

# MAYFLOWER



CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

FEBRUARY 8, 2026

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

**Bold** text or music score indicates congregational response.

Prayer request cards may be placed in the offering and will be added to our prayer list.

***As you enter the sanctuary quietly, we invite you to prepare your hearts for worship.***

***Please silence all devices and be present with us.***

***If you need to step out, the service is live-streamed in the Chapel.***

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### PRELUDE

*Cantilene in F*

Dr. Julia Brown

by Joseph Rheinberger (1839-1901)

### WELCOME & PASSING OF THE PEACE

Rev. Ruth Bell Olsson & Rev. Kent Dobson

Greeting: The peace of Christ be with you.

Response: And also with you.

### NEWS OF THE CHURCH

Rachael Cooley

### OUTREACH MOMENT

Linda Rubingh, Co-Founder and CEO of New City Kids

### INTROIT

*Preces*

Chancel Choir

by Philip Stopford

O Lord, open thou our lips. And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

O God, make speed to save us. O Lord, make haste to help us.

Praise ye the Lord. The Lord's Name be praised.

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Dobson

Leader: At twelve years old, Jesus lingered in the temple, listening, questioning, and choosing his Father's house.

Today, we stand at a threshold. Between childhood and calling, between what has been given and what must now be chosen.

God is still speaking. Wisdom is still inviting. The Spirit still calls each of us by name.

People: May we listen for the deeper call.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN 353 (stand as you are able) *Be Thou My Vision*

SLANE

## OPENING PRAYER (remain standing)

Rev. Dobson

Leader: God of growth, you met Jesus in the temple as he stepped toward the work you had prepared for him. Today, we give thanks for these young people who stand at the edge of deeper faith—no longer carried only by the promises of others but beginning to answer your call for themselves. Grant them courage to seek you, wisdom to ask honest questions, and freedom to follow where your Spirit leads.

People: **And for all of us, renew our own “yes” to the life you are calling us into, through Jesus Christ, who invites us to grow in wisdom, faith, and love. Amen.**

## GLORIA PATRI (remain standing)

**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.**

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Rachael Cooley

## RITE OF CONFIRMATION

Frances Dobson, Blair Haddad, Colette Hages, William Kemppainen, Grant Martin, Dylan McMahon, Tanya Moons, Emma Grace Nista, Jack Schneider, Bella Stares, Nina Trost, Charlie Weaver, and Dori Weiler

## AFFIRMATION OF MAYFLOWER COVENANT

I acknowledge Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, and covenant with this church to love the Lord my God with all my heart, and with all my soul, with all my strength, and with all my mind, and to love my neighbor as myself.

## CHARGE FOR CONFIRMATION

## INTRODUCTION OF CONFIRMANDS AND BIBLE PRESENTATION

## CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER FOR CONFIRMANDS

**O Lord, as we support these confirmands and embrace them as new members of this church, we pray for you to uphold these young people by your Holy Spirit. Give them the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forevermore. Amen.**

## CHORAL BLESSING

*A Celtic Prayer*  
by Barry Peters

Chancel Choir

May the Christ who walks on wounded feet walk with you on the road,  
may the Christ who serves with wounded hands stretch out your hands so serve.  
May the Christ who loves with a wounded heart open up your hearts to Love.

May you see Christ in ev'ry one you meet,  
and may ev'ry one you meet see the face of Christ in you. Amen.

<b>SCRIPTURE READING</b>	Luke 2:41-52 PEW BIBLE, PAGE 725	Rev. Dobson
	Leader: The Word of the Lord.	
	<b>All: Thanks be to God!</b>	
<b>SERMON</b>	<i>Confirmation for All of Us</i>	Rev. Bell Olsson
<b>OFFERTORY PRAYER</b>		Rev. Dobson
<b>OFFERTORY HYMN 516</b> (remain seated)	<i>I Was There to Hear Your Burning Cry</i>	WATERLIFE
<b>DOXOLOGY</b> (stand as you are able)	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.	
<b>CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER</b>		Rev. Dobson
<b>LORD'S PRAYER</b>	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.	
<b>HYMN 541</b> (stand as you are able)	<i>Here I Am, Lord</i>	HERE I AM LORD
<b>ASSOCIATE PASTOR SEARCH COMM. ANNOUNCEMENT</b>	Susan Laffrey, co-chair	
<b>BENEDICTION</b> (remain standing)		Rev. Bell Olsson
<b>CHORAL BLESSING</b> (remain standing)	<i>Go In Love</i> by James Culver	Children's Choirs
	Go in love, fear not the dark night. Go in love, take with you God's light. Go in love, may your love shine bright. Go in love.  Live in love, feel still a warm glow. Live in love, in you will joy flow. Live in love, cause life to be so. Live in love. Amen.	
<b>POSTLUDE</b>	<i>Wir glauben all an einen Gott</i> BWV 680 (We all believe in One God) by J. S. Bach	Dr. Brown

**Please join us for coffee and cake celebrating our confirmants  
in the Atrium after the service. All are Welcome!**

If you would like to provide cookies for the Sunday reception,  
please email [Rachael@MayflowerChurch.org](mailto:Rachael@MayflowerChurch.org)

# MAYFLOWER CHURCH PRESENTS:

## “Rooted: How to Grow Secure Kids in a Wobbly World”

Join us at Mayflower on Wednesdays at 4:30pm  
as we continue our adult learning series.



**FEB. 11** | Nature and the Art of Growing Up

**FEB. 18** | Creating Community for the Journey

Each session will be facilitated by Melissa VanderZyden, LMSW; Pastor Ruth Bell Olsson; Pastor Kent Dobson; and Rachael Cooley. Parents, Grandparents, and all those who care about children and youth are invited to join throughout the series.

## PRAYER, NATURE, and THE SOUL

### FEB. 28 | 9am-3pm | \$40 | LUNCH PROVIDED



Join Kent Dobson for a **ONE-DAY RETREAT** (9am-3pm) on February 28. This retreat is designed to be a break from ordinary life. We'll explore a deeper spiritual life through the natural world, new approaches to prayer, and some teaching around how the Soul is formed and shaped. The retreat will be held at the beautiful **Franciscan**

Life Process Center in Lowell, MI - a short drive out of town. Please  
RSVP by Feb. 23 by contacting the office (616.459.6255 or [office@mayflowerchurch.org](mailto:office@mayflowerchurch.org)).



### SCOTT BOSSCHER, Chancel Choir Director, to retire at the end of the choir season

Mayflower has been blessed with Scott's expertise, musicianship, and deep spirituality as he led our Chancel Choir for the past seven years. We are grateful for all he has given and taught us during his tenure. Scott and Jane are members at Mayflower and plan to stay and continue to be involved in the life of our church.

We invite you to join us as we celebrate Scott on Sunday, May 31.

# 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](mailto:office@mayflowerchurch.org).) Prayer Cards are also in the pews and collected during Sunday morning services.

## PRAISE FOR THOSE WHO CELEBRATE

We celebrate with **our confirmands**, our newest members.

## PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Please pray for **Mary Newton** as she plans to have knee replacement surgery on Feb. 2. We pray for a quick and smooth recovery. (1/27)

**Carol VerMeulen** asks for prayers as she is in Emmanuel Hospice Care with stage 4 lung cancer. (1/13)

**Jane Henderson** is home and in hospice care. (1/6)

**Chuck Henry** fell on Christmas Day and fractured his hip. Please keep him in your prayers as he recovers. (1/6)

**Lindy Crandell** is struggling with a lung disease and heart issues. She welcomes our prayers for strength to face the journey ahead. (1/6)

## PRAY FOR THOSE WHO MOURN

Please pray for the family of **Barbara Gordon**. Barbara passed away Feb. 1, in Naples, FL. A service was held for her on Feb. 7 at Mayflower. (2/3)

Our hearts go out to **Kate and John Schneider** and Kate's mom, **Cindy** as they mourn the passing of Kate's father, Roger Bera. (2/3)

**Eric Britcher** passed away on Jan. 1. Keep his family in prayer as they mourn his passing. A memorial service was held at Mayflower on Jan. 10. (1/6)

**Leona Naylor** passed away on Jan. 3. A memorial service was held at Mayflower on Jan. 31. (1/10)

## PRAY FOR OUR COUNTRY & OUR WORLD

We acknowledge that there is a tremendous amount of turmoil here at home and around the world. We pray for courage and wisdom for our leaders - those in our community, state, and nation. We pray for the peace of Christ to reign in our world.

# NEW MEMBERS CLASS

**Sundays | 9-10am | Chapel  
March 1 and 8**

**- CHILDCARE AVAILABLE IN THE NURSERY -**

**Whether you are new to Mayflower,  
ready to become a member, or just curious to learn more -  
ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND!**

**To reserve your spot call 616-459-6255 or email [office@mayflowerchurch.org](mailto:office@mayflowerchurch.org)**

# Weekly Calendar

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

## Today, February 8

10:30am | Confirmation Sunday

2-4pm | Super bowling (meet at AMF, friends welcome!)

## THIS WEEK

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

**10** Breakfast Club | 6:30am  
Men's Bible Study | 8am  
Needlepoint & Stitching | 10am  
Worship & Music Mtg. | 4pm  
*Cub Scouts\** | 6pm

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

**12** Women's City Club\* | 9:30am  
Women's Bible Study | 10am  
Congregational Event Mtg. | 4pm  
*Boy Scouts\** | 6:30pm

**13** Men's Bible Study | 7am  
Grown Ups Gather | 5pm

**15** Transfiguration Sunday | 10:30am

① ② ③ **February 18** is Ash Wednesday, beginning the season of Lent. We invite you to join us for a 40-day Lenten journey through scripture and reflection using the *Pray as You Go* app. These short reflections, readings, and music will nourish your soul during this season. We think something important will happen if we all commit to being fed by the scripture this Lent. The app is very easy to use, and appropriate for all ages. Scan the QR code to download, or visit [prayasyougo.org](http://prayasyougo.org).

## Meet Our Confirmands



Frances Dobson



Blair Haddad



Colette Hages



William  
Kemppainen



Grant Martin



Dylan McMahon



Tanya Moons



Emma Grace  
Nista



Jack Schneider



Bella Stares



Nina Trost



Charlie Weaver



Dori Weiler

# Mayflower Small Groups: Building Community

Get plugged into Mayflower, consider joining one of the following small groups. To get involved, contact the church office (616-459-6255 or [office@MayflowerChurch.org](mailto:office@MayflowerChurch.org)). These groups meet on a regular basis either at the church, or a restaurant, or someone's home, if noted. For up to date information, check the web calendar.

## 29UP (For ages 29+)

Adults gather for a time of food and fellowship at various locations.

## 69UP (For ages 69+)

Adults gather for a time of food and fellowship at various locations.

**Chancel Choir** – Wednesdays | 7:30pm

## Doubts on Draft

3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month | 5pm

**Next meeting: Feb 19**

**Vivant Brewery (925 Cherry St. SE)**

Have questions about faith, spirituality, the Bible, your own story? Gather with Pastor Kent Dobson over a pint for informal conversation and community.

## Grown-ups Gather & Graze (For ages 49+)

Adults gather for a time of food and fellowship. Our fun and fellowship will be Caribbean themed. Please bring an appetizer and beverage of your choice.

**High School Breakfast Club** – Tuesdays | 6:30am

High school students meet at Wolfgang's restaurant for breakfast.

## Ladies' Luncheon

**Next meeting: Feb. 17 at 11:30am**

**Acapulco Mexican Grill (2230 E. Beltline)**

Women of all ages and stages gather for a time of food and fellowship at various local restaurants.

RSVP: Maris Rosema (616-821-0413)

## LGBTQ Support Circle

4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month | 6pm | Library

**Next meeting: Feb. 26 at 6pm**

Support for parents, grandparents, and friends of LGBTQ. This group is open to any who are seeking community as they support their LGBTQ loved ones.

**Mayflower Bells** – Wednesdays | 6:30pm

**Needlepoint & Stitching** – Tuesdays | 10am | Atrium

## Priscilla Circle

1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month | 11am

The women of Mayflower's Priscilla Circle volunteer and raise funds for causes associated with the church and our community.

## Women's Bible Studies

Mondays | 9:30am | Cindy DeBoer

Mondays | 5pm | Helen Bell

Thursdays | 10am | Pastor Steve Armfield

## Men's Bible Studies

Mondays | 5pm

Tuesdays | 8am

Fridays | 7am

## Partnering Organization Small Groups

These groups meet at Mayflower on a regular basis.

**Al-Anon** – Wednesdays | 7pm | Parlor

**Boy Scout Troop 271** – Thursdays | 7:30pm

**Cub Scouts** – Tuesdays | 6pm



## SCOUT SUNDAY Pancake Breakfast

**FEB. 22 | FOLLOWING SERVICE**

Pancakes, sausage, eggs, hash browns, fruit, coffee & juice - served by Troop 271.

**\$10 per person | or \$30 for a family**

All proceeds go towards Gettysburg trip.

Pay on the 22nd, or prepay:  
venmo (@Susan-Keil-3, 7929).

**Please RSVP with the QR code  
to assist us with planning.**



## ELECTRONIC GIVING OPTIONS

Your generous gifts ensure Mayflower's current and future ministry. Thank you.

For your convenience we offer 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.

# LENT BY CANDLELIGHT

Join us on Mondays  
this Lenten Season

6:30pm | Community Meal  
7pm | Music, Reflection,  
and Prayer

Find a *Wellspring in the  
Wilderness* during Lent  
at Mayflower Church.

ALL ARE WELCOME

**MAYFLOWER**  
CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
616-459-6255 | MayflowerChurch.org

2345 Robinson Road SE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49506



FEB. 23 | Julia Brown, *harpsichord*  
DANCE AND LAMENT:  
MUSIC OF FROBERGER AND LOUIS COUPERIN



MAR. 2 | Alison Reese, *harp*  
RESONATING IN THE STILLNESS:  
HARP MUSIC FOR LENTEN REFLECTION



MAR. 9 | Duo Tarasque  
(Howell Petty, voice; Luce Burrell, lute)  
LA FONTAYNE: LATE MEDIEVAL FRENCH  
AND ITALIAN MUSIC



MAR. 16 | Karen Krummel, *cello*; Robert Edwards, *piano*  
SOULFUL CONTEMPLATION



SCAN HERE TO LEARN MORE  
ABOUT BECOMING A FRIEND  
OF MONDAYS AT MAYFLOWER

## MAYFLOWER CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

2345 Robinson Rd SE, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49506 | 616-459-6255 | MayflowerChurch.org

Rev. Ruth Bell Olsson, Senior Pastor | Rev. Kent Dobson, Interim Associate Pastor

Dr. Julia Brown, Director of Music & Organist

Rachael Cooley, Executive Director of Youth, Outreach, & Operations

Amy Dunham, Office Manager | Andy Ely, Business Manager | Murry Idema, Care Representative

Kristen Van Stee, Communications Coordinator | David Schellenberg and Kathy Tetzlaff, Facilities

Scott Bosscher, Chancel Choir Director | Dr. Mark Webb and Melia Colwell, Midweek Choir Directors

Brennen Kartes, Director of Midweek Bells | Aaron Wheeler, Children's Choir Accompanist

**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.

## 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

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

## GOD'S COVENANT PEOPLE

**516 I Was There to Hear Your Burning Cry**

John C. Ylvisaker, 1937-

John C. Ylvisaker, 1937-

*Unison*

Unison

1. "I was there to hear your born - ing cry, I'll be  
 2. "When you heard the won - der of the Word I was  
 3. "In the mid - dle a - ges of your life, Not too

1. "I was there to hear your born - ing cry, I'll be  
 2. "When you heard the won - der of the Word I was  
 3. "In the mid - dle a - ges of your life, Not too

there when you are old. I re - joiced the day you  
 there to cheer you on; You were raised to praise the  
 old, no long - er young, I'll be there to guide you

were bap - tized To see your life un - fold. I was  
 liv - ing Lord, To whom you now be - long. If you  
 through the night, Com - plete what I've be - gun. When the

there when you were but a child, With a  
 find some - one to share your time And you  
 eve - ning gen - tly clos - es in And you

WATERLIFE  
9.7.9.6 D

GOD'S COVENANT PEOPLE

faith to suit you well; In a blaze of light you  
 join your hearts as one, I'll be there to make your  
 shut your weary eyes, I'll be there as I have

wan - dered off To find where de - mons dwell."  
 vers - es rhyme From dusk till ris - ing sun."  
 al - ways been With just one more sur - prise."

4. "I was there to hear your born - ing cry, I'll be

there when you are old. I re - joiced the day you

were bap - tized, To see your life un - fold."

## GOD'S COVENANT PEOPLE

541

Isaiah 6:8  
Daniel J. Schutte, 1947

## Here I Am, Lord

Daniel L. Schutte, 1947-

Arr. by Michael Pope, SJ, Daniel L. Schutte, and John Weissrock

## verses

1. I, the Lord of sea and sky,  
2. I, the Lord of snow and rain,  
3. I, the Lord of wind and flame,  
I have heard My peo - ple  
I have borne My peo-ple's  
I will tend the poor and

cry.  
pain.  
lame.  
All who dwell in dark and sin  
I have wept for love of them.  
I will set a feast for them.  
My hand will  
They turn a -  
My hand will

save.  
way.  
save.  
I who made the stars of night,  
I will break their hearts of stone,  
Fin-est bread I will pro - vide

I will make their dark-ness bright.  
Give them hearts for love a - lone.  
Till their hearts be sat - is - fied.  
Who will bear My  
I will speak My  
I will give My

## HERE I AM, LORD 7.7.7.4 D with Refrain

## GOD'S COVENANT PEOPLE

Refrain

Am<sup>7</sup> G/B C Am G/B C D D/F# G Gsus<sup>4</sup>

light to them? Whom shall I send?  
 word to them. Whom shall I send?  
 life to them. Whom shall I send?  
Here I am, Lord.

G Gsus<sup>4</sup> Gmaj<sup>7/F#</sup> C/E C/D G Gsus<sup>4</sup> G

Is it I, Lord? I have heard You

Am<sup>7</sup> G/B C D D/F# G Gsus<sup>4</sup> G

call-ing in the night. I will go, Lord,

Gsus<sup>4</sup> G/F# C/E C/D G Gsus<sup>4</sup> G Am<sup>7</sup> D

if You lead me. I will hold Your peo - ple in my

1., 2. Gsus<sup>4</sup> G Gsus<sup>4</sup> G/F# C/E Dsus<sup>2</sup> D/F# 3. Gsus<sup>2,4</sup> G

heart. heart.