

# **Durham Mennonite Church**

March 27, 2022

10:30 a.m. Worship in person and on Zoom

**Preaching: Jonathan Robie    Worship Leader: Marcia Nice**



**Welcome to Durham Mennonite Church**

# **Welcome and Announcements**

4th Sunday of Lent

Wednesday Evening 7:00 Lenten meetings

Crop Walk April 10, 2022 - Palm Sunday

Maundy Thursday Meal

Tenebrae Service - Friday, April 15th

Easter - Sunday, April 17th

Happy Birthday to Glenn Detweiler

Happy Anniversary to Kevin and Marcia Nice

## **Opening Prayer**

How incredible is your love, O God! We have been made new in your love and reconciled to you and to each other in peace and joy. Be with us this day as we hear your words of comfort and hope. Guide our lives that we may serve you more fully all of our days. AMEN.

## **Call to Worship**

How blessed we are that God forgives us and loves us!

**For all those times when we have fallen short of what God would have us be, we have been forgiven.**

God makes us new in God's Spirit!

**Now is the time to joyfully accept the newness of life which God offers to us.**

Come, let us worship and be thankful.

**Let us open our hearts to the peace and joy of God. AMEN.**

## **Hymn - #105 Christ we do all adore thee**

Christ, we do all adore thee,  
and we do praise thee forever.

Christ, we do all adore thee,  
and we do praise thee forever,

for on the holy cross  
hast thou the world from sin redeemed.  
Christ, we do all adore thee,  
and we do praise thee forever.  
Christ, we do all adore thee.

### **Hymn - #104 Of the Father's love**

Of the Father's Love begotten  
Ere the worlds began to be,  
He is Alpha and Omega,  
He the source, the ending He,  
Of the things that are, and have been,  
And that future years shall see,  
Evermore and evermore.

By His word was all created;  
He commanded and t'was done :  
Earth and sky and boundless ocean  
Universe of Three in One.  
All that sees the moon's soft radiance

All that breathes beneath the sun,  
Evermore and evermore!

This is He whom seers in old time  
Chanted of with one accord ;  
Whom the voices of the Prophets  
Promised in their faithful word;  
Now He shines, the long-expected:  
Let creation praise its Lord :  
Evermore and evermore!

O ye heights of heaven adore Him!  
Angel-hosts His praises sing!  
Powers, dominions fall before Him,  
And extol our God and King ;  
Let no tongue on earth keep silent,  
Every voice in concert ring,  
Evermore and evermore!

## **Hymn - #529 Father, I stretch my hands**

Father, I stretch my hands to Thee,  
No other help I know;  
If Thou withdraw Thyself from me,  
Ah! whither shall I go?

What did Thine only Son endure,  
Before I drew my breath?  
What pain, what labor, to secure  
My soul from endless death!

O Jesus, could I this believe,  
I now should feel Thy power;  
Now my poor soul Thou wouldst retrieve,  
Nor let me wait one hour.

Surely Thou canst not let me die;  
O speak, and I shall live;  
And here I will unwearied lie,  
Till Thou Thy Spirit give.

Author of faith, to Thee I lift  
My weary, longing eyes:  
O let me now receive that gift!  
My soul without it dies!

### **Extinguish the Lenten Candle (Week 4)**

As we extinguish these candles we confess that we are humans, created in your image yet often missing the mark. Holy Spirit, blow your wind through us and show us the corners that need to be cleared out to make room for you. Jesus, stay by our sides as we walk with you. Amen.

## **Confession of Confession (Psalm 32)**

O God,  
when we keep silence about our sin,  
we waste away with regret and guilt;  
we feel your hand upon us,  
and our strength dries up.  
And so we acknowledge our sin to you,  
holding nothing back,  
for you are a hiding place for us;  
we trust in you to preserve us.  
Forgive us and reclaim us, we pray. Amen.

## **Assurance of Grace**

Steadfast love surrounds those  
who put their trust in God,  
for God forgives the guilt of their sin.  
Happy are those whose transgression is  
forgiven!  
Be glad in God!

## **Hymn - #139 Far, far away**

Far, far away from my loving father,  
I had been wandering, wayward, wild,  
fearing only lest his anger  
overtake his sinful child.

I will arise and go to Jesus,  
he will embrace me in his arms.  
In the arms of my dear Savior,  
oh, there are ten thousand charms.

Fain had I fed on the husks around me,  
till to myself I came, and said,  
"Plenty have my father's servants,  
perish I for want of bread."

I will arise and go to Jesus,  
he will embrace me in his arms.  
In the arms of my dear Savior,

oh, there are ten thousand charms.

"I will arise, though faint and weary,  
home to my father I will go.

Woe to me that ever I wandered,  
ah, that I such need should know."

I will arise and go to Jesus,  
he will embrace me in his arms.  
In the arms of my dear Savior,  
oh, there are ten thousand charms.

"Father," I'll say,  
"I have sinned before thee,  
no more may I be called thy son.  
Make me only as thy servant,  
pity me, a wretch undone!"

I will arise and go to Jesus,  
he will embrace me in his arms.

In the arms of my dear Savior,  
oh, there are ten thousand charms.

Then I arose and came to my father.  
Mercy amazing! Love unknown!  
He beheld me, ran, embraced me,  
pardoned, welcomed, called me "son!"

I will arise and go to Jesus,  
he will embrace me in his arms.  
In the arms of my dear Savior,  
oh, there are ten thousand charms.

## **Scripture – Joshua 5:9-12**

The Lord said to Joshua, “Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt.” And so that place is called Gilgal to this day.

### **The Passover at Gilgal**

While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

# Scripture - Psalm 32

The Joy of Forgiveness

Of David. A Maskil.

**1**

Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven,  
whose sin is covered.

**2**

Happy are those to whom the Lord imputes no iniquity,  
and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

**3**

While I kept silence, my body wasted away  
through my groaning all day long.

**4**

For day and night your hand was heavy upon me;  
my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.

**5**

Then I acknowledged my sin to you,  
and I did not hide my iniquity;

I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord,"  
and you forgave the guilt of my sin.

**6**

Therefore let all who are faithful  
offer prayer to you;  
at a time of distress, the rush of mighty waters  
shall not reach them.

**7**

You are a hiding place for me;  
you preserve me from trouble;  
you surround me with glad cries of deliverance.

**8**

I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go;  
I will counsel you with my eye upon you.

**9**

Do not be like a horse or a mule, without understanding,  
whose temper must be curbed with bit and bridle,  
else it will not stay near you.

**10**

Many are the torments of the wicked,

but steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the Lord.

**11**

Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, O righteous,

and shout for joy, all you upright in heart.

## **Scripture - 2 Corinthians 5:16-21**

From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting

the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

## **Scripture - Luke 15:1-32**

### **The Parable of the Lost Sheep**

Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

So he told them this parable: “Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until

he finds it? When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

### **The Parable of the Lost Coin**

"Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

### **The Parable of the Prodigal and His Brother**

Then Jesus said, “There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.’ So he divided his property between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son;

treat me like one of your hired hands.” So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ But the father said to his slaves, ‘Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!’ And they began to celebrate. “Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. He replied, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.’ Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began

to plead with him. But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.'"

**Sermon – Jonathan Robie**

**Reflection on the sermon**

**Sharing praises and prayer concerns**

## **The Lord's Prayer - #731 Hymnal**

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 - #581 Take thou my hand**

1 Take thou my hand, O Father, and lead  
thou me; until my journey endeth  
eternally.

Alone I will not wander  
one single day.

Be thou my true companion  
and with me stay.

2 O cover with thy mercy  
my poor, weak heart!

Let ev'ry thought rebellious  
from me depart.

Permit thy child to linger  
here at thy feet,  
and fully trust thy goodness

with faith complete.

3 Though naught of thy great power  
may move my soul,  
with thee through night and darkness  
I reach the goal.

Take, then, my hand O Father,  
and lead thou me, until my journey  
endeth eternally.

## **Benediction**

Forgiven and Beloved Ones of God,  
go now in peace, sharing with others the  
Good News of God's love. Help those in  
need. Give and receive from each other the  
joy of peace. Amen.