

MAYFLOWER CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
**A SERVICE OF MORNING WORSHIP**

Sunday, June 16, 2024, 10:30 a.m.  
Fourth Sunday After Pentecost

**Welcome and Greeting** - Lorraine

**Handbell Prelude:** "Lift Every Voice and Sing" (John Rosamond Johnson, arr. Mitchell Eithun) -  
Laura/Lorraine/Shannon/Barb

**Opening Sentences** - Roger

**Hymn 443:** "Called as Partners in Christ's Service" - DeeAnn et al.

**Opening Prayer** - Roger

**Giving and Receiving of Our Gifts** - Rev. Art

*Doxology* - DeeAnn

**Special Music (Hymn 304):** "Lift Every Voice and Sing" - DeeAnn et al.

**Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer** (using debts and debtors) - Rev. Art

**Gospel Reading:** Mark 4:26-34 - Lorraine

He also said, 'The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come.'

He also said, 'With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.'

With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

**Sermon: "YOU CAN BE A SHRUB!"** - Rev. Art

**Hymn 491:** "In Christ We Are One Body" - DeeAnn et al.

**Benediction** - Rev. Art

**Benediction Response 541 (refrain only):** "Here I Am, Lord" - DeeAnn et al.

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard You calling in the night. I will go, Lord, if You lead me. I will hold Your people in my heart.

**Greet One Another** - All

Participants: Rev. Art Ritter, DeeAnn McCormick, Barb Fuller, Lorraine Finison,  
Laura Sparks, Shannon Quinn, Roger Kennedy

1. Called as part - ners in Christ's serv - ice, Called to min - is -  
 2. Christ's ex - am - ple, Christ's in - spir - ing, Christ's clear call to  
 3. Thus new pat - terns for Christ's mis - sion, In a small or  
 4. So God grant us for to - mor - row Ways to or - der

tries of grace, We re - spond with deep com - mit - ment  
 work and worth, Let us fol - low, nev - er fal - t'ring,  
 glob - al sense, Help us bear each oth - er's bur - dens,  
 hu - man life That sur - round each per - son's sor - row

Fresh new lines of faith to trace. May we learn the art of  
 Rec - on - cil - ing folk on earth. Men and wom - en, rich - er,  
 Break - ing down each wall or fence. Words of com - fort, words of  
 With a calm that con - quers strife. Make us part - ners in our

shar - ing, Side by side and friend with friend, E - qual part - ners  
 poor - er, All God's peo - ple, young and old, Blend - ing hu - man  
 vi - sion, Words of chal - lenge, said with care, Bring new pow'r and  
 liv - ing, Our com - pas - sion to in - crease, Mes - sen - gers of

## GOD'S COVENANT PEOPLE

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'God's Covenant People'. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff at the top and a bass clef staff at the bottom. The key signature has one flat (B-flat) and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written in the treble staff, and the bass line is in the bass staff. The lyrics are centered between the two staves.

in our car - ing To ful - fill God's cho - sen end.  
skills to - geth - er Gra - cious gifts from God un - fold.  
strength for ac - tion, Make us col - leagues, free and fair.  
faith, thus giv - ing Hope and con - fi - dence and peace.

There are not enough of us to do Your work here on earth, Lord! Many of us have been in Your service for years and know that every effort we make in Your name becomes a blessing to us. The problem we have is enabling others to know that blessing as well. Lord, guide us in this endeavor! Help us seize the opportunities you present to us by providing us with the necessary words and actions to witness to the joy of a lifetime in Your service. As for me and my house, we have come to know that the longer, the deeper, and the broader our service has been to You, the closer we have come to Your presence. Help us to grow stronger in Your presence. Reveal to us the areas of life where our love has made all the difference in the life of another. Make us proud to be in Your service, and challenge us to affirm those who would join us in building Your kingdom. Thank You, Father, for the excitement of the journey we have made together. Thank You for the hills and valleys that have made life interesting, and thank You for the example of our Brother Jesus, who not only shows us how to walk in Your way, but walks for us when we are unwilling or unable. We give You all praise, because without You there is no meaning to our lives. Amen.

Lift Every Voice and Sing

James Weldon Johnson, 1871-1938

John Rosamond Johnson, 1873-1954

1. Lift ev - 'ry voice and sing, Till earth and heav - en  
 2. Ston - y the road we trod, Bit - ter the chas - t'ning  
 3. God of our wea - ry years, God of our si - lent

ring, Ring with the har - mo - nies of lib - er -  
 rod, Felt in the days when hope un - born had  
 tears, Thou who hast brought us thus far on the

ty; Let our re - joic - ing rise High as the lis - t'ning  
 died; Yet with a stead - y beat, Have not our wea - ry  
 way; Thou who hast by Thy might, Led us in - to the

skies, Let it re - sound loud as the roll - ing sea.  
 feet Come to the place for which our peo - ple sighed?  
 light, Keep us for ev - er in the path, we pray.

LIFT EVERY VOICE  
 6.6.10.6.6.10.14.14.6.6.10

# GOD'S REVELATION

Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us,  
 We have come o - ver a way that with tears has been wa - tered;  
 Lest our feet stray from the plac - es, our God, where we met Thee,

Sing a song full of the hope that the pres - ent has  
 We have come, tread - ing our path through the blood of the  
 Lest our hearts, drunk with the wine of the world, we for -

brought us; Fac - ing the ris - ing sun Of our new  
 slaugh - tered; Out from the gloom - y past, Till now we  
 get Thee; Shad - owed be - neath Thy hand, May we for

day be - gun, Let us march on till vic - to - ry is won.  
 stand at last Where the bright gleam of our bright star is cast.  
 ev - er stand, True to our God, true to our na - tive land.

In Christ We Are One Body

491

Jack Brown

Attr. to J. Michael Haydn, 1737-1806

Arr. by William Gardiner, *Sacred Melodies*

1. God's mer - cy in - vites our grate - ful re - ply;  
 2. We all have our gifts, though var - ied in kind;  
 3. Each part of the whole is need - ed to - day;  
 4. A - lone we will drift, to - geth - er we'll fly;

In of - f'ring our lives we, God, glo - ri - fy.  
 God gives us these gifts of heart, hand and mind.  
 Each gift is re - quired, God's love to dis - play.  
 U - nit - ed in Christ we'll soar to the sky.

Our wor - ship we of - fer, God's will we af - firm,  
 In man - y ways spe - cial, In some ways u - nique,  
 By serv - ing with glad - ness, In giv - ing with grace,  
 No long - er con - tent - ed To live life as one,

In self - giv - ing love is God's pur - pose con - firmed.  
 To - geth - er we make Christ's bod - y com - plete.  
 Through preach - ing and teach - ing we all find our place.  
 U - nit - ed we'll be strong, help - ful and wise.