

MAYFLOWER CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
A SERVICE OF MORNING WORSHIP

Sunday, January 7, 2024, 10:30 a.m.

First Sunday of Epiphany
Communion Sunday

Welcome and Greeting

Prelude: "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" (arr. Bruce Greer)

Opening Sentences

Hymn 271: "Another Year Is Dawning"

Opening Prayer

A Moment for Missions: Dorothy Frederickson, Baby Boxes for Haiti

Anthem: "River in Judea" (Linda Marcus and Jack Feldman, arr. John Leavitt)

Giving and Receiving of Our Gifts

Doxology

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

Old Testament Reading: Genesis 1:1-5

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, 'Let there be light'; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

Sermon: "FROM CHAOS TO RHYTHM"

Observance of Holy Communion

Hymn 378: "As Water to the Thirsty"

Benediction

Benediction Response: "Let Us Now Depart in Thy Peace"

Let us now depart in thy peace, blessed Jesus. Send us to our homes with God's love in our hearts. Let not the busy world claim all our loyalties. Keep us ever mindful, dear Lord, of Thee.

Greet One Another

Participants: Pastor Mark and DeeAnn McCormick, Dorothy Frederickson, Barb Fuller, Jen Hall, 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.

1. An - oth - er year is dawn - ing! Dear Fa - ther, let it be,
 2. An - oth - er year of mer - cies, Of faith - ful - ness and grace,
 3. An - oth - er year of serv - ice, Of wit - ness for Thy love,

In work - ing or in wait - ing, An - oth - er year with Thee;
 An - oth - er year of glad - ness, In the shin - ing of Thy face;
 An - oth - er year of train - ing For ho - lier work a - bove;

An - oth - er year of prog - ress, An - oth - er year of praise,
 An - oth - er year of lean - ing Up - on Thy lov - ing breast,
 An - oth - er year is dawn - ing! Dear Fa - ther, let it be,

An - oth - er year of prov - ing Thy pres - ence all the days.
 An - oth - er year of trust - ing, Of qui - et, hap - py rest.
 On earth, or else in heav - en, An - oth - er year for Thee. A - men.

Unison

1. As wa - ter to the thirst-y, As beau - ty to the eyes, As
 2. Like calm in place of clam-or, Like peace that fol-lows pain, Like
 3. As sleep that fol-lows fe - ver, As gold in-stead of gray, As

strength that fol-lows weak-ness, As truth in-stead of lies; As
 meet - ing af - ter part - ing, Like sun - shine af - ter rain; Like
 free - dom af - ter bond - age, As sun - rise to the day; As

song - time and spring - time And sum - mer-time to be, So
 moon - light and star - light And sun - light on the sea, So
 home to the trav - 'ler And all we long to see, So

is my Lord, My liv-ing Lord, So is my Lord to me.

OASIS
 7.6.7.6.6.6.4.4.6