

Durham Mennonite Church

January 21, 2024



Welcome to Durham Mennonite Church

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING PRAYER

Almighty God, author of eternal light:
Illumine our hearts by the light of your
grace, that our lips may praise you, that our
lives may honor you, that our worship may
glorify you. Grant, O Lord, that all we who
worship you may present our bodies as a
living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to you;
and that we may ourselves be temples of
your Holy Spirit, wherein you may dwell
forever and ever; through Jesus Christ our
Lord. Amen.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly Sovereign,
Almighty God and Father,
**we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
**Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand
of the Father: receive our prayer.**

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
**you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

Hymn, VT#1 Summoned by the God Who Made Us

**1. Summoned by the God who made us
Rich in our diversity,
Gathered in the name of Jesus,
Richer still in unity:**

Chorus:

**Let us bring the gifts that differ
And, in splendid, varied ways,
Sing a new church into being,
One of faith and love and praise**

**2. Radiant risen from the water;
Robed in holiness and light,
Every person in God's image
Every person God's delight:**

Chorus:

**Let us bring the gifts that differ
And, in splendid, varied ways,
Sing a new church into being,
One of faith and love and praise**

**3.Trust the goodness of creation;
Trust the Spirit strong within.
Dare to dream the vision promised
Sprung from seed of what has been.**

Chorus:

**Let us bring the gifts that differ
And, in splendid, varied ways,
Sing a new church into being,
One of faith and love and praise**

4.Bring the hopes of every nation;

**Bring the art of every race.
Weave a song of peace and justice:
Let it sound through time and space.**

Chorus:

**Let us bring the gifts that differ
And, in splendid, varied ways,
Sing a new church into being,
One of faith and love and praise**

**5.Draw together at one table
All the human family;
Shape a circle ever wider
And a people ever free.**

Chorus:

**Let us bring the gifts that differ
And, in splendid, varied ways,**

**Sing a new church into being,
One of faith and love and praise**

**Hymn, VT#722 Help Us to Help Each
Other**

**1 Help us to help each other, Lord,
each other's load to bear,
that all may live in true accord,
our joys and pains to bear.**

**2 Help us to build each other up,
your strength within us prove.
Increase our faith, confirm our hope
and fill us with your love.**

**3 Jesus, united by your grace,
and each to each endeared,
with confidence we seek your face**

and know our prayer is heard.

**4 Drawn by the magnet of your love,
we find our hearts made new.**

**Nearer each other let us move,
and nearer still to you.**

Confession of Sin Prayer

Holy and awesome God, we stand in your presence filled with regret for our many sins and failings. Though you have planted your Spirit within us, and a deep longing for goodness, we have often refused to hear your voice calling us and resisted conformity to your image. For there is weakness in us, as well as strength. We have chosen at times to walk in darkness, our vision obscured. We do not care to look within, and we

are unwilling to look beyond at those who need our help. O God, we are too weak to walk unaided. Be with us as the source of our life, our strong and wise guide, and teach us to walk by the light of your truth. Amen.

Assurance of Grace

The LORD is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in faithful love.

He does not deal with us as our sins deserve,

nor repay us according to our iniquities.

For as the heavens tower high above the earth,

so great is his faithful love for those who fear him.

As far as east is from west,

so far has he removed our offenses from us.

**Hymn VT#778 Will You Let Me Be
Your Servant**

**1 Will you let me be your servant,
let me be as Christ to you?**

**Pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant, too.**

**2 We are pilgrims on a journey,
we are trav'lers on the road;
we are here to help each other
walk the mile and bear the load.**

**3 I will hold the Christ-light for you
in the nighttime of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you,
speak the peace you long to hear.**

4 I will weep when you are weeping;

**when you laugh I'll laugh with you.
I will share your joy and sorrow
till we've seen this journey through.**

**5 When we sing to God in heaven,
we shall find such harmony,
born of all we've known together
of Christ's love and agony.**

**6 Will you let me be your servant,
let me be as Christ to you?
Pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant, too.**

Scriptures

Genesis 1:26-28

Then God said, “Let us make humankind in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.”

²⁷ So God created humankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them;

male and female he created them.

²⁸ And God blessed them. And God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over

every living thing that moves on the earth.”

Psalm 8

¹ O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

You have set your glory above the heavens.

² Out of the mouth of babies and infants, you have established strength because of your foes, to still the enemy and the avenger.

³ When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place,

⁴ what is humankind that you are mindful of them, and the son of man that you care for him?

⁵ Yet you have made him a little lower

than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honor.

⁶ You have given him dominion over the works of your hands;

you have put all things under his feet,

⁷ all sheep and oxen,

and also the beasts of the field,

⁸ the birds of the heavens,

and the fish of the sea,

whatever passes along the paths of the seas.

⁹ O LORD, our Lord,

how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Ephesians 3:1-13

¹ For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles—

² assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for you, ³ how the mystery

was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly. ⁴ When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, ⁵ which was not made known to the sons of men in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit. ⁶ This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

⁷ Of this gospel I was made a minister according to the gift of God's grace, which was given me by the working of his power. ⁸ To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, ⁹ and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in

God, who created all things, ¹⁰ so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. ¹¹ This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹² in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him. ¹³ So I ask you not to lose heart over what I am suffering for you, which is your glory.

Sermon, “Common Image Bearers”

Jackie Carroll

Video - *We are Messengers-Image of God*

[We Are Messengers - Image Of God \(Official Lyric Video\)](#)

Congregational Response

Sharing Praises and Prayer Concerns

Prayers of God's People

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 HWB#118 Praise God from who

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,

praise him all creatures here below,

praise him all creatures here below,

praise him above, praise him above,

praise him a - bove, ye heav'nly host,

praise him above, praise him above

praise him above, ye heavenly host,

praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost.

praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, amen,

amen, hallelujah

hallelujah, hallelujah,

hallelujah, hallelujah,
hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, amen,
amen, hallelujah, amen,
hallelujah, amen!

SENDING

The Lord bless you and keep you;
the Lord make his face to shine upon you,
and be gracious to you;
the Lord lift up his countenance upon you,
and give you peace. **Amen.**