# MAYFLOWER CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH A SERVICE OF MORNING WORSHIP

Sunday, July 4, 2021, 10:30 a.m. Sixth Sunday After Pentecost Communion Sunday

### Welcome and Greeting

**Prelude:** "America the Beautiful" (Samuel A. Ward, arr. Cindy Berry)

### **Opening Sentences**

Hymn 456: "God of Grace and God of Glory"

**Opening Prayer** 

Special Music: "Let Us Break Bread Together" (American Folk Melody, arr. Craig Courtney)

### Giving and Receiving of Our Gifts Doxology

# Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

### New Testament Reading: 2 Corinthians 12:2-10

I know a person in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows. And I know that such a person—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows— was caught up into Paradise and heard things that are not to be told, that no mortal is permitted to repeat. On behalf of such a one I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. But if I wish to boast, I will not be a fool, for I will be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think better of me than what is seen in me or heard from me, even considering the exceptional character of the revelations. Therefore, to keep me from being too elated, a thorn was given to me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me, to keep me from being too elated. Three times I appealed to the Lord about this, that it would leave me, but he said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness.' So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.

# Sermon: "FINDING GRACE IN EVERY WEAKNESS"

# **Observance of Holy Communion**

Hymn 311: "We Shall Overcome"

### **Benediction**

### Benediction Response 576: "May the Lord Bless You"

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

### **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...

#### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

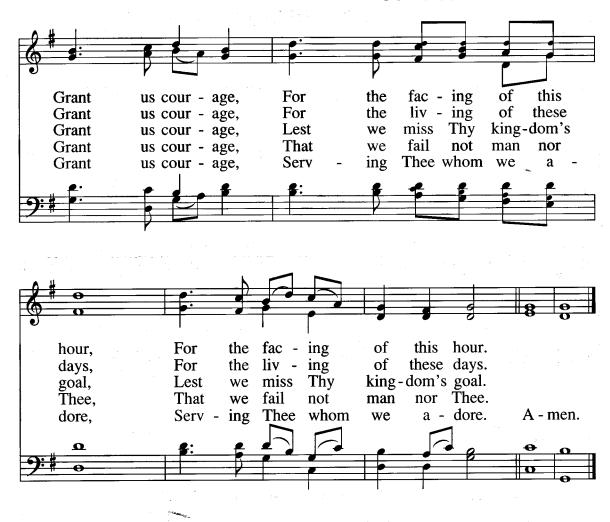
*All:* We give thanks to you, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this memorial of your love, and have granted to us the presence of your Son, even Jesus Christ our Lord, and we ask you to strengthen our faith in you and to increase our love toward one another, through Him, our Redeemer. Amen.



<sup>8.7.8.7.8.7.7</sup> 

Fourth verse: "In the fight to set *us* free" and "So that we may honor Thee" or "So that we do not fail Thee"

**GOD'S COVENANT PEOPLE** 



God of grace and glory, we lift up our hearts in praise to You this day. You have ever reached out to us in the midst of our sin and darkness to shine Your light of hope into our lives. Before we even knew to call out Your name, You answered our cries. Before our prayers of longing left our lips, You heard and answered.

Merciful Lord, we acknowledge that all we are and all we have flows from Your hand. In the power of the Holy Spirit, You free us from the chains that bind us, and so we thank You. By Your gift of grace, You meet our every need, and so we adore You. With Your blessing of love, You anoint us, day by day, hour by hour, moment by moment, and so we praise You.

Holy God, sanctify us and teach us to serve You as true followers of the Servant King. Grant us wisdom to discern Your will, and courage to walk faithfully in its light, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### Pam Jensen

#### **GOD'S REVELATION**

# We Shall Overcome

311 Spiritual

Spiritual Adapt. and arr. by William Farley Smith, 1941-1997



- 4. We shall live in peace,5. The Lord will see us through,

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#### **IN SOCIETY**

Justice and Peace

