

MAYFLOWER CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
A SERVICE OF MORNING WORSHIP

Sunday, December 31, 2023, 10:30 a.m.
First Sunday after Christmas

Welcome and Greeting

Prelude: "Just a Closer Walk With Thee" (Spiritual)

Opening Sentences

Hymn 215: "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"

Opening Prayer

Special Music: "Mary, Did You Know?" (Mark Lowry and Buddy Green, arr. Jack Schrader)

Giving and Receiving of Our Gifts

Doxology

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer (using debts and debtors)

Gospel Reading: Luke 2:22-40

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, 'Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord'), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, 'a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons.' Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, 'Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.' And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.' There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband for seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

Sermon: "OLD PEOPLE"

Hymn 134: "There's a Song in the Air"

Benediction

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

God be with you till we meet again; by His counsels guide, uphold you, with His sheep securely fold you: God be with you till we meet again.

Greet One Another

Participants: Pastor Mark and DeeAnn McCormick, Barb and Jerry Fuller, Arlene Moore, Bill Baldwin

1. All hail the pow'r of Je - sus' name! Let an - gels pros - trate
 2. Crown Him, ye mar - tyrs of our God, Who from His al - tar
 3. Ye seed of Is - rael's cho - sen race, Ye ran - somed of the
 4. Let ev - 'ry kin - dred, ev - 'ry tribe, On this ter - res - trial
 5. O that, with yon - der sa - cred throng, We at His feet may

fall; Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem, And
 call; Ex - tol the stem of Jes - se's rod, And
 fall, Hail Him who saves you by His grace, And
 ball, To Him all maj - es - ty as - cribe, And
 fall; We'll join the ev - er - last - ing song, And

crown Him Lord of all. Bring forth the roy - al
 crown Him Lord of all. Ex - tol the stem of
 crown Him Lord of all. Hail Him who saves you
 crown Him Lord of all. To Him all maj - es -
 crown Him Lord of all. We'll join the ev - er -

di - a - dem, And crown Him Lord of all.
 Jes - se's rod, And crown Him Lord of all.
 by His grace, And crown Him Lord of all.
 ty as - cribe, And crown Him Lord of all.
 last - ing song, And crown Him Lord of all. A - men.

There's a Song in the Air

Josiah Gilbert Holland, 1819-1881

Karl Pomeroy Harrington, 1861-1953

1. There's a song in the air! There's a star in the sky!
 2. There's a tu - mult of joy O'er the won - der - ful birth,
 3. In the light of that star Lie the a - ges im - pearled;
 4. We re - joice in the light, And we ech - o the song

There's a moth - er's deep prayer And a ba - by's low cry!
 For the vir - gin's sweet boy Is the Lord of the earth.
 And that song from a - far Has swept o - ver the world.
 That comes down through the night From the heav - en - ly throng.

And the star rains its fire while the beau - ti - ful sing,
 Ay! the star rains its fire while the beau - ti - ful sing,
 Ev - 'ry hearth is a - flame, and the beau - ti - ful sing
 Ay! we shout to the love - ly e - van - gel they bring,

For the man - ger of Beth - le - hem cra - dles a King!
 For the man - ger of Beth - le - hem cra - dles a King!
 In the homes of the na - tions that Je - sus is King!
 And we greet in His cra - dle our Sav - ior and King!