

MAYFLOWER CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
A SERVICE OF MORNING WORSHIP
Sunday, February 7, 2021, 10:30 a.m.
Fifth Sunday After Epiphany
Communion Sunday

Welcome and Greeting

Prelude: "Amazing Grace" (Virginia Harmony, 1831, arr. Cindy Berry)

Opening Sentences

Hymn 399: "He Touched Me"

Opening Prayer

Special Music: "How Can I Keep From Singing?" (Robert Lowry, arr. Michael Burkhardt)

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

Gospel Reading: Mark 1:40-45

A leper came to him begging him, and kneeling he said to him, 'If you choose, you can make me clean.' Moved with pity, Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him, and said to him, 'I do choose. Be made clean!' Immediately the leprosy left him, and he was made clean. After sternly warning him he sent him away at once, saying to him, 'See that you say nothing to anyone; but go, show yourself to the priest, and offer for your cleansing what Moses commanded, as a testimony to them.' But he went out and began to proclaim it freely, and to spread the word, so that Jesus could no longer go into a town openly, but stayed out in the country; and people came to him from every quarter.

Sermon: "DIFFICULT MINISTRY CHOICES"

Observance of Holy Communion

Hymn 379: "There Is a Balm in Gilead"

Benediction

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

Today's Participants: Pastor Mark McCormick, DeeAnn McCormick, Marsha Hacker, Barb Fuller, Gail Sawyer

Christ Is the World's True Light

George W. Briggs, 1875-1959

Ahasuerus Fritsch, 1649-1701
Harm. by J. S. Bach, 1685-1750

1. Christ is the world's true light, Its cap-tain of sal - va - tion,
2. In Christ all ra - ces meet, Their an - cient feuds for - get - ting,
3. One Lord, in one great name U - nite us all who claim You;

The day - star clear and bright Of ev - 'ry land and na - tion;
The whole round world com - plete, From sun - rise to its set - ting;
Cast out our pride and shame That hin - der all to name You;

New life, new hope a - wakes Wher - e'er we own God's way; From
When Christ is throned as Lord, All shall for - sake their fear To
The world has wait - ed long, Has la - bored long in pain; To

bon - dage free - dom breaks, And night is turned to day.
plough-share beat the sword, To prun - ing-hook the spear.
heal its an - cient wrong. Come, Prince of peace, and reign. A-men.

THE TRIUNE GOD


147 We Have Come at Christ's Own Bidding

Carl P. Daw, Jr., 1944-

Leavitt's *The Christian Lyre*, 1830

Arr. by Jack Schrader, 1942-


Unison




1. We have come at Christ's own bid - ding To this high and
2. Light breaks through our clouds and shad - ows, Splen - dor bathes the
3. Strength - ened by this glimpse of glo - ry, Fear - ful lest our



ho - ly place, Where we wait with hope and long - ing
flesh - joined Word, Mo - ses and E - li - jah mar - vel
faith de - cline, We, like Pe - ter, find it tempt - ing



For some to - ken of God's grace. Here we pray for
As the heav'n - ly voice is heard. Eyes and hearts be -
To re - main and build a shrine. But true wor - ship



new as - sur - ance That our faith is not in vain,
hold with won - der How the Law and Proph - ets meet:
gives us cour - age To pro - claim what we pro - fess.

PLEADING SAVIOR

8.7.8.7 D

THE TRIUNE GOD

Search - ing like those first dis - ci - ples
Christ with gar - ments drenched in bright - ness,
That our dai - ly lives may prove us

The first system of musical notation consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff, both in a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The treble staff contains a melody of eighth and quarter notes, while the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes.

For a sign both clear and plain.
Stands trans - fig - ured and com - plete.
Peo - ple of the God we bless.

The second system of musical notation continues the melody and accompaniment from the first system. It features the same treble and bass clef staves, maintaining the B-flat key signature. The lyrics conclude with a double bar line at the end of the piece.

Most gracious and loving God, we have been called as Your people to this holy place by Your Son, Jesus the Christ. We gather in hopeful anticipation that we might experience a sense of Your grace as we worship. As did Your first disciples, we look for some assurance that our faith is not in vain. We pray, as your disciples in this time and place, that You transform us as You did those first disciples, and enable us to live as Your people this day and every day. May we have the courage to proclaim our faith so that others might see You through the lives that we live. We pray with thankful hearts, hearts full to overflowing, in the name of Your Son. Amen.

Rev. Dr. E. Neil Hunt

COMMUNION RITUAL

CONFESSION

All: Forgiving God, we come to this table knowing that we often fall short of all that you desire for us. Sometimes we fail both as individuals and as a community of faith. We seek your mercy and grace, as we ask you for forgiveness and renewal, that we may better follow you. In the name of your Son, Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Minister: We have this assurance that no matter how far we wander, or how far away we feel from God, we never move outside the boundaries of God's gracious love for us. We are loved, we are forgiven, we are blessed. We celebrate open communion here at Mayflower Church, in the tradition of our Beloved Teacher who welcomed all to the Supper, even those who betrayed him, or ran away in fear.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Minister: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast. You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God, and spoke to us through your prophets. And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!

THE INVITATION

Minister: We welcome you to this table, whether you are a member of this church, another church, or no church. All you need is faith, or a desire for faith. This is the time when we all acknowledge our past failures, sins, and disappointments, and present ourselves to God, who offers us love, forgiveness, and wholeness. Remember, God accepts us just where we are and who we are at this very moment in our lives.

SHARING OF THE ELEMENTS

Minister: On the night when He was betrayed, as Jesus sat at supper with His disciples, He took the bread, blessed and broke it, and said to them, "Take, eat: this is My body, which is broken for you. Do this in remembrance of Me." After supper Jesus took the cup, gave thanks, and blessed it, saying, "This is the cup of the new testament in My blood: do this as often as you drink it in remembrance of Me. For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes again." Ministering to you in His name, I give you this bread. . . Ministering to you in His name, I give you this cup.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

All: We give thanks to you, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this memorial of your love, and have granted to us the presence of your Son, even Jesus Christ our Lord, and we ask you to strengthen our faith in you and to increase our love toward one another, through Him, our Redeemer. Amen.