

Durham Mennonite Church

May 15, 2022

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

Preaching: Jonathan Larson Worship Leader: Marcia Nice



Welcome to Durham Mennonite Church

Welcome and Announcements

Tuesday 7:00 - Carols for Peace

Opening Prayer

Speak to us, Giver of Life, and make us new.

We thirst for the waters of eternal life,

we yearn to know ourselves

as Resurrection People.

Send your Holy Spirit upon us this day,

and create in us your new heaven and new earth.

Speak to us words of comfort and hope,

words of challenge and courage.

Come: move among us, we pray. AMEN.

Litany (inspired by Revelation 21: 1-6)

We are the church
that lives into God's future today.

A church united across space and time.

A church of many races, languages and ethnicities.

**A church that lives by the work of God in Christ
that was, is now, and is still to come.**

The one who is seated on the throne says to us:

"See, I am making all things new!"

A new heaven and a new earth,

where the home of God is among God's people.

God's future is epic, and it's good news.

Remember God's future, for this is our story!

Hymn - Come we that love the Lord #14 HWB (blue hymnal)

1. Come, we that love the Lord,
and let our joys be known;
join in a song with sweet accord,
join in a song with sweet accord,
and thus surround the throne,
and thus surround the throne.

We're marching to Zion

beautiful beautiful Zion

We're marching upward to Zion
the beautiful city of God.

2. Let those refuse to sing
who never knew our God;
but children of the heavenly King
but children of the heavenly King

may speak their joys abroad.
may speak their joys abroad.
We're marching to Zion
beautiful beautiful Zion
We're marching upward to Zion
the beautiful city of God.

3. The hill of Zion yields
a thousand sacred sweets
before we reach the heavenly fields,
before we reach the heavenly fields,
or walk the golden streets.
or walk the golden streets.
We're marching to Zion
beautiful beautiful Zion
We're marching upward to Zion
the beautiful city of God.

4. Then let our songs abound,
and every tear be dry;
we're marching through Emmanuel's
ground,
we're marching through Emmanuel's
ground,
to fairer worlds on high.
to fairer worlds on high.
We're marching to Zion
beautiful beautiful Zion
We're marching upward to Zion
the beautiful city of God.

Hymn - God of our strength

#36 HWB (blue hymnal)

1. God of our strength, enthroned above,
the source of life, the fount of love,
O let devotion's sacred flame
our souls awake to praise thy name.
God of our strength, we wait on thee,
our sure defense forever be.

2. To thee we lift our joyful eyes,
to thee on wings of faith we rise.
Come thou, and let thy courts on earth
ring out thy praise in days of mirth.
God of our strength, we wait on thee,
our sure defense forever be.

3. God of our strength, from day to day
direct our thoughts and guide our way.
Oh, may our hearts united be
in sweet communion, God, with thee.
God of our strength, we wait on thee,
our sure defense forever be.

4. God of our strength, on thee we call.
God of our hope, our light, our all,
thy name we praise, thy love adore,
our rock, our shield, forevermore.
God of our strength, we wait on thee,
our sure defense forever be.

Prayer of Grace to God's People

Do not fear says God,
I have redeemed you.
I have called you by name
and you are mine.

God is doing a new thing;
now it springs forth!

**By the grace of Jesus Christ,
we are forgiven! Amen.**

Hymn - O healing river #706 VT

1. Oh healing river send down your water
Send down your water upon this land
Oh healing river send down your waters
And wash the blood from off the sand

2.This land is parching, this land is burning
No seed is growing on the barren ground
Oh healing river send down your waters
Oh healing river send your water down

3.Oh seed of freedom awake and flourish
Let the deep roots nourish,
let the tall stalks rise
Oh healing river send down your waters
Oh healing river from out of the skies

Scripture - Psalm 148

Praise for God's Universal Glory

1

Praise the Lord!

Praise the Lord from the heavens;
praise him in the heights!

2

Praise him, all his angels;
praise him, all his host!

3

Praise him, sun and moon;
praise him, all you shining stars!

4

Praise him, you highest heavens
and you waters above the heavens!

5

Let them praise the name of the Lord,
for he commanded and they were created.

6

He established them forever and ever;
he fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.

7

Praise the Lord from the earth,
you sea monsters and all deeps,

8

fire and hail, snow and frost,
stormy wind fulfilling his command!

9

Mountains and all hills,
fruit trees and all cedars!

10

Wild animals and all cattle,
creeping things and flying birds!

11

Kings of the earth and all peoples,
princes and all rulers of the earth!

12

Young men and women alike,
old and young together!

13

Let them praise the name of the Lord,
for his name alone is exalted;
his glory is above earth and heaven.

14

He has raised up a horn for his people,
praise for all his faithful,
for the people of Israel who are close to him.

Praise the Lord!

Scripture - John 13:31-35

The New Commandment

31 When he had gone out, Jesus said, “Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. 32 If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. 33 Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me, and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, ‘Where I am going, you cannot come.’ 34 I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. 35 By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

Scripture – Revelation 21:1-6

The New Heaven and the New Earth

21 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. 2 And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

“See, the home of God is among mortals.

He will dwell with them;

they will be his peoples,

and God himself will be with them

and be their God;

4

he will wipe every tear from their eyes.

Death will be no more;
mourning and crying and pain will be no more,
for the first things have passed away.”

5 And the one who was seated on the throne said, “See, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.” 6 Then he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.

Sermon – Jonathan Larson

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 - Shall we gather at the river
#667 Voices Together

1 Shall we gather at the river,
Where bright angel feet have trod;
With its crystal tide forever
Flowing by the throne of God?
Yes, we'll gather at the river,
The beautiful, the beautiful river;
Gather with the saints at the river
That flows by the throne of God.

2 On the margin of the river,
Washing up its silver spray,

We will walk and worship ever,
All the happy golden day.
Yes, we'll gather at the river,
The beautiful, the beautiful river;
Gather with the saints at the river
That flows by the throne of God.

3 Ere we reach the shining river,
Lay we ev'ry burden down;
Grace our spirits will deliver,
And provide a robe and crown.
Yes, we'll gather at the river,
The beautiful, the beautiful river;
Gather with the saints at the river
That flows by the throne of God.

4 Soon we'll reach the shining river,
Soon our pilgrimage will cease;
Soon our happy hearts will quiver
With the melody of peace.
Yes, we'll gather at the river,
The beautiful, the beautiful river;
Gather with the saints at the river
That flows by the throne of God.

Benediction