

MAYFLOWER CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
A SERVICE OF MORNING WORSHIP

Sunday, November 5, 2023, 10:30 a.m.

Twenty-third Sunday After Pentecost

Communion Sunday

All Saints Sunday

Welcome and Greeting

Prelude: "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" (William Runyan)

Opening Sentences

Hymn 503: "I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord"

Opening Prayer

Anthem: "For All the Saints" (Ralph Vaughan Williams, arr. Robert Shaw)

A Moment of Remembrance

Giving and Receiving of Our Gifts

Doxology

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

Gospel Reading: Matthew 5:1-12

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

Sermon: "THE BEAUTIFUL, SAINTLY LIFE"

Observance of Holy Communion

Hymn 396: "Blest Are They"

Benediction

Benediction Response 361 (v. 3): "My Faith Looks Up to Thee"

While life's dark maze I tread, and griefs around me spread, be Thou my guide; bid darkness turn to day;
wipe sorrow's tears away; nor let me ever stray from Thee aside.

Greet One Another

Participants: Pastor Mark & DeeAnn McCormick, Barb Fuller, Gail Sawyer, Chancel Choir

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."

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.

I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord

503

Timothy Dwight, 1752-1817

Williams' *New Universal Psalmodist*, 1770

1. I love Thy king - dom, Lord, The house of
2. I love Thy Church, O God; Her walls be -
3. For her my tears shall fall, For her my
4. Be - yond my high - est joy I prize her
5. Sure as Thy truth shall last, To Zi - on
6. Je - sus, Thou friend di - vine, Our Sav - ior

Thine a - bode, The Church our blest Re - deem - er
fore Thee stand, Dear as the ap - ple of Thine
prayers as - cend, To her my cares and toils be
heav'n - ly ways, Her sweet com - mun - ion, sol - emn
shall be giv'n The bright - est glo - ries earth can
and our King, Thy hand from ev - 'ry snare and

saved With His own pre - cious blood.
eye, And grav - en on Thy hand.
giv'n Till toils and cares shall end.
vows, Her hymns of love and praise.
yield, And bright - er bliss of heav'n.
foe Shall great de - liv - 'rance bring. A - men.

Blest Are They

David Haas, 1957-

David Haas, 1957-

Arr. by David Haas and Michael Joncas, 1951-

Verses

1. Blest are they, the poor in spir - it,
 2. Blest are they, the low - ly ones,
 3. Blest are they who show mer - cy,

4. Blest are they who seek peace;
 5. Blest are you who suf - fer hate,

A \flat SUS4 A \flat E \flat /G

theirs is the king - dom of God.
 they shall in - her - it the earth.
 mer - cy shall be theirs.

they are the chil - dren of God.
 all be - cause of me. Re -

D \flat E \flat SUS4 E \flat 7 A \flat SUS4 A \flat

BLEST ARE THEY
Irregular

GOD'S COVENANT PEOPLE

Blest are they, full of sor - row,
 Blest are they, who hun - ger and thirst,
 Blest are they, the pure of heart,

Blest are they, who suf - fer in faith, the
 joy and be glad, yours is the king - dom;

A^bSUS4 A^b E^b/G

they shall be con - soled.
 they shall have their fill.
 they shall see God!

glo - ry of God is theirs.
 shine for all to see.

D^b E^bSUS4 E^b D^b/A^b A^b

Re - joice and be glad!

Refrain D^b E^b7 A^b E^b/G Fm A^b/E^b

GOD'S COVENANT PEOPLE

D \flat
A \flat /C
B \flat m
B \flat /D
E \flat
D \flat

Bless - ed are you, ho - ly are you! Re - joice

E \flat 7
Fm
Fm7/E \flat
D \flat
E \flat SUS4
E \flat

and be glad! Yours is the king - dom of

D \flat /A \flat
A \flat
D \flat /A \flat
D.C.
Final ending
A \flat

God!

Gracious God, You have blessed us in Jesus the Christ. You bless us in so many ways that we should shout “rejoice and be glad” with enthusiasm throughout creation; but so often, we do not.

Forgive our feeble attempts to respond faithfully to Your grace. You have made us in such a way that we are blessed and able to bless others. Empower us to be a blessing in this world, that our souls and spirits might grow and find unity of purpose with Your truth, until that day when we rejoice and are glad with You in Your eternal kingdom.

May we truly rejoice and be glad, today and forever, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who blesses us and helps us to bless. Amen.

Rev. Dr. Patrick D. Shelley