

# **Durham Mennonite Church**

January 29, 2023



**Welcome to Durham Mennonite Church**

# **Welcome and Announcements**

## **Opening Prayer**

O Lord, guide our thoughts and our words in our worship today. Let our hearts be filled with your praise. Let us never forget the good things you do for us. You have forgiven our sins. You have rescued us from death. You have crowned us with love and tender mercies. Renew our strength and refresh our souls this morning. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Amen.

## **Call to Worship (Psalm 57:9-11)**

I will give thanks to you, O Lord,  
among the peoples;

**I will sing praises to you among the nations.**

For your steadfast love is  
as high as the heavens;

**Your faithfulness extends to the clouds.**

Be exalted, O God, above the heavens.

**Let your glory be over all the earth.**

## **Hymn - #7 Come Let Us All Unite to Sing**

Come, let us all unite to sing,

God is love!

Let heav'n and earth their praises bring,

God is love!

Let ev'ry soul from sin awake,

Each in His heart sweet music make,

And sing with us for Jesus' sake,

For God is love!

**God is love! God is love!**

**Come, let us all unite to sing**

**That God is love.**

Oh, tell to earth's remotest bound,

God is love!

In Christ we have redemption found,

God is love!

His blood has washed our sins away,

His Spirit turned our night to day,

And now we can rejoice to say:

That God is love!

**God is love! God is love!**

**Come, let us all unite to sing**

**That God is love.**

How happy is our portion here,

God is love!

His promises our spirits cheer,

God is love!

He is our sun and shield by day,

Our help, our hope, our strength and stay,

He will be with us all the way,

Our God is love!

**God is love! God is love!**

**Come, let us all unite to sing**

**That God is love.**

## **Hymn - #84 VT To God Be The Glory**

To God be the glory, great things he has done!

So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,

who yielded his life an atonement for sin,

and opened the life-gate that all may go in.

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,

let the earth hear his voice!

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,

let the people rejoice!

O come to the Father thro' Jesus the Son,

and give him the glory, great things he has done!

O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood!

To ev'ry believer the promise of God;

the vilest offender who truly believes,

that moment from Jesus forgiveness receives.

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,

let the earth hear his voice!

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,

let the people rejoice!

O come to the Father thro' Jesus the Son,

and give him the glory, great things he has done!

Great things he has taught us,  
great things he has done,  
and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;but  
purer and higher and greater will be  
our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,  
let the earth hear his voice!

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,  
let the people rejoice!

O come to the Father thro' Jesus the Son, and  
give him the glory, great things he has done!

## **Confession of Faith**

We are not alone; we live in God's world. We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.

We are not alone. Thanks be to God!

## **Hymn - #131 Praise, I Will Praise you Lord**

Praise, I will praise you, Lord, with all my heart.

O God, I will tell the wonders of your ways,

and glorify your name.

Praise, I will praise you Lord, with all my heart.

In you I will find the source of all my joy.

Alleluia!

**Love, I will love you, Lord, with all my heart.**

**O God, I will tell the wonders of your ways,**

**and glorify your name.**

**Love, I will love you Lord, with all my heart.**

**In you I will find the source of all my joy.**

**Alleluia!**

Serve, I will serve you, Lord, with all my heart.

O God, I will tell the wonders of your ways,  
and glorify your name.

Serve, I will serve you Lord, with all my heart.

In you I will find the source of all my joy.

Alleluia!

## **Scripture – 1 Corinthians 1:18-31**

<sup>18</sup> For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

<sup>19</sup> For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,  
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

<sup>20</sup> Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scholar? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?

<sup>21</sup> For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of the proclamation, to save those who believe. <sup>22</sup> For

Jews ask for signs and Greeks desire wisdom, <sup>23</sup> but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to gentiles, <sup>24</sup> but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. <sup>25</sup> For God’s foolishness is wiser

than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

<sup>26</sup> Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. <sup>27</sup> But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; <sup>28</sup> God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to abolish things that are, <sup>29</sup> so that no one might boast in the presence of God. <sup>30</sup> In contrast, God is why you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, <sup>31</sup> in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

## **Scripture – Matthew 5:1-12**

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. <sup>2</sup> And he began to speak and taught them, saying:

<sup>3</sup> “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>4</sup> “Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

<sup>5</sup> “Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

<sup>6</sup> “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

<sup>7</sup> “Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

<sup>8</sup> “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

<sup>9</sup> “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

<sup>10</sup> “Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>11</sup> “Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. <sup>12</sup> Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

**Message – Kevin Nice**





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## **Congregational Response**

**Sharing praises and prayer concerns**

# **The Lord's Prayer**

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name;  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory  
are yours, now and forever. Amen.

## **Hymn - #390 VT**

### **In Christ There is No East or West**

In Christ there is no east or west,  
in him no south or north,  
but one great fellowship of love  
throughout the whole wide earth.

In Christ shall true hearts ev'rywhere  
their high communion find.

His service is the golden cord  
close binding humankind.

Join hands, then, people of the faith,  
whate'er your race may be.

All children of the living God  
are surely kin to me.

In Christ now meet both east and west,  
in him meet south and north.

All Christly souls are joined as one  
throughout the whole wide earth.

## **Sending**

Those who live lives pleasing to God  
shall not be moved.

Go now to embrace the kingdom values—  
values of love, justice, and truth.

Go now with God's blessing,  
to live those values through the power  
of our challenging, faithful, loving,  
empowering God. Amen.