# MAYFLOWER CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH A SERVICE OF MORNING WORSHIP

Sunday, April 25, 2021, 10:30 a.m. Fourth Sunday of Easter

# Welcome and Greeting

**Prelude:** "Promised Land" (Trad. American Melody, arr. Jan Sanborn)

**Opening Sentences** 

Hymn 10: "Praise the Lord! Ye Heavens, Adore Him"

**Opening Prayer** 

**Special Music:** "The Ash Grove" (Trad. Welsh Melody, arr. Christine Anderson)

New Testament Reading: 1 John 3:16-24

We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help? Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him. And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

# Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

Gospel Reading: John 10:11-18

'I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.'

Sermon: "AGAPE LOVE: OUR ULTIMATE MARCHING ORDER"

**Hymn 377:** "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms"

Benediction

Benediction Response 580 (v. 1): "God Be With You 'Til We Meet Again"

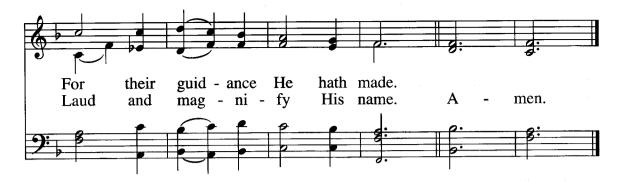
<u>Today's Participants</u>: Rev. Dr. Paul Patton, Barb Fuller, Jerry Fuller, Lorraine Finison, Shannon Spasova

### THE TRIUNE GOD



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### THE TRIUNE GOD



Lord, out of silence we come to You so that together we may thank You for blessing us, again and again. For the blessings of the past, for the joys of the present, and for the promises of the future, we thank You and praise You. We also lift up any who are suffering or aggrieved in any way. We ask that You heal them with Your presence in their lives. Sustain us, Lord, with the strength to change the changeable, and the bravery to begin, again and again, in Your name. May we work through the challenges of life in such a way that we emerge as more sensitive and caring people. Incline our hearts as we worship, pray, and fellowship together, and as we behold the glory of Your creation. And may the silent prayers offered in the sanctuary of our soul find favor in Your sight as, with faith and hope, we await Your loving response. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Members of the Hyde Park Congregational Church

# GOD'S COVENANT PEOPLE

Lean - ing

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377 **Leaning on the Everlasting Arms** Anthony J. Showalter, 1858-1924 Deuteronomy 33:27 Elisha A. Hoffman, 1839-1929 1. What fel - low - ship, what joy 2. O walk pil - grim way, how sweet to in this 3. What have Ι to dread, what have to fear, Lean ing on the ev er - last ing arms; What bless - ed - ness, what is mine, a a peace how bright the path 0 grows from day to day, I have bless - ed peace with my Lord so near, Lean ing the ev er - last on ing arms. Lean ing, lean ing,

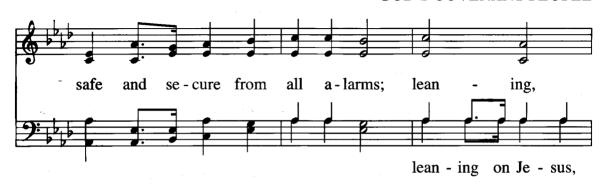
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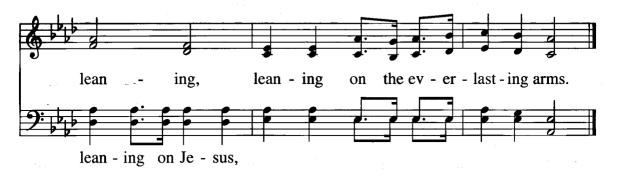
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## GOD'S COVENANT PEOPLE





### A Child's Prayer

Dear God in heaven, please keep me to be the little child upon Thy knee.

Please help me to be the person I want to be: the little child upon Thy knee.

Please help me to be the person I want to be, loving and kind for other people to see: the little child upon Thy knee.

Please help me to stand and hold Thy hand as I pass through this beautiful land, while You hold me closely in Thy hand.

A better person I want to be, just another little child upon Thy knee.

Dear God, I love You so much; please help me to pass upon this way with Your gentle touch.

Please help me to be the little child upon Thy knee.

In Jesus' name we pray.
Amen.

Norma A. Funk