Dale Bensted.

Looking Ahead

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

Today, January 26

10:30am | Morning Worship

12pm | Faithful Friend Workshop

5pm | MS/HS Elevate

JANUARY

27 Men's Bible Study | 7:30am

Women's Bible Study | 9:30am

January Series LiveStream | 12:30pm

Women's Bible Study | 5pm

Men's Bible Study | 5pm

*Mahj in the Mitten** | 6pm

28 Breakfast Club | 6:30am

Needlepoint | 10am

January Series LiveStream | 12:30pm

*CCGR (Chamber Choir)** | 5pm

Council Mtg. | 6:30pm

29 January Series LiveStream | 12:30pm

Midweek | 4pm

Mayflower Bells | 6pm

*Al Anon** | 7pm

Chancel Choir | 7:30pm

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

Women's Bible Study | 10am

January Series LiveStream | 12:30pm

*Boy Scouts** | 6:30pm

*Pilates** | 7pm

31 Men's Bible Study | 7am

*Joyful Sounds** | 9:15am

*Joyful Sounds** | 10:30am

January Series LiveStream | 12:30pm

Thank you from Safe Haven Ministries

Thank you to all who donated
pillows for the Christmas Eve offering.
They are truly appreciated!



We had a wonderful presentation from
Matt Halteman, author of *Hungry Beautiful
Animals: The Joyful Case for Going Vegan.*



Announcements and Upcoming Events

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

WORKSHOP | TODAY | 12PM

Do you want to help those in crisis, but you are afraid you will say or do the wrong thing? Do you desire to be more deeply connected to the people in your life?

The "How to be a Faithful Friend" workshop will address these questions and more! Please join Rev. Dr. Bob Livingston, Rev. Ruth Bell Olsson, Betsy Willey and others as we explore how to serve God by being a faithful presence to those we love and care for.

Workshop materials and a light lunch will be provided. All are welcome.

PILATES AT MAYFLOWER | JAN. 30 | 7PM

Join us for pilates in the Atrium with Amy Donohue from Bovee Pilates (formerly East Pilates). Please bring a mat, wear comfortable/exercise clothes, and wear socks or bare feet.

A free will offering will be taken for Safe Haven Ministries (cash or check accepted). Safe Haven cares for women and children who have fled environments of domestic violence.

CALVIN UNIVERSITY JANUARY SERIES

JAN. 27-31 | 12:30PM

We will live-stream the Calvin January Series Monday-Friday in the chapel. For a synopsis of each speaker, visit calvin.edu/january-series/speakers

CONFIRMATION MEETING | FEB. 9

A Confirmation information meeting will be held on Sunday, Feb. 9 following the service. Students in 8th grade and older are invited. Reach out to Pastor Ruth with any questions.

INTRODUCING CARING FRIENDS A MINISTRY OF MAYFLOWER

Caring Friends is the ministry formerly known as Deacons. Contact Murry Idema for more information.

SAVE THE DATE - ART CAMP | JUNE 9-12

Mark your calendar for Art Camp! Registration is open! mayflowerchurch.org/artcamp

NEW MEMBER CLASS

Are you interested in becoming a member of Mayflower? Please reach out to office@mayflowerchurch.org to share your interest.

WORKSHOP | TODAY | 12PM



How to Be a Faithful Friend: Caring for Others, a workshop led by Rev. Dr. Bob Livingston, Rev. Ruth Bell Olsson, Betsy Willey, and the Caring Friends. Light lunch provided.

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

Dale and Ellen DeHaan's daughter, **Michelle**, has arrived safely home from her medical mission to Sudan. Their granddaughter, **Rebekah**, will continue to serve there for a couple weeks. (1/14)

We give praise with the family of **Huxley DeCoster** who was baptized 1/12. (1/12)

It is with great joy that **Gary and Gwen Wallin** announce the birth of Neve Alexandra Jones, born to daughter, Carley, and Alex Jones on Dec. 18, 2024. Born 4 weeks early, mama and baby are doing well. (1/9)

PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Please pray for long time member, **Helen Bellows** as she resides in hospice care at Clark on Keller Lake. (1/14)

PRAY FOR THOSE WHO MOURN

Rev. Sara A. Fetty, passed away peacefully in her home on Jan. 12. Her memorial service was Jan. 25 at Park Congregational Church. Our thoughts and prayers are with Rev. Maurice Fetty and family as they mourn her death. (1/14)

Karlene Werner, who participated in Mayflower's Chancel Choir and Bell Choir, died Jan. 2. A Celebration of Life was held Saturday, Jan. 11 at Mayflower Church. Please pray for her family as they mourn her death. (1/7)

Paula Gaylord, who was a former Christian Ed. director and Bible study leader at Mayflower, passed away on Jan. 1 after a prolonged battle with cancer. We pray for her family as they mourn her death. (1/7)

PRAY FOR THE WORLD

We pray for the alleviation of suffering. (1/22)

We pray for peace in places of conflict. (1/22)

We pray for the wisdom and compassion of world leaders. (1/22)

We pray for a successful cease fire in Gaza and the de-escalation of violence. (1/16)

Pray for the people affected by the wildfires in California. (1/9)

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

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

Abby Brooks, Interim Children & Youth Music Director | Kristen Van Stee, Communications Coordinator

Jana DeShane and David Schellenberg, Facilities Team

cover art from: *bible.art*

THE TRIUNE GOD

22

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

Henry van Dyke, 1852-1933

Arr. from Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770-1827

1. Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore Thee, God of glo - ry,
 2. All Thy works with joy sur-round Thee, Earth and heav'n re -
 3. Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, Ev - er bless - ing,
 4. Mor - tals, join the hap - py cho - rus, Which the morn - ing

Lord of love; Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore Thee,
 flect Thy rays, Stars and an - gels sing a - round Thee,
 ev - er blest, Well-spring of the joy of liv - ing,
 stars be - gan; Fa - ther love is reign - ing o'er us,

O - p'ning to the sun a - bove. Melt the clouds of
 Cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise. Field and for - est,
 O - cean depth of hap - py rest! Thou our Fa - ther,
 Broth - er love binds man to man. Ev - er sing - ing,

sin and sad - ness, Drive the dark of doubt a - way;
 vale and moun - tain, Flow - ery mead - ow, flash - ing sea,
 Christ our Broth - er, All who live in love are Thine;
 march we on - ward, Vic - tors in the midst of strife,

Fourth verse: "Our God's love is reigning o'er us,
 binding us in one great plan!"

HYMN TO JOY
 8.7.8.7 D

THE TRIUNE GOD

Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness,
Chant - ing bird and flow - ing foun - tain,
Teach us how to love each oth - er,
Joy - ful mu - sic leads us sun - ward

Fill us with the light of day!
Call us to re - joice in Thee.
Lift us to the joy di - vine.
In the tri - umph song of life. A - men.

Good and gracious God, we come to You with thanksgiving for all Your many blessings. We are surrounded this day, and every day, with signs of Your truth and power. Open our eyes, ears and hearts to the glory of Your love. We thank You especially for:

The beauty and power of Your creation.

The gift of Christ, who brings peace and life.

The work of Your Holy Spirit, guiding us and bringing us insights to Your will.

The bright faith of new believers, the abiding devotion of Your loyal followers,
and all companions on our journeys of discipleship.

All relationships of love and caring, teaching us of Your love.

The satisfaction of work well done.

Opportunities, courage, and energy to serve You and share Your love.

The ministries of our church, reaching out in faithful service in Your name.

The gifts of our leaders, ministers, teachers, musicians, and administrators.

Each member of our church, created by You in special ways for faith and service.

And for all the particular blessings of this day.

God of joy, our hearts are filled to overflowing with the fullness of Your blessings. Give us the strength, courage, and power to live as You have created us, transformed according to Your holy will. We offer these prayers of praise in the name of Jesus our Redeemer.
Amen.

Rev. Susan LeFeber

THE TRIUNE GOD

226

Spirit of the Living God

St. 1, Daniel Iverson, 1890–1977
Sts. 2, 3, Lowell Alexander, 1963–

Daniel Iverson, 1890–1977

1. Spir - it of the liv - ing God, Fall a-fresh on me,
2. Soul of heav - en, heart of God, Wash o - ver me,
3. Ho - ly pres-ence, love di-vine, Cast out my fear,

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, Fall a-fresh on me.
Soul of heav - en, heart of God, Wash o - ver me.
Ho - ly pres-ence, love di-vine, Cast out my fear.

Break me, melt me, mold me, fill me.
Cleanse me, teach me, hold me, reach me.
Shield me, free me, call me, lead me.

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, Fall a-fresh on me,
Soul of heav - en, heart of God, Wash o - ver me,
Ho - ly pres-ence, love di-vine, Cast out my fear,

IVERSON
7.5.7.5.8.7.5

GOD'S COVENANT PEOPLE

547 Lord of the Church, We Pray for Our Renewing

Timothy Dudley-Smith, 1936-

Traditional Irish Melody
Arr. by John Barnard, 1948-

1. Lord of the church, we pray for our re - new - ing: Christ o - ver
2. Lord of the church, we seek a Fa - ther's bless - ing, A true re -
3. Lord of the church, we long for our u - nit - ing, True to one

all, our un - di - vid - ed aim. Fire of the
pent - ance and a faith re - stored, A swift o -
call - ing, by one vi - sion stirred; One cross pro -

Spir - it, burn for our en - du - ing, Wind of the
be - dience and a new pos - sess - ing, Filled with the
claim - ing and one faith re - cit - ing, One in the

Spir - it, fan the liv - ing flame! We turn to
Ho - ly Spir - it of the Lord! We turn to
truth of Je - sus and His word! So lead us

LONDONDERRY AIR
11.10.11.10.11.10.11.10

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GOD'S COVENANT PEOPLE



Christ a - mid our fear and fail - ing, The will that
Christ from all our rest - less striv - ing, Un - num - bered
on; till toil and trou - ble end - ed, One church tri -



lacks the cour - age to be free, The wea - ry
voic - es with a sin - gle prayer: The liv - ing
um - phant one new song shall sing, To praise His



la - bors, all but un - a - vail - ing, To bring us
wa - ter for our souls' re - viv - ing, In Christ to
glo - ry, ris - en and as - cend - ed, Christ o - ver



near - er what a church should be.
live, and love and serve and care.
all, the ev - er - last - ing King!

