

Durham Mennonite Church

February 4, 2024



Welcome to Durham Mennonite Church

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING PRAYER

CALL TO WORSHIP (*Psalm 147:1-11*)

Praise the LORD!

**How good it is to sing praises to our God,
for he is gracious,
and a song of praise is fitting.**

The LORD builds up Jerusalem;

he gathers the outcasts of Israel.

He heals the brokenhearted

and binds up their wounds.

The Lord determines the number of the
stars;

he gives to all of them their names.

**Great is our Lord and abundant in power;
his understanding is beyond measure.**

**The LORD lifts up the downtrodden;
he casts the wicked to the ground.**

Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving;
make melody to our God on the lyre.

**He covers the heavens with clouds,
prepares rain for the earth,
makes grass grow on the hills.**

**He gives to the animals their food
and to the young ravens when they cry.**

His delight is not in the strength of the
horse

nor his pleasure in the speed of a
runner,

**but the LORD takes pleasure
in those who fear him,
in those who hope in his steadfast
love.**

HWB #71, Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

**1 Joyful, joyful, we adore thee,
God of glory, Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before thee,
Op'ning to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;
Drive the dark of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness,
Fill us with the light of day.**

**2 All thy works with joy surround thee,
Earth and heav'n reflect thy rays,
Stars and angels sing around thee,
Center of unbroken praise;
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
Flow'ry meadow, flashing sea,
Chanting bird and flowing fountain,
Call us to rejoice in thee.**

**3 Thou art giving and forgiving,
Ever blessing, ever blest,
Well-spring of the joy of living,
Ocean depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ our brother,
All who live in love are thine;
Teach us how to love each other,
Lift us to the joy divine.**

**4 Mortals, join the mighty chorus
Which the morning stars began;
Love divine is reigning o'er us,
Binding all within its span.
Ever singing, march we onward,
Victors in the midst of strife;
Joyful music leads us sunward,
In the triumph song of life.**

HWB #26, Holy Spirit, Come With Power

**Holy Spirit, come with power,
breathe into our aching night.
We expect you this glad hour,
waiting for your strength and light.
We are fearful, we are ailing,
we are weak and selfish too.
Break upon your congregation,
give us vigor, life anew.**

**Holy Spirit, come with fire,
burn us with your presence new.
Let us as one mighty choir
sing our hymn of praise to you.
Burn away our wasted sadness
and enflame us with your love.
Burst upon your congregation,
give us gladness from above.**

**Holy Spirit, bring your message,
burn and breathe each word anew
deep into our tired living
till we strive your work to do.
Teach us love and trusting kindness,
lend our hands to those who hurt.
Breathe upon your congregation
and inspire us with your word.**

**HWB #463, *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep
Silence***

**1 Let all mortal flesh keep silence,
and with fear and trembling stand;
ponder nothing earthly minded,
for, with blessing in His hand,
Christ our God to earth descendeth,
our full homage to demand.**

**2 King of kings, yet born of Mary,
as of old on earth He stood,
Lord of lords, in human vesture,
in the body and the blood.
He will give to all the faithful
His own self for heav'nly food.**

**3 Rank on rank the host of heaven
spreads its vanguard on the way,
as the Light of light descendeth
from the realms of endless day,
that the pow'rs of hell may vanish
as the darkness clears away.**

**4 At His feet the six-winged seraph,
cherubim with sleepless eye,
veil their faces to the Presence,
as with ceaseless voice they cry,**

**“Alleluia, alleluia,
alleluia, Lord Most High!”**

Confession of Sin & Assurance

We confess you are the Christ, O Lord, but we are weak and variable, prone to error.

Clear us from hidden faults, O God, from ambition for ourselves, careless indifference for others, and idolatry of success and security in this world.

Look graciously on our remorse, and lead us to return from evil, and to follow behind you again. We offer ourselves and our lives, to be cleansed and renewed.

As we drink from your cup, O Lord, assure us again of your forgiveness through the blood of Christ.

Accept our grateful pledge to follow you in serving and forgiving others, and grant your Spirit to fulfill it.

As we break your bread, O Lord, nourish us again with strength to take up your cross as our own, and follow you,
to live and die as your body for your kingdom. Amen.

Hymn - Mary, Don't You Weep

O Mary, don't you weep, don't you mourn,

O Mary, don't you weep, don't you mourn;

Pharaoh's army got drowned, O Mary, don't you weep.

**1 One of these mornings bright and
fair,
gonna take my wings and cleave the
air;**

**Pharaoh's army got drowned, O
Mary, don't you weep.**

**O Mary, don't you weep, don't you
mourn,**

**O Mary, don't you weep, don't you
mourn;**

**Pharaoh's army got drowned, O
Mary, don't you weep.**

**2 When I get to heaven gonna sing and
shout,**

ain't nobody there gonna turn me out;

**Pharaoh's army got drowned, O
Mary, don't you weep.**

**O Mary, don't you weep, don't you
mourn,**

**O Mary, don't you weep, don't you
mourn;**

**Pharaoh's army got drowned, O
Mary, don't you weep.**

**3 When I get to heaven gonna put on
my shoes,**

gonna run about and spread the news;

**Pharaoh's army got drowned, O
Mary, don't you weep.**

**O Mary, don't you weep, don't you
mourn,**

**O Mary, don't you weep, don't you
mourn;**

**Pharaoh's army got drowned, O
Mary, don't you weep.**

Scriptures

Isaiah 40:21-31

21 Have you not known? Have you not heard?

Has it not been told you from the beginning?

Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?

22 It is he who sits above
the circle of the earth,
and its inhabitants are like
grasshoppers,
who stretches out the heavens like a
curtain
and spreads them like a tent to live
in,

23 who brings princes to naught
and makes the rulers of the earth as
nothing.

24 Scarcely are they planted, scarcely
sown,
scarcely has their stem taken root
in the earth,
when he blows upon them, and they
wither, and the tempest carries them
off
like stubble.

25 To whom, then, will you compare me,
or who is my equal? says the Holy One.

26 Lift up your eyes on high and see:
Who created these?

He who brings out their host
and numbers them,
calling them all by name;
because he is great in strength,
mighty in power, not one is missing.

27 Why do you say, O Jacob,
and assert, O Israel,

“My way is hidden from the LORD,
and my right is disregarded by my God”?

28 Have you not known? Have you not
heard?

The LORD is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.

He does not faint or grow weary;
his understanding is unsearchable.

29 He gives power to the faint
and strengthens the powerless.

30 Even youths will faint and be weary,
and the young will fall exhausted,

31 but those who wait for the LORD
shall renew their strength;
they shall mount up with wings like
eagles;

they shall run and not be weary;
they shall walk and not faint.

1 Corinthians 9:16-23

16 If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! 17 For if I do this of my own will, I have a wage, but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. 18 What then is my wage? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel.

19 For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might gain all the more. 20 To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to gain Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might gain those under the law. 21 To those outside the law I became

as one outside the law (though I am not outside God's law but am within Christ's law) so that I might gain those outside the law. 22 To the weak I became weak, so that I might gain the weak. I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. 23 I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I might become a partner in it.

Mark 1:29-39

29 As soon as they left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. 30 Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. 31 He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

32 That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed by demons. 33 And the whole city was gathered around the door. 34 And he cured many who were sick with various diseases and cast out many demons, and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

35 In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. 36 And Simon and his companions hunted for him. 37 When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." 38 He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also, for that is what I came out to do." 39 And he went throughout all Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

Sermon – *Don't You Know? Haven't You Heard?* Laura Kelly

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.

Communion Prayer of Thanksgiving

These are the gifts of God for the people of God. We come in grateful celebration of Jesus' cross and resurrection, giving from our receiving, inviting as we have been invited, serving as we are served, renewing our bond to the narrow way of Jesus. There is room at his table for all who follow Jesus in God's covenant of grace and obedience.

The Lord is God, compassionate and gracious, overflowing in loving mercy and steadfast kindness.

Blessed be God, now and forever!

As the grain once scattered in the fields and the grapes once dispersed on the hills are now united on this table in bread and drink, so Lord, may we be made a true community of your Spirit as your Body on earth, and may your whole people soon be gathered together from across the earth in your Kingdom of holy peace.

Come, Lord Jesus! To you be glory forever!

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise to the Lord, because he is good; his love is eternal.

Truly, it is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to offer our praise, worship, and thanksgiving to you, Almighty and Ever-living God. For your generous creating grace, for redemption from slavery and sin, division and lies, and for calling your people into obedient love through your law, prophets, and apostles,

Blessed are you, O God, holy and mighty.

For your Son Jesus Christ, our healer and redeemer; for his call to faith, peace, and unity with one another; for his death and resurrection to bring forgiveness while we were your enemies killing him; for life in his Spirit, free from sin and death; for our communion with him in his Body, and the promise of his return in your full kingdom.

Blessed are you, Creator Spirit, who makes all things new!

Come, Spirit of Christ, and fulfill the promise of your kingdom among us. For on the night that he was betrayed, during supper, Jesus took bread, and after blessing it, he broke the bread and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take and eat. This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks, he gave it to them, saying: "Drink from this, all of you, for this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." So with praise and thanksgiving, we offer to you all these gifts and our very selves, received from your grace, to be a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's self-giving for us and for the whole world:

**We praise you, we bless you, we worship
and thank you, O Lord our God.**

Pour out your Holy Spirit upon this communion, on us gathered here and on these gifts, that the sharing of this bread and cup may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ.

Sanctify and fill us with your true presence, that in all our lives we may be for the world the united Body of Christ, redeemed by his blood. As we share your presence anew at this table of your giving, let us share your presence with the world in the giving of our lives and selves, in your service for all people. By your Spirit, make us one with Christ, one in full fellowship with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until we feast together at your heavenly banquet table with all your saints. Through Christ, with Christ, in

Christ, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

AMEN.

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Hymn #396, *The Work is Thine, O*

Christ

**1 The work is Thine, O Christ, our Lord,
The cause for which we stand;
And being Thine, 'twill overcome
Its foes on every hand.**

**Yet grains of wheat, before they grow,
Are buried in the earth below;
All that is old doth perish there,
To form a life both new and fair;
So too are we**

From self and sin made free.

**2 Thro' suffering Thou, O Christ, did go
Unto Thy throne above;
And ledest now the self same way
Those true in faith and love;
So lead us, then, though suff'rings wait,
To share Thy kingdom's heav'nly state,
Thy death has broken Satan's might,
And leads the faithful to the light;
Eternal light,
From darkness into light.**

**3 Thou hast, O Savior, led the way
Thro' agony and death;
O give, we pray, yet more and more
Thy Spirit's living breath;
Send messengers o'er land and sea**

**To bring Thy children all to Thee;
Thy name can save, Thy name makes
free;**

**We consecrate ourselves to Thee
As servants true,
As workers, brave and true.**

SENDING