



## Did you know Edward Winslow...

Edward Winslow was born in 1595 in Worcestershire. As a young apprentice, he met William Brewster in London; and later, traveling in the Netherlands, he joined the Separatist congregation that Brewster belonged to. In Leiden, he married Elizabeth Barker.

Both Winslow and Brewster were among the passengers on the *Mayflower* in 1620 (although Brewster was in hiding under an assumed name, being wanted by the authorities for his outspoken support for the Puritan cause). Winslow was one of the men who signed the Mayflower Compact while still on board the ship. Elizabeth, his wife, would die during the colony's first hard winter.

Edward Winslow was a skillful diplomat who maintained a lifelong friendship with Massasoit, chief of the Wampanoag tribe. He was instrumental in maintaining the peace treaty with those Native Americans. In addition to being an ambassador to the Indians, he also served as the colony's envoy to England.

Winslow became a very important citizen of Plymouth. He had a large estate, with a huge library by Colonial standards. His house served as the colony's first school and as the meetinghouse for the church, until a schoolhouse and a church building were constructed. He also succeeded Miles Standish as military leader of the colony, and he served as assistant governor once and as governor three times.

Called by the Congregationalist Oliver Cromwell to a place in his government, Edward Winslow went to London. He never again returned to America after 1646, dying at sea in 1655.

## ...was a Congregationalist?

Celebrating 400 Years of American Congregationalism  
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## Call To Worship

L: We are keepers of the Way.

**C: We come, aware of our place as 21<sup>st</sup> Century pilgrims.**

L: May we bring to this worship hour and to our very lives, a commitment to refashion this world for Christ.

**C: May we renew and cherish our life together, as God's free people.**

## Invocation (in unison)

We thank You, good Lord, as we pray, for Your blessings on this day and this hour of worship. We thank You for the pilgrim spirit which You have instilled in us from the beginning of the Christian Church, through the time of the Pilgrims of our shores 400 years ago, and into this congregation. May our worship honor their faith and their spirit.

Historical story by: Rev. Robert Hellam

Liturgy by: Rev. Tom Richard