

Durham Mennonite Church

September 18, 2022



Welcome to Durham Mennonite Church

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship - #879 (VT)

Life-giving God,

May your Holy Spirit inspire
our praise and our prayers.

Open our hearts and minds
to your presence among us and within us.

Come alive in our words and actions
as we come before you this morning.

To you alone belongs all praise and honor
and glory and blessing. Amen.

Hymn - #7 Come let us all unite (VT)

1 Come, let us all unite to sing,
God is love.

Let heav'n and earth their praises bring,
God is love.

Let ev'ry soul from sin awake,
let ev'ry heart sweet music make,
and sing with us for Jesus' sake,
for God is love.

God is love! God is love!

Come, let us all unite to sing that God is
love.

2 O tell to earth's remotest bound,
God is love.

In Christ we have redemption found,
God is love.

His blood has washed our sins away,

his Spirit turned our night to day,
and now we can rejoice to say
that God is love.

God is love! God is love!

Come, let us all unite to sing that God is
love.

3 What though our mortal flesh shall fail,
God is love!

Through Christ we shall o'er death
prevail,

God is love!

While endless ages roll along,
we'll triumph with the heav'nly throng
and this shall be our sweetest song,
that God is love!

God is love! God is love!

Come, let us all unite to sing that God is love.

4 How happy is our portion here,
God is love.

These promises our spirits cheer,
God is love.

God is our sun and shield by day,
our help, our hope, our strength and
stay;

and will be with us all the way:
our God is love.

God is love! God is love!

Hymn - #4 Christ is our cornerstone (VT)

1 Christ is our corner-stone,
On him alone we build;
With his true saints alone
The courts of heaven are filled:
On his great love
Our hopes we place
Of present grace
And joys above.

2 Oh, then with hymns of praise
These hallowed courts shall ring;
Our voices we will raise
The Three in One to sing;
And thus proclaim
In joyful song,
Both loud and long,
That glorious Name.

3 Here may we gain from heaven
The grace which we implore;
And may that grace, once given,
Be with us evermore,
Until that day
When all the blest
To endless rest
Are called away.

4 Praise to the God of heaven
Sing praise to God the Son;
The Spirit, praise be given,
Who joins them both as one:
The holy Dove,
Who gives us grace
To find our place
In God's great love!

Prayer of Confession

Father God,
you are the one who leads us
from darkness into light,
from captivity into freedom,
from anxiety into peace,
from despair into joy.
Yet we long to break free,
choosing independence,
convinced of our own wisdom,
forgetting your love and grace.
Forgive us,
draw close to us,
embrace us once again
in your loving arms,
and enable us to follow you
in worship and grateful service
each day of our lives
Amen

Hymn - #133 My Jesus, I love thee

1 My Jesus, I love thee,
I know thou art mine;
for thee all the follies of sin I resign;
my gracious Redeemer,
my Savior art thou;
if ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

2 I love thee because thou
hast first loved me
and purchased my pardon
on Calvary's tree;
I love thee for wearing
the thorns on thy brow;
if ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

3 In mansions of glory
and endless delight,
I'll ever adore thee in heaven so bright;
I'll sing with the glittering
crown on my brow:
If ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

Prayer - #911 (VT)

Scripture - Exodus 40:18-35

Moses set up the tabernacle; he laid its bases, and set up its frames, and put in its poles, and raised up its pillars; and he spread the tent over the tabernacle, and put the covering of the tent over it; as the Lord had commanded Moses. He took the covenant and put it into the

ark, and put the poles on the ark, and set the mercy seat above the ark; and he brought the ark into the tabernacle, and set up the curtain for screening, and screened the ark of the covenant; as the Lord had commanded Moses. He put the table in the tent of meeting, on the north side of the tabernacle, outside the curtain, and set the bread in order on it before the Lord; as the Lord had commanded Moses. He put the lampstand in the tent of meeting, opposite the table on the south side of the tabernacle, and set up the lamps before the Lord; as the Lord had commanded Moses. He put the golden altar in the tent of meeting before the curtain, and offered fragrant incense on

it; as the Lord had commanded Moses. He also put in place the screen for the entrance of the tabernacle. He set the altar of burnt offering at the entrance of the tabernacle of the tent of meeting, and offered on it the burnt offering and the grain offering as the Lord had commanded Moses. He set the basin between the tent of meeting and the altar, and put water in it for washing, with which Moses and Aaron and his sons washed their hands and their feet. When they went into the tent of meeting, and when they approached the altar, they washed; as the Lord had commanded Moses. He set up the court around the tabernacle and the altar, and

put up the screen at the gate of the court. So Moses finished the work.

The Cloud and the Glory

Then the cloud covered the tent of meeting, and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle. Moses was not able to enter the tent of meeting because the cloud settled upon it, and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle.

Scripture - Psalm 24

1 The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it,
the world, and those who live in it;

2 for he has founded it on the seas,

and established it on the rivers.

3 Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord?

And who shall stand in his holy place?

4 Those who have clean hands and pure hearts,

who do not lift up their souls to what is false,

and do not swear deceitfully.

5 They will receive blessing from the Lord,

and vindication from the God of their salvation.

6 Such is the company of those who seek him,

who seek the face of the God of Jacob. *Selah*

7 Lift up your heads, O gates!

and be lifted up, O ancient doors!

that the King of glory may come in.

8 Who is the King of glory?

The Lord, strong and mighty,

the Lord, mighty in battle.

9 Lift up your heads, O gates!

and be lifted up, O ancient doors!

that the King of glory may come in.

10 Who is this King of glory?

The Lord of hosts,

he is the King of glory. *Selah*

Scripture - Hebrews 9:1-15

Now even the first covenant had regulations for worship and an earthly sanctuary. For a tent was constructed, the first one, in which were the lampstand, the table, and the bread of the Presence; this is called the Holy Place. Behind the second curtain was a tent called the Holy of Holies. In it stood the golden altar of incense

and the ark of the covenant overlaid on all sides with gold, in which there were a golden urn holding the manna, and Aaron's rod that budded, and the tablets of the covenant; above it were the cherubim of glory overshadowing the mercy seat. Of these things we cannot speak now in detail. Such preparations having been made, the priests go continually into the first tent to carry out their ritual duties; but only the high priest goes into the second, and

he but once a year, and not without taking the blood that he offers for himself and for the sins committed unintentionally by the people. By this the Holy Spirit indicates that the way into the sanctuary has not yet been disclosed as long as the first tent^f is still standing. This is a symbol of the present time, during which gifts and sacrifices are offered that cannot perfect the conscience of the worshiper, but deal only with food and drink and various baptisms,

regulations for the body imposed until the time comes to set things right.

But when Christ came as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation), he entered once for all into the Holy Place, not with the blood of goats and calves, but with his own blood, thus obtaining eternal redemption. For if the blood of goats and bulls, with the sprinkling of the

ashes of a heifer, sanctifies those who have been defiled so that their flesh is purified, how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to worship the living God!

For this reason he is the mediator of a new covenant, so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance, because a death has occurred that redeems

them from the transgressions under the first covenant.

Scripture - 1 Peter 2:1-11

The Living Stone and a Chosen People

Rid yourselves, therefore, of all malice, and all guile, insincerity, envy, and all slander. Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation— if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. Come to him, a living stone,

though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture:

“See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

To you then who believe, he is precious;

but for those who do not believe,

“The stone that the builders rejected

has become the very head of the corner,”

and “A stone that makes them stumble,

and a rock that makes them fall.” They

stumble because they disobey the word, as

they were destined to do. But you are a

chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation,

God's own people, in order that you may

proclaim the mighty acts of him who called

you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

Once you were not a people, but now you are

God's people; once you had not received

mercy,

but now you have received mercy.

Live as Servants of God

Beloved, I urge you as aliens and exiles to

abstain from the desires of the flesh that wage

war against the soul.

Sermon – Jonathan Robie

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 - #831 Blest be the tie (VT)

Blest be the tie that binds
our hearts in Christian love;
the fellowship of kindred minds
is like to that above.

We share our mutual woes,
our mutual burdens bear,
and often for each other flows
the sympathizing tear.

When we asunder part,
it gives us inward pain;
but we shall still be joined in heart,
and hope to meet again.

From sorrow, toil, and pain,
and sin, we shall be free;
and perfect love and friendship reign
through all eternity.

Benediction - #1055 (VT)

**Offerings may be placed in the offering
basket or given electronically on the
church's website.**