

MAYFLOWER CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
A SERVICE OF MORNING WORSHIP

Sunday, November 2, 2025, 10:30 a.m.

Twenty-first Sunday After Pentecost

Communion Sunday

All Saints Sunday

Welcome and Greeting - Pastor Mark

Prelude: "O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing" (Carl G. Glaser, arr. Cindy Berry) - DeeAnn

Opening Sentences - Roger

Hymn 395: "How Can I Keep From Singing" - DeeAnn et al.

Opening Prayer - Roger

A Moment of Remembrance - Pastor Mark

Anthem: "The Kingdom of the Lord" (Bob Sharrett & Hyman Stansky, arr. John Purifoy) - DeeAnn/Choir

Giving and Receiving of Our Gifts - Pastor Mark

Doxology (Hymn 563) - DeeAnn et al.

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

Old Testament Reading: Habakkuk 1:2-4 and 2:1-4 - Rachel

O Lord, how long shall I cry for help, and you will not listen? Or cry to you 'Violence!' and you will not save? Why do you make me see wrongdoing and look at trouble? Destruction and violence are before me; strife and contention arise. So the law becomes slack and justice never prevails. The wicked surround the righteous—therefore judgment comes forth perverted. I will stand at my watch-post, and station myself on the rampart; will keep watch to see what he will say to me, and what he will answer concerning my complaint. Then the Lord answered me and said: Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so that a runner may read it. For there is still a vision for the appointed time; it speaks of the end, and does not lie. If it seems to tarry, wait for it; it will surely come, it will not delay. Look at the proud! Their spirit is not right in them, but the righteous live by their faith.

Sermon: "COMPLAINING TO GOD" - Pastor Mark

Observance of Holy Communion (see insert) - Pastor Mark, Pastor Margery, Pastor Rachel

Hymn 353: "Be Thou My Vision" - DeeAnn et al.

Benediction - Pastor Mark

Benediction Response 353 (v. 4): "Be Thou My Vision" - DeeAnn et al.

High King of heaven, my victory won, may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun! Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, still be my Vision, O Ruler of all.

Greet One Another - All

Participants: Pastor Mark & DeeAnn McCormick, Roger Kennedy, Pastor Rachel Gehres, Rev. Margery Briggs, Chancel Choir

COMMUNION RITUAL

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: God of grace and mercy, we confess that we haven't loved you with our whole hearts. We fall short of what you desire for us, as individuals caught up in selfishness and fear, and as a community of faith that sometimes forgets your call to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with you. Forgive us, O God. Lift us from despair to hope, from division to unity, and from apathy to love. Renew us by your Spirit, that we may walk in your ways and find joy in your will. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Minister: Hear the good news: no matter how far we wander, we cannot outrun the reach of God's grace. In Christ, we are forgiven, embraced, and made whole. At this table, we remember that Jesus welcomed all—the one who betrayed him, the ones who fled in fear, and all who longed for hope and belonging. We come, not because we are perfect, but because we are deeply loved.

All: Thanks be to God.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Minister: The Lord be with you. **All:** And also with you.

Minister: Lift up your hearts. **All:** We lift them up to the Lord.

Minister: Let us give thanks to our God. **All:** It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Minister: It is right that we give you thanks, O God. You shaped us in your image and breathed life into us. Even when we turned away, your love never let us go. Through prophets, teachers, and covenant, you've kept calling us home. And so, with all creation, we join the unending hymn:

All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Minister: Friends, this is not my table, or the church's table. This is Christ's table, open to all who desire to know God's love. You need not be a member of any church. Bring only your hunger, your hope, your longing. Here, we acknowledge our sins, our failures, and our disappointments. Here, we present ourselves to God—who meets us as we are, loves us where we are, and draws us toward wholeness. So come, for all is ready.

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

Minister: On the night when he was handed over, Jesus gathered with his friends around a common table. He took bread, blessed it, broke it, and gave it to them saying: "Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way, he took the cup, saying: "This cup is the new covenant—my very life, poured out in love for you. Whenever you drink it, remember me." And so, when we eat this bread and drink this cup, we remember the life, death, and resurrection of Christ, and the love that will never let us go.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

All: Thank you, God, for this sacred meal where you have shared yourself with us. Here we are renewed and reminded that your love is stronger than fear, your hope is deeper than despair, and Christ lives within us always. Send us out strengthened in faith and love, ready to serve and build your Beloved Community, until all are fed, welcomed, and free. Amen.

How Can I Keep From Singing

Robert Lowry, 1826-1899

Robert Lowry, 1826-1899, alt.

F B♭

1. My life flows on in end - less song; A -
 2. Through all the tu - mult and the strife, I
 3. What though my joys and com - forts die? The
 4. The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, A

F C F

bove earth's lam - en - ta - tion, I catch the sweet, though
 hear that mu - sic ring - ing. It finds an ech - o
 Lord, my Sav - ior, liv - eth. What though the dark - ness
 foun - tain ev - er spring - ing! All things are mine since

B♭ F C7 F

far - off hymn That hails a new cre - a - tion.
 in my soul. How can I keep from sing - ing?
 gath - er round? Songs in the night He giv - eth.
 I am his! How can I keep from sing - ing?

F C Dm C

No storm can shake my in - most calm While

HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING

8.7.8.7 with Refrain

GOD'S COVENANT PEOPLE

to that Rock I'm cling-ing. Since Christ is Lord of

heav-en and earth, How can I keep from sing-ing?

The musical score is written for two staves, treble and bass clef, in a key with one flat (B-flat). The first system of music corresponds to the lyrics 'to that Rock I'm cling-ing. Since Christ is Lord of'. The second system corresponds to 'heav-en and earth, How can I keep from sing-ing?'. Chord symbols are placed above the treble staff: F, C, F, F/C, C7, and F. The melody is primarily in the treble staff, with the bass staff providing harmonic support. The lyrics are centered under the notes.

Eternal God, thank You for Your gift of music. Even when we find ourselves in deep despair—when we are anxious, disheartened and lonely—we cannot keep from singing. Out of the depths of our being, we find the strength and the courage to heal through the power of music. When the Hebrews were in exile and cried out, “How can we sing the songs of the Lord in a foreign land,” You gave them succor and called them to remember Your promise. We, too, sometimes feel abandoned and alone. Yet You remain a constant presence and source of comfort. Through Christ, You continue to be our rock of refuge to which we can always cling.

How can we keep from singing! Amen.

Sandra Rygh Allgood

GOD'S COVENANT PEOPLE

353

Be Thou My Vision

Ancient Irish

Trans. by Mary E. Byrne, 1880-1931

Versified by Eleanor H. Hull, 1860-1935

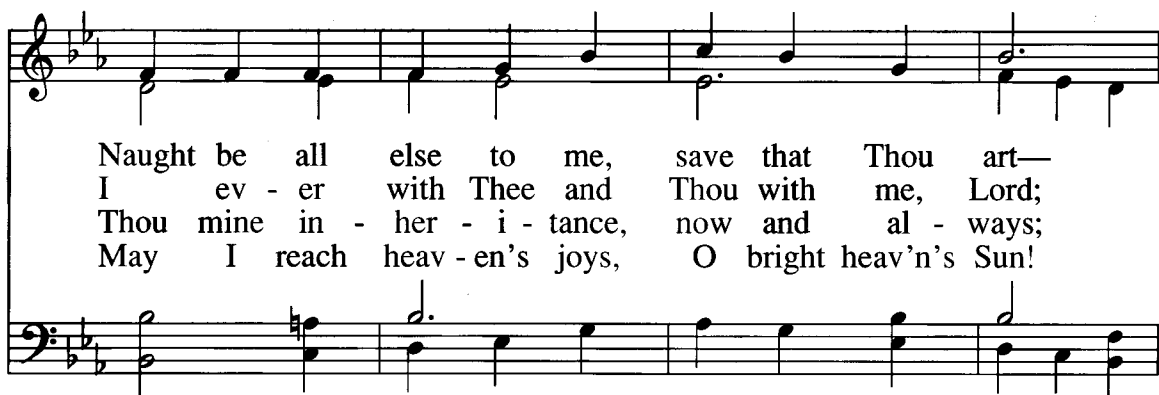
Traditional Irish Melody

Harm. by David Evans, 1874-1948

Unison



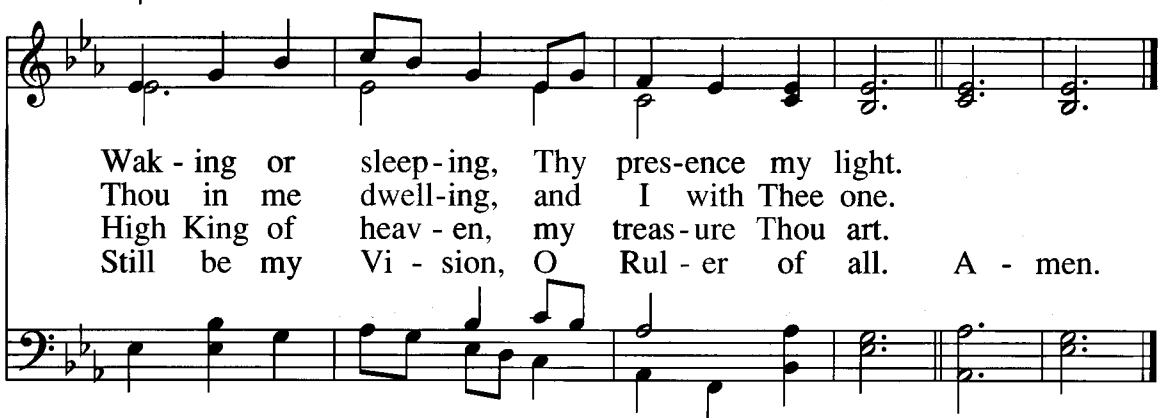
1. Be Thou my Vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
 2. Be Thou my Wis - dom, and Thou my true Word;
 3. Rich - es I heed not, nor man's emp - ty praise,
 4. High King of heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,



Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art—
 I ev - er with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;
 Thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways;
 May I reach heav - en's joys, O bright heav'n's Sun!



Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
 Thou my great Fa - ther, I Thy true son,
 Thou and Thou on - ly, first in my heart,
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,



Wak - ing or sleep - ing, Thy pres - ence my light.
 Thou in me dwell - ing, and I with Thee one.
 High King of heav - en, my treas - ure Thou art.
 Still be my Vi - sion, O Rul - er of all. A - men.

Second verse: "Thou my great Father, till life be done" or "Thy will be done"

Third verse: "nor this world's praise"

SLANE

10.10.9.10