

Durham Mennonite Church

February 26, 2023



Welcome to Durham Mennonite Church

Welcome and Announcements

Opening Prayer

Holy One, we are constantly bombarded with temptations and enticements.

When we yield, when we fail, who will help us?

You, Lord, have come to our aid.

You teach us, counsel us, and guide us in the ways we should go.

We rejoice in your unfailing love. Amen.

Call to Worship (Psalm 32)

Happy are those whose sins are forgiven.

Happy are those whose sins are cast away.

Rejoice in the Lord and be glad!

Sing out and shout for joy!

Rejoice in the Lord!

Rejoice! Amen!

Hymn - VT #303 O Love, How Deep

O love, how deep, how broad, how high!
It fills the heart with ecstasy,
that God, the Son of God, should take
our mortal form for mortals' sake!

For us he was baptized,
and bore his holy fast, and hungered sore.
For us temptation sharp he knew,
for us the tempter overthrew

For us he prayed; for us he taught;
for us his daily works he wrought;
by words and signs and actions thus
still seeking not himself, but us.

For us to wicked hands betrayed,
scourged, mocked, in purple robe arrayed,
he bore the shameful cross and death, for
us at length, gave up his breath.

Eternal glory to our God for love so deep,
so high, so broad the Trinity whom we
adore for ever and forever more.

Hymn - VT #305 The Glory of These Forty Days

The glory of these forty days
we celebrate with songs of praise,
for Christ, by whom all things were made,
himself has fasted and has prayed.

Alone and fasting Moses saw
the loving God who gave the law,
and to Elijah, fasting, came
the steed and chariots of flame.

So Daniel trained his mystic sight,
delivered from the lions' might,
and John, the Savior's friend,
became the herald of Messiah's name.

Then grant, O God, that we may, too,
return in fast and prayer to you.
Our spirits strengthen with your grace,
and give us joy to see your face.

Hymn - VT #552 – As a Deer in Want of Water

As a deer in want of water,
So I long for You, O Lord.,
All my heart and being falter,
Thirsting for Your living word.
When shall I behold Your face?
When shall I receive Your grace?
When shall I Your praises voicing,
Come before You with rejoicing?

Bitter tears of lamentation

Are my food my night and day.

In my deep humiliation

""Where is now Your God?"" they say.

When my sorrows weigh on me,

Then I bring to memory

How with throngs I would assemble,

Shouting praises in your temple.

Why, my soul, are you so shaken?

Why does fear with-in you burn?

Hope will once again awaken: peace of mind
will soon return. Then, O God, for all my days I
will lift my voice in praise; you have shown your
help and favor, for you are my God and Savior.

Confession of Sin

We keep silent before you, Lord—
afraid to confront our transgressions;
terrified to face the reality of our sin;
we feel as if the weight of the world
were upon our shoulders;
we no longer recognize ourselves
or what we have become
as we keep our failings and fears inside.

**Help us to admit our sins
and accept our imperfections.**

Why is that simple act so difficult for us?
Why do we hesitate, knowing that you stand
ready to wash away our guilt?
You are the sanctuary
where distress cannot reach us.

In your steadfast love, forgive us.

In your healing caress, cleanse us.

In your Holy Spirit, restore us.

In the name of our Savior, we pray. Amen.

Assurance of Grace (Psalm 32)

When distress and anxiety surround us
like an angry flood, our pleas are heard.
The Lord hears the prayers of a faithful heart.
God has become our hiding place,
our refuge from trouble.
No harm can touch us here.
The Lord wraps us in the arms of salvation
Shouts of deliverance enfold us!

Hymn - HWB #146, O Lamb of God All Holy

O Lamb of God most holy!

Who on the cross didst suffer,

And patient still and lowly,

Yourself to scorn did offer;

Our sins by You were taken,
Or hope had us forsaken:
Have mercy on us, Jesus!

O Lamb of God most holy!
Who on the cross didst suffer,
And patient still and lowly,
Yourself to scorn did offer;
Our sins by You were taken,
Or hope had us forsaken:
Have mercy on us, Jesus!

O Lamb of God most holy!
Who on the cross didst suffer,

And patient still and lowly,
Yourself to scorn did offer;
Our sins by You were taken,
Or hope had us forsaken:
Your peace be with us, Jesus!

Scripture - Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7

Chapter 2

15 The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. 16 And the Lord God commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; 17 but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die."

Chapter 3

1 Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God say, ‘You shall not eat from any tree in the garden’?” 2 The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; 3 but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.’ ” 4 But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not die; 5 for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” 6 So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its

fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. 7 Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

Scripture – Romans 5:12-19

Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned— sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was

to come. But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. If, because of the one man's trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ. Therefore just as

one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. For just as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

Scripture – Matthew 4:1-11

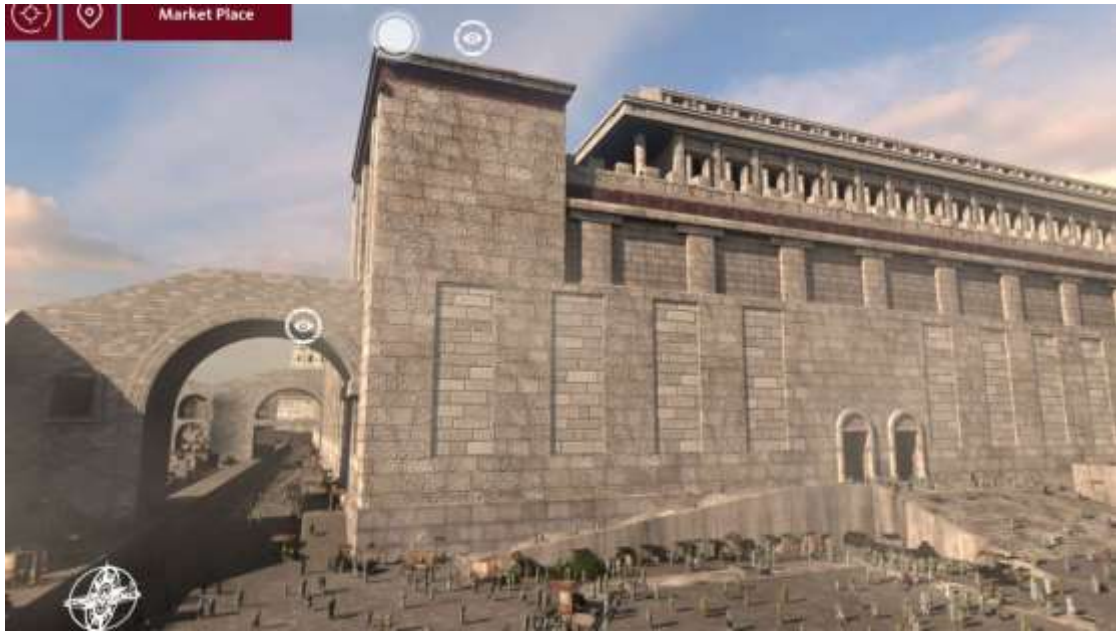
Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. The tempter came and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.” But he answered, “It is written, ‘One does not live by bread alone, but by every

word that comes from the mouth of God.’ ” Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, ‘He will command his angels concerning you,’ and ‘On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’ ” Jesus said to him, “Again it is written, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’ ” Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; and he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.” Jesus said to him, “Away with you, Satan! for it is written,

‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.’ ” Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

Sermon – Kevin Nice
Matthew 4:1-11





Living Victorious

Spend lots of time alone with God.

Be prepared to be tempted after a victory.

Be filled with the Holy Spirit.

Be ready with Scripture.

Be ready for further attacks.

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 - VT #443 I Have Decided to Follow Jesus

I have decided to follow Jesus;

I have decided to follow Jesus;

I have decided to follow Jesus;

No turning back, no turning back.

The world behind me, the cross before me,

The world behind me, the cross before me;

The world behind me, the cross before me;

No turning back, no turning back.

Tho' none go with me, I still will follow,

Tho' none go with me I still will follow,

Tho' none go with me, I still will follow;

No turning back, no turning back.

Sending (Romans 5)

Though we were condemned,
we have found pardon.

Though death held dominion over our lives,
God's grace and gift of righteousness
now lives and reigns within us.

We are free. We are forgiven.

We are alive in Christ! Amen!