

MAYFLOWER

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

SUNDAY WORSHIP

August 9, 2026

MAYFLOWER SUMMER SERIES: Journey Through Genesis

This summer we will sing, study, reflect, and pray through the first book of the Bible.
We'll begin each week with a liturgical call to worship based on the Creation Story,
and the sermon will explore the major stories as they unfold in Genesis.

PRELUDE

Arioso
by J. S. Bach

Karolin Ravens-Banik, flute

WELCOME & PASSING OF THE PEACE

Rev. Ruth Bell Olsson

Greeting: The peace of Christ be with you.

Response: **And also with you.**

CALL TO WORSHIP

Greg Rhodes

Leader: In the beginning...

People: God created the heavens and the earth, and breathed life into humankind.

Leader: The Lord God placed the human in the garden of Eden.

People: To till it and keep it.

Leader: God formed us from the dust of the earth.

People: And breathed into us the breath of life.

OPENING HYMN 1 (stand as you are able)

Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

ST. ANNE

OPENING PRAYER

Rev. Bell Olsson

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

Rev. Bell Olsson

SCRIPTURE READING

Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28

Greg Rhodes

PEW BIBLE, PAGE 28

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

When You Hit Rock Bottom, It's Only Up From There

Rev. Darryl Kistler

HYMN 389 (stand as you are able)

Be Still, My Soul

FINLANDIA

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Rev. Bell Olsson

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Dan Michaud, tenor

Shall We Gather at the River

Karolin Ravens-Banik, flute

arr. Donald Busarow

Text may be found in the Hymnal #480

DOXOLOGY (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.**

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

Rev. Bell Olsson

LORD'S PRAYER (remain standing)

**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 541 (stand as you are able)

Here I Am, Lord

HERE I AM, LORD

BENEDICTION

Rev. Kistler

POSTLUDE

Sicilienne
by Philippe Gaubert

Karolin Ravens-Banik, flute

Please join us for coffee in the Atrium after the service.

If you would like to provide treats for the Sunday reception,
please email Rachael@MayflowerChurch.org



This morning we welcome **Rev. Darryl W. Kistler**, Senior Minister of First (Park) Congregational Church in downtown Grand Rapids. Before being called to West Michigan, Rev. Kistler served congregations in California, Montana, and Texas, as well as serving as Chaplain of Heidelberg University in Tiffin, OH. He earned a B.A. in Political Science and Philosophy at the University of Texas at San Antonio, and his MDIV from Brite Divinity School. Rev. Kistler lives in Kentwood with his wife, Tammie. In his spare time, you can often catch him in the backyard throwing the ball for his German Shepherd, Willow, or at the cinema enjoying a movie. He is thrilled to be worshipping at Mayflower for the very first time.

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 the engagement of **Brittany McNeil** and **Steve Hecker**. Brittany's daughter, Nina, is eager to be part of the upcoming festivities and ceremony.

PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Pray for **Joan Ross** who broke her right arm. (8/04)

Prayers for **Olivia Montgomery**, granddaughter of **Harold and Sharon Montgomery**, for a successful surgery and healing on Aug. 6. (7/28)

Maris Rosema asks for prayers for healing from a lung infection. (7/08)

PRAY FOR FRIENDS OF MAYFLOWER

We pray for **Sue Defoe's** friend **Wendy** who is undergoing treatments for brain cancer. (6/30)

Diane, friend of **Art and Marilyn Emery**, was recently diagnosed with cancer and is undergoing chemotherapy. We lift her up in prayer. (6/30)

PRAY FOR THOSE WHO MOURN

Prayers for the **Battershall family** after the loss of Shirley. Please also pray for the **Riddle family** after the loss of Brock. Ours hearts are with those who grieve and we remember and celebrate those we've lost. (8/04)

Prayers for the family of **Bob Nelson**. Bob passed on July 30. A visitation will be at Mayflower at 10am on August 21 and funeral at 11 am with a luncheon to follow. (8/04)

PRAY FOR THE WORLD

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth...God proclaimed them *good*.

As we pray for our world, let us pray with the heart of God. God loves the world God created and all of us who live in it. All of us. God desires peace, harmony and unity for God's people. May we be participants in bringing heaven to earth today and always. Amen.

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.

Calendar

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

Today, August 9

10:30am | Sunday Worship

AUGUST

- 11** Outreach Mtg. | 12pm
Council Mtg. | 6:30pm
- 12** BBQ and Waterslide | 5pm
*Al-Anon** | 7pm
- 13** *Women's City Club** | 11am
- 16** Sunday Worship | 10:30am

**SUMMER IS STILL SIZZLING,
SO LET'S GET TOGETHER!**

Waterslide & BBQ

WED., AUGUST 12 | 5-7PM

Mark your calendar for an evening of fun! We'll gather



in the middle lot for burgers
and hot dogs on the grill, chips,
lemonade, and a **HUGE waterslide**.
Everyone is welcome!

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**, 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, May-Flowers Ministry | **Rachel Blair**, Congregational Care Coordinator

Kristen Van Stee, Communications Coordinator | **Kathy Tetzlaff**, Facilities

Dr. Mark Webb, Chancel Choir Director | **Melia Colwell**, Director of Children's Music and Worship

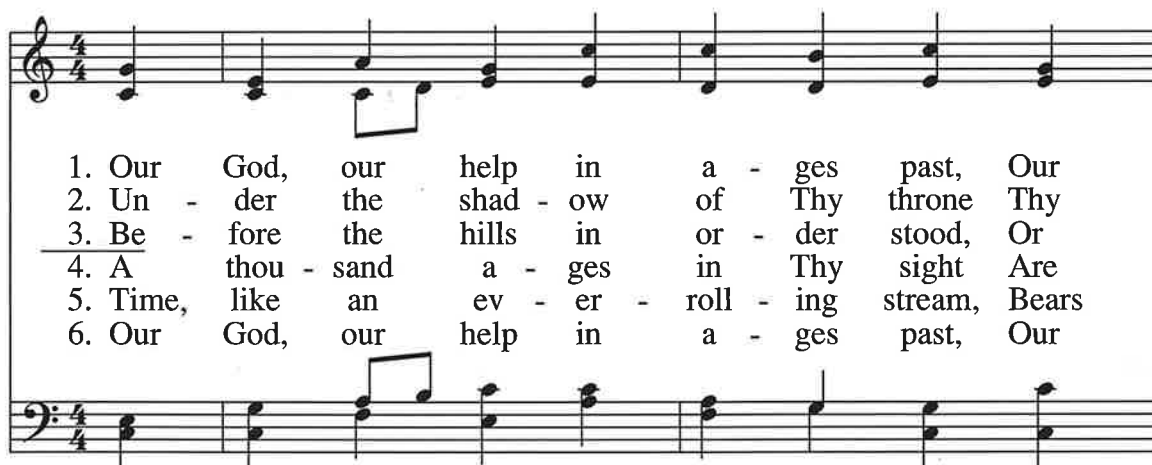
WE BELIEVE: Faith is a journey, God is good, Jesus saves, and the Spirit
leads us to faith, hope, and love as we honor the dignity of all God's people.

Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

1

Isaac Watts, 1674–1748

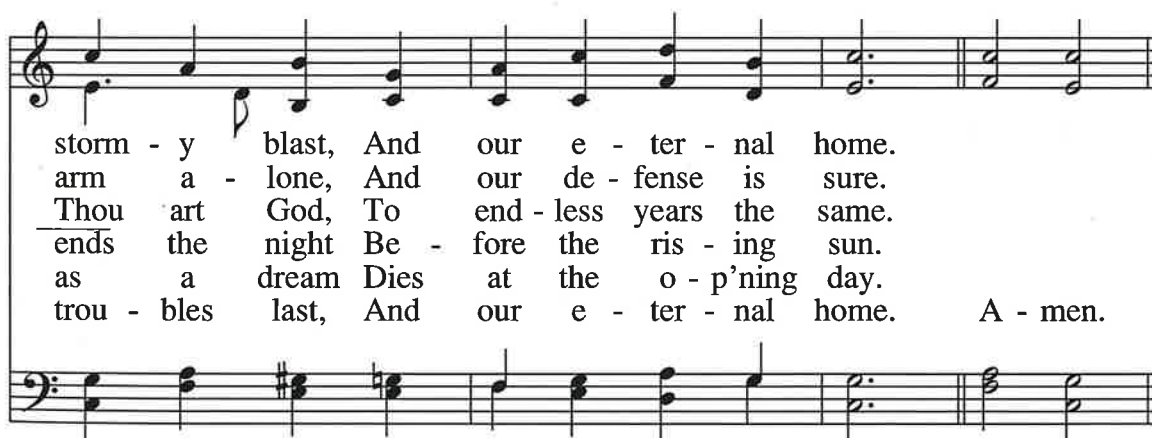
Attrib. to William Croft, 1678–1727



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

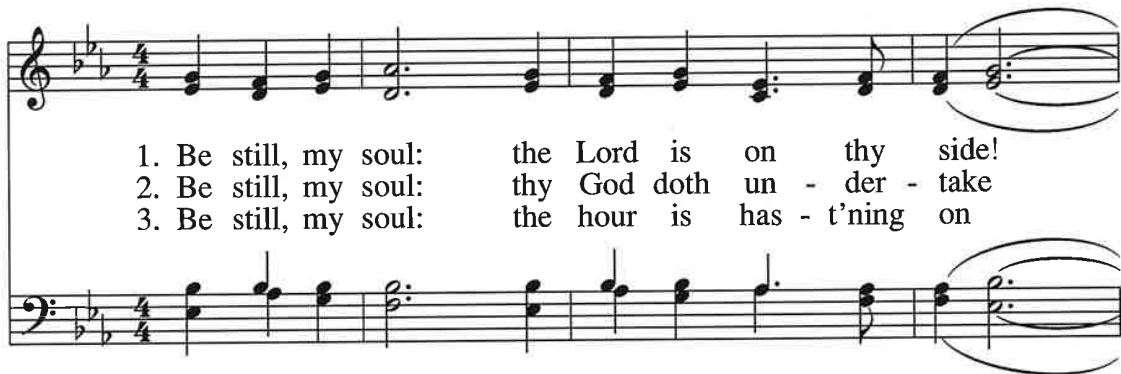
389

Be Still, My Soul

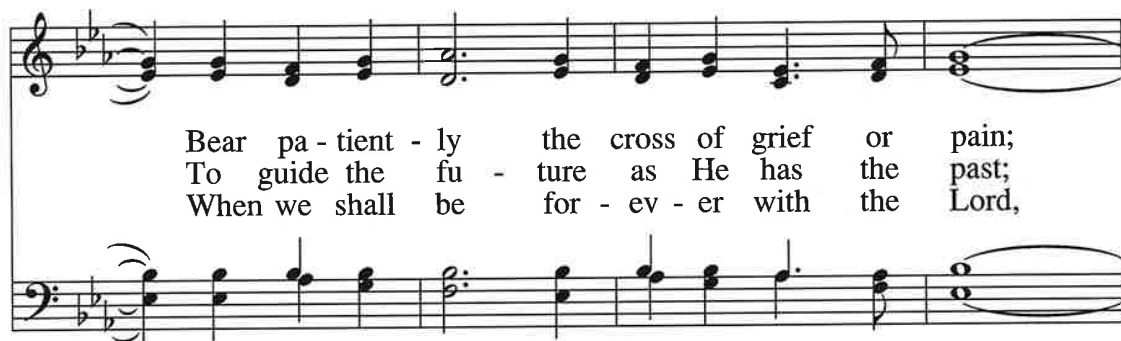
Katharina von Schlegel, 1697-?

Jean Sibelius, 1865-1957

Trans. by Jane L. Borthwick, 1813-1897



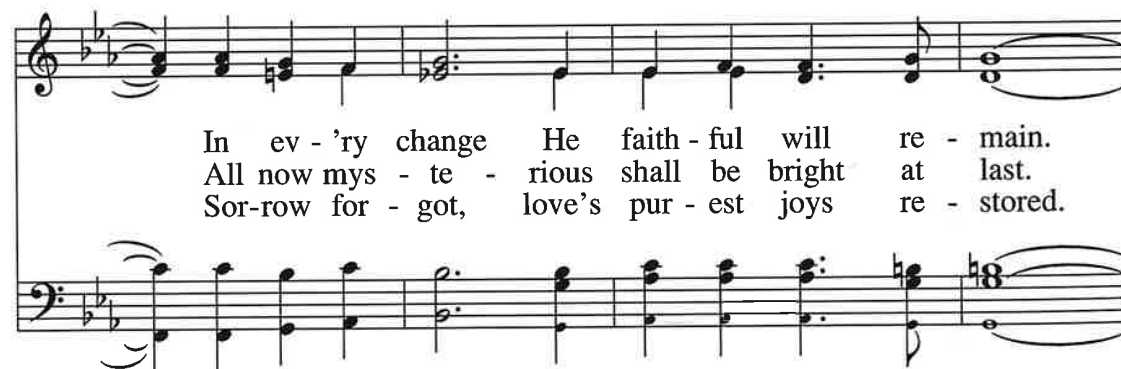
1. Be still, my soul: the Lord is on thy side!
 2. Be still, my soul: thy God doth un - der - take
 3. Be still, my soul: the hour is has - t'ning on



Bear pa - tient - ly the cross of grief or pain;
 To guide the fu - ture as He has the past;
 When we shall be for - ev - er with the Lord,



Leave to thy God to or - der and pro - vide:
 Thy hope, thy con - fi - dence let noth - ing shake:
 When dis - ap - point - ment, grief, and fear are gone,



In ev - 'ry change He faith - ful will re - main.
 All now mys - te - rious shall be bright at last.
 Sor-row for - got, love's pur - est joys re - stored.

FINLANDIA
 10.10.10.10.10

GOD'S COVENANT PEOPLE

Be still, my soul: thy best, thy heav'n - ly Friend
Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still know
Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past,

Through thorn - y ways leads to a joy - ful end.
His voice who ruled them while He dwelt be - low.
All safe and bless - ed we shall meet at last.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The lyrics are written between the staves. The first system of music corresponds to the first three lines of lyrics, and the second system corresponds to the next three lines. The music is in a key with two flats (B-flat and E-flat) and a common time signature. The lyrics are: 'Be still, my soul: thy best, thy heav'n - ly Friend', 'Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still know', 'Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past,', 'Through thorn - y ways leads to a joy - ful end.', 'His voice who ruled them while He dwelt be - low.', and 'All safe and bless - ed we shall meet at last.'

Gracious God, quiet the tremors of my mind and heart so that I might know of Your ever-present and ever-generous power in my life and in all life.

Amid the challenges, insecurities and equivocations of my world, help me to see Your Spirit at work. Open my mind, open my heart, break open my life so that Your free-flowing and ever-loving presence might pour generously into my daily affairs, and into the lives of all who are hurting this day.

For in Your presence, God, our lives encounter the majesties of Your life. Our anxieties are calmed, our hearts are rested, our thoughts are ordered; for the Dayspring of Your eternal life is ours in Christ Jesus, the One who knows our suffering.

Emboldened with the promise of Your presence, I go forth to reflect Your light in all I encounter, confident that You are there, present and able.

Your peace permeates all there is. And all is well.

Amen.

Rev. Samuel Schaal

GOD'S COVENANT PEOPLE

541

Here I Am, Lord

Isaiah 6:8

Daniel L. Schutte, 1947-

Daniel L. Schutte, 1947-

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

Verses

G Unison C/G G C/G G

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

D G Em Am⁷ G/B C Am Am⁷/G

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

D/F# D⁷/C G/B D/A G C/G G

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

C/G G D G Em

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

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HERE I AM, LORD
 7.7.7.4 D with Refrain

GOD'S COVENANT PEOPLE

Refrain

Am⁷ G/B C Am G/B C D D/F# G GSUS⁴

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

G GSUS⁴ Gmaj⁷/F# C/E C/D G GSUS⁴ G

Is it I, Lord? I have heard You

Am⁷ G/B C D D/F# G GSUS⁴ G

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

GSUS⁴ G/F# C/E C/D G GSUS⁴ G Am⁷ D

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

1., 2. G GSUS⁴ G GSUS⁴ G/F# C/E DSUS² D/F# 3. GSUS^{2,4} G

heart. heart.