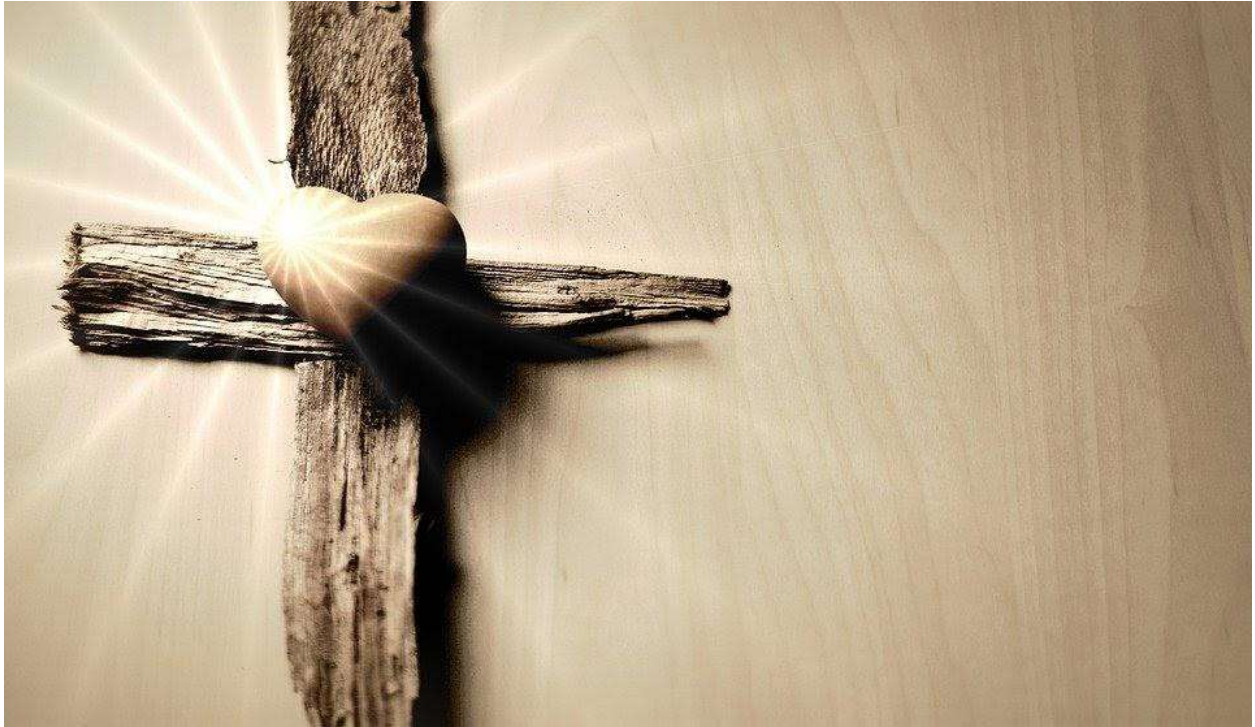


Durham Mennonite Church

February 12, 2023



Welcome to Durham Mennonite Church

Welcome and Announcements

Opening Prayer

Holy Spirit, guide us as we walk in faith,
and guard us against the powers
that would draw us away from your love.

Help us live according to your commandments,
that we might live long in the land
you have prepared for us.

Prompt us to seek you with our whole heart
and guide us to walk in your ways,
that we may carry out the vows
of the covenant we share.

May our words and deeds
bring life and faith to others,
as we hold fast to the gift of faith.

Be near us each today and every day.

Bless us with your light,
that our days may be filled with grace. Amen.

Call to Worship (Psalm 119)

Happy are those who walk in God's ways.

**Blessed are those who observe God's
commandments.**

Faithful are those whose eyes are fixed
on righteousness.

**Joyful are those whose hearts are filled
with praise.**

Come, let us love the Lord our God.

**We come to worship the One who leads us
in the ways of life.**

Hymn - #29 VT

Come, Now Is the Time to Worship.

Come, now is the time to worship

Come, now is the time to give your heart

Come, just as you are to worship

Come, just as you are before your God

Come

One day every tongue will confess You are
God

One day every knee will bow

Still the greatest treasure remains for those
Who gladly choose You now

Come, now is the time to worship

Come, now is the time to give your heart

Come, just as you are to worship

Come, just as you are before your God

Come

Willingly we choose to surrender our lives

Willingly our knees will bow

With all our heart, soul, mind and strength

We gladly choose You now

Come, now is the time to worship
Come, now is the time to give your heart
Come, just as you are to worship
Oh come, just as you are before your God
Come

Hymn - #752 VT Halle, Halle, Halle.

Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Hallelujah, hallelujah!

When we walk in weakness, be our song...

When the shadows deepen, be our song...

Confession of Sin (Deuteronomy 30, 1 Corinthians 3)

Loving God, you call us to walk in your ways,
observe your commandments,
and love you as you have loved us.

You offer us a community of abundant blessing,
with rich soil to promote dynamic growth.

Yet we often turn away from you
to satisfy our own wants and desires.

We forsake the way of love and forgiveness,
giving in to jealousies and quarreling,
and surrendering our lofty ideals
to our baser inclinations.

Forgive us, O God.

**When we flee from your embrace,
draw us into community with you
and with one another. Shower us
with the cleansing waters of humility,
that we may reclaim our purpose and find
nourishment and growth in labors of love**

**to bring your kingdom in our
midst.**

Assurance of Grace

(Deuteronomy 30, 1 Corinthians 3)

God is alive and at work nurturing our growth,
nourishing our needs,
and reconciling us to one another.

God hears the confessions of our hearts
and forgives generously,
sharing love with all who follow in God's ways.
It is through God's amazing grace that we are
forgiven. And all God's children respond:

Thanks be to God!

Hymn - #606 VT

Guide Me Oh Thou Great Jehovah

Guide me, O Thou great Jehovah,
Pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but Thou art mighty;

Hold me with Thy powerful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven
Feed me till I want no more
Feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain,
Whence the healing waters flow;
Let the fiery and cloudy pillar
Lead me all my journey through.
Strong Deliverer, strong deliverer
Be Thou still my Strength and Shield.
Be Thou still my Strength and Shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,
Bid my anxious fears subside;
Death of death, and hell's destruction,
Land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs of praises, Songs of praises,
I will ever give to Thee.
I will ever give to Thee.

Scripture - I Corinthians 3:1-9

And so, brothers and sisters, I could not speak to you as spiritual people, but rather as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for solid food. Even now you are still not ready, for you are still of the flesh. For as long as there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not of the flesh, and behaving according to human inclinations? For when one says, "I belong to Paul," and another, "I belong to Apollos," are you not merely human? What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each. I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. The one who plants and the one who waters have a common purpose, and each will receive wages according to the labor of each. For we are God's

servants, working together; you are God's field, God's building.

Scripture – Matthew 5:21-26

21 “You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, ‘You shall not murder’; and ‘whoever murders shall be liable to judgment.’
22 But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgment; and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council; and if you say, ‘You fool,’ you will be liable to the hell of fire. 23 So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, 24 leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift. 25 Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the

judge, and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. 26 Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

Sermon – Jonathan Larson

Congregational Response

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 - #813 VT

Heart with Loving Heart United

1 Heart with loving heart united,
met to know God's holy will.

Let his love in us ignited
more and more our spirits fill.

He the Head, we are his members;

we reflect the light he is.
He the Master, we disciples,
he is ours and we are his.

2 May we all so love each other
and all selfish claims deny,
so that each one for the other
will not hesitate to die.
Even so our Lord has loved us;
for our lives he gave his life.
Still he grieves and still he suffers,
for our selfishness and strife.

3 Since, O Lord, you have demanded
that our lives your love should show
so we wait to be commanded
forth into your world to go.

Kindle is us love's compassion
so that ev'ryone may see
in our fellowship the promise
of a new humanity.

A Prayer For Wayfarers*

Sometimes, our paths diverge,
But be now to us and to Joy,
sacred companion.

Sometimes,
the path grows steep and forbidding,
But be then to us and to Joy,
strength and guide.

Sometimes,
the path seems friendless and lonely,
But be then to us and to Joy,
comfort and assurance.

Sometimes, the path opens to us,
all cheer and radiance.

**But be then to us and to Joy,
memento of our noble calling.**

These paths lead on where longing,
peril and regrets are banished.

**Be then to us and to Joy, the welcome
awaiting all who walk in faith.**

AMEN.