

MAYFLOWER CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
A SERVICE OF MORNING WORSHIP

Sunday, August 3, 2025, 10:30 a.m.

Eighth Sunday After Pentecost
Communion Sunday

Welcome and Greeting - Pastor Mark

Prelude: "Let Us Break Bread Together" (Trad. Spiritual, arr. Cindy Berry) - DeeAnn

Opening Sentences - Daun

Hymn 497: "Blest Be the Tie That Binds" - DeeAnn et al.

Opening Prayer - Daun

Special Music: "Still Waters" (Psalm 23) (Leanna Crawford) - Marsha

Giving and Receiving of Our Gifts - Pastor Mark

Doxology (Hymn 563) - DeeAnn

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

Old Testament Reading: Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23 - Lorraine

Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher, vanity of vanities! All is vanity. I, the Teacher, when king over Israel in Jerusalem, applied my mind to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven; it is an unhappy business that God has given to human beings to be busy with. I saw all the deeds that are done under the sun; and see, all is vanity and a chasing after wind. I hated all my toil in which I had toiled under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to those who come after me—and who knows whether they will be wise or foolish? Yet they will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity. So I turned and gave my heart up to despair concerning all the toil of my labors under the sun, because sometimes one who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave all to be enjoyed by another who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. What do mortals get from all the toil and strain with which they toil under the sun? For all their days are full of pain, and their work is a vexation; even at night their minds do not rest. This also is vanity.

Sermon: "FINDING GLIMMER IN THE DIMMER" - Pastor Mark

Observance of Holy Communion - Pastor Mark/Pastor Tom/Pastor Wendy

Hymn 526: "We Come as Guests Invited" - DeeAnn et al.

Benediction - Pastor Mark

Benediction Response 578 (v. 1): "Sent Forth by God's Blessing" - DeeAnn et al.

Sent forth by God's blessing, our true faith confessing, the people of God from His dwelling take leave. The service is ended; Oh, now be extended the fruits of our worship in all who believe. The seed of His teaching, receptive souls reaching, shall blossom in action for God and for all. His grace did invite us; His love shall unite us to work for God's kingdom and answer His call.

Greet One Another - All

Participants: Pastor Mark and DeeAnn McCormick, Rev. Tom and Rev. Wendy Van Tassell,
Barb Fuller, Lorraine Finison, Daun Ketcheson, Marsha Hacker

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.

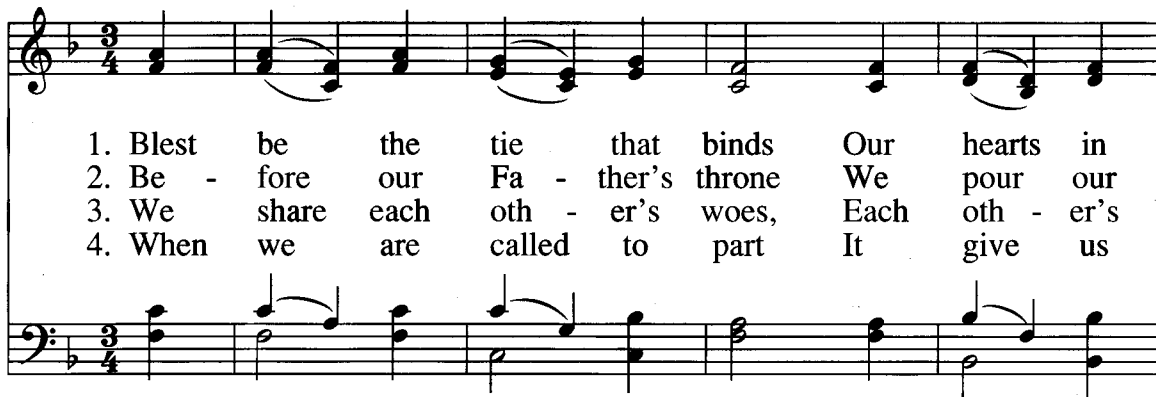
Blest Be the Tie That Binds

497

John Fawcett, 1740–1817

J. G. Nägeli, 1773–1836

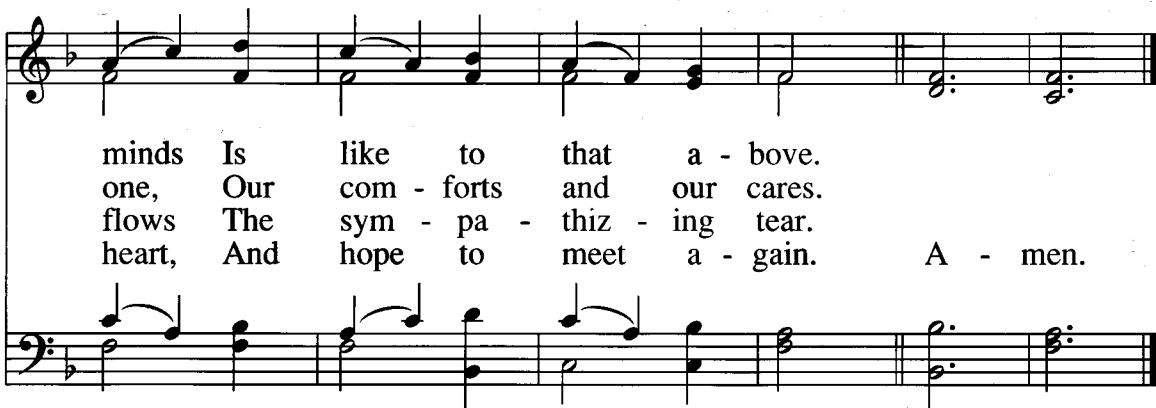
Adapt. by Lowell Mason, 1792–1872



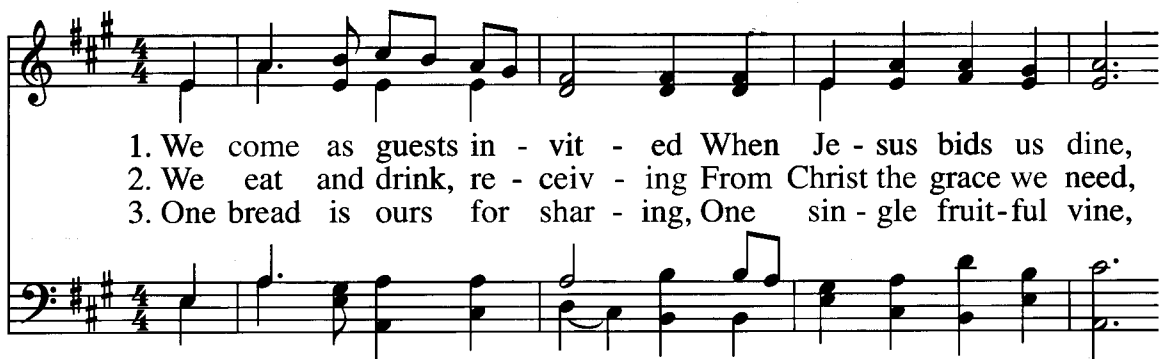
1. Blest be the tie that binds Our hearts in
2. Be - fore our Fa - ther's throne We pour our
3. We share each oth - er's woes, Each oth - er's
4. When we are called to part It give us



Chris - tian love; The fel - low - ship of kin - dred
ar - dent prayers; Our fears, our hopes, our aims are
bur - dens bear; And of - ten for each oth - er
in - ward pain, But we shall still be joined in



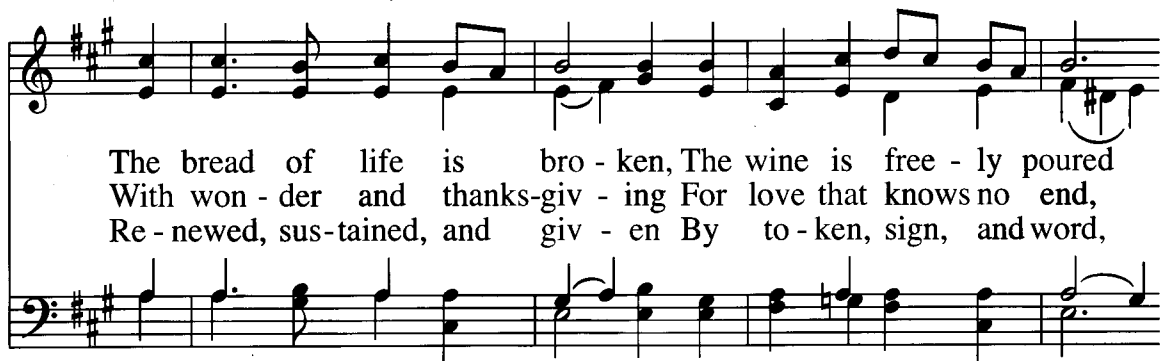
minds Is like to that a - bove.
one, Our com - forts and our cares.
flows The sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.
heart, And hope to meet a - gain. A - men.



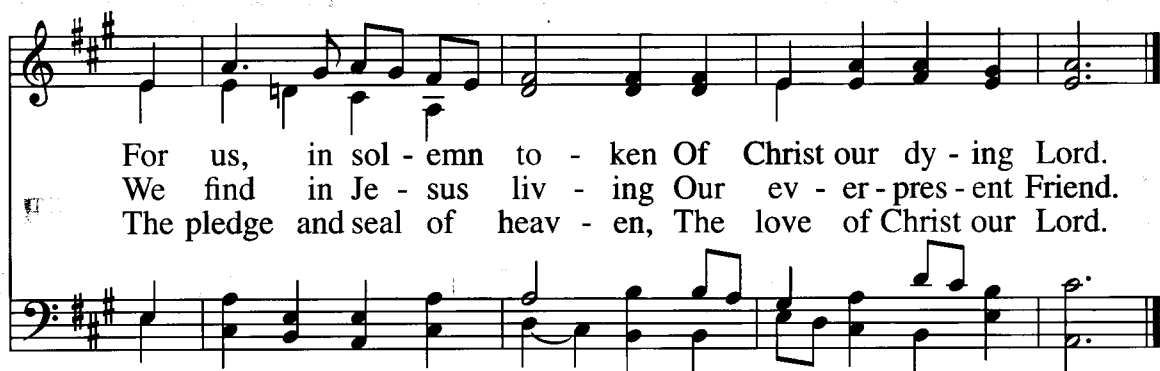
1. We come as guests in - vit - ed When Je - sus bids us dine,
 2. We eat and drink, re - ceiv - ing From Christ the grace we need,
 3. One bread is ours for shar - ing, One sin - gle fruit-ful vine,



His friends on earth u - nit - ed To share the bread and wine;
 And in our hearts be - liev - ing On Him by faith we feed;
 Our fel - low-ship de - clar - ing Re - newed in bread and wine:



The bread of life is bro - ken, The wine is free - ly poured
 With won - der and thanks-giv - ing For love that knows no end,
 Re - newed, sus - tained, and giv - en By to - ken, sign, and word,



For us, in sol - emn to - ken Of Christ our dy - ing Lord.
 We find in Je - sus liv - ing Our ev - er-pres - ent Friend.
 The pledge and seal of heav - en, The love of Christ our Lord.