

Durham Mennonite Church

February 6, 2022

10:30 a.m. Worship on Zoom

Preaching: Spencer Bradford Worship Leader: Marcia Nice



Welcome to Durham Mennonite Church

Welcome and Announcements

Opening Prayer

We come into your presence with praise on our lips and love in our hearts for you, O Lord our God! Please accept our songs of praise as sweet offerings to you for your steadfast love and your faithfulness. Hear our songs and purify our hearts. Help us to hear your call in our lives, and even as we hear, to respond with faith and commitment. Guide us to love you more deeply. Lead us to love one another more. Help us to love others with the kind of love you have shown toward us. We praise you and give you our love. Praise the name of the Lord! Amen.

Call to Worship (Psalm 138:1-6)

1 I give you thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart;
before the gods I sing your praise;

**2 I bow down toward your holy temple
and give thanks to your name
for your steadfast love and your faithfulness;
for you have exalted your name and your word
above everything.**

3 On the day I called, you answered me,
you increased my strength of soul.

**4 All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O Lord,
for they have heard the words of your mouth.**

5 They shall sing of the ways of the Lord,
for great is the glory of the Lord.

**6 For though the Lord is high, he regards the lowly;
but the haughty he perceives from far away.**

Prayer of Confession

Lord of forgiveness and grace
you know when we have failed
to hear your word or live your love.

Forgive us.

Open our ears to hear and our hearts to love.
You know when we have harmed others
with our strife and our disagreements.

Forgive us.

Guide us into unity and selflessness
that our church might be the true body of
Christ, that we might be faithful disciples of your
Son. Spirit of truth and righteousness,
speak to us always,
move through our lives and our church,
that our lives and ministry might tell of your
glory and display your handiwork.

In trust and gratitude, we pray. Amen.

Scripture - Isaiah 6:1-8

A Vision of God in the Temple

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. And one called to another and said:

“Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts;
the whole earth is full of his glory.”

The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. And I said: “Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!”

Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar

with a pair of tongs. The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: “Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out.” Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?” And I said, “Here am I; send me!”

Scripture - 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

Christ the Power and Wisdom of God

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. For it is written,

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

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are

the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

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. 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; God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, so that no one might boast in the presence of God. He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

Scripture - Luke 5:1-11

Jesus Calls the First Disciples

Once while Jesus was standing beside the lake of Gennesaret, and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch." Simon answered, "Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets." When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were

beginning to break. So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink. But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!" For he and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish that they had taken; and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people." When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him.

Sermon – "Call to Follow"
Spencer Bradford

Music video - Will you come and follow me

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GiXnbOORTAU>

Reflection on the sermon

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 - God be with you

[Mennonite Hymn: God be With You Till We Meet Again](#)

Sending

Spirit of God,

Bind us together in unity and love,

that we might be one body in Christ,

one body in ministry to the world.

Strengthen us with your power,

that we might fulfill your call in our lives,

a call to love and service.

Anoint us with your presence,

and send us forth

to be the hands and feet of Jesus. Amen.