

Durham Mennonite Church

July 9, 2023



Welcome to Durham Mennonite Church

Welcome and Announcements

Opening Prayer

Call to Worship - Psalm 145:8-14

**8 The LORD is gracious and compassionate,
slow to anger and rich in love.**

**9 The LORD is good to all;
he has compassion on all he has made.**

**10 All your works praise you, LORD;
your faithful people extol you.**

**11 They tell of the glory of your kingdom
and speak of your might,**

**12 so that all people may know of your
mighty acts and the glorious splendor
of your kingdom.**

**13 Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,
and your dominion endures through all
generations. The LORD is trustworthy in
all**

he promises and faithful in all he does.

**14 The LORD upholds all who fall
and lifts up all who are bowed down.**

Hymn - VT #137 Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord

Holy, holy, holy, holy is the Lord!
Holy, holy, holy, holy God alone!
God, the uncreated
God who always was,
endlessly exalted, reign forever more.

Holy, holy, holy, holy is the Lord
Holy, holy, holy, holy God alone!
Mighty wondrous, loving,
circled round with awe;
holy, holy, holy, holy is the Lord.

Hymn - VT #589 In Lonely Mountain Ways

In lonely mountain ways
Of this world's trial and care,
my heart knows naught of fear-scarred days;
The Master's hand is there!

My journey may be long,
The pathway rough and steep.
Sufficient for each day my song;
My way the Lord does keep.

And though when evening falls,
A stone my pillow shapes,
The vision of our kingdom calls
And here a Bethel makes.

Hymn - Wayfaring Stranger

(youtube - Rhiannon Giddens)

Litany - Surely, the Lord Is In This Place

Genesis 28:10-17

Sometimes we journey far without reward, except bewilderment and blistered feet.

**But then the story tells us,
Surely, the Lord is in this place
and we did not know it.**

Sometimes we wander bereft as orphans, as exiles in search of refuge.

**But then the story tells us,
Surely, the Lord is in this place
and we did not know it.**

Sometimes we travel stripped of hope, hungry and beyond the reach of help.

**But then the story tells us,
Surely, the Lord is in this place
and we did not know it.**

Sometimes we are in flight for our very lives, hearing footsteps in the shadows, fearful and without assurance of tomorrow.

**But then the story tells us,
Surely, the Lord is in this place
and we did not know it.**

Should such a night close about us,
our heads laid on stony ground,
then help us to see,

**Surely, the Lord is in this place
and we did not know it.**

How awesome is this place, Beth-El, the very gate of Heaven! - **Jpl 7/7/23**

Confession of Sin

Loving God, you call us to walk in your ways,
observe your commandments,
and love you as you have loved us.
You offer us love and forgiveness,
Yet we often turn away from you
to satisfy our own wants and desires.

Forgive us, O God.

**When we flee from your embrace,
draw us into community with you
and with one
another.**

Assurance of Grace

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 - VT #601 Lead Me, Guide Me

Lead me, guide me along the way;

For if You lead me, I cannot stray;

Lord, let me walk each day with Thee.

Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

I am weak, and I need Thy strength and power

To help me over my weakest hour;

Help me through the darkness Thy face to see,

Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

Lead me, guide me along the way;

For if You lead me, I cannot stray;

Lord, let me walk each day with Thee.

Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

Help me tread in the paths of righteousness;

Be my aid when Satan and sin oppress.

I am putting all my trust in Thee,

Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

Lead me, guide me along the way;
For if You lead me, I cannot stray;
Lord, let me walk each day with Thee.
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

**I am lost, if you take your hand from me;
I am blind, without Thy Light to see;
Lord, just always let me Thy servant be,
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.**

Lead me, guide me along the way;
For if You lead me, I cannot stray;
Lord, let me walk each day with Thee.
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

Scripture - John 1:43-51 NRSV

The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth." Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, "Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!" Nathanael asked him, "Where did you get to know me?" Jesus answered, "I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you." Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" Jesus answered, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw

you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these.” And he said to him, “Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.”

Scripture - Genesis 28:10-17 NRSV

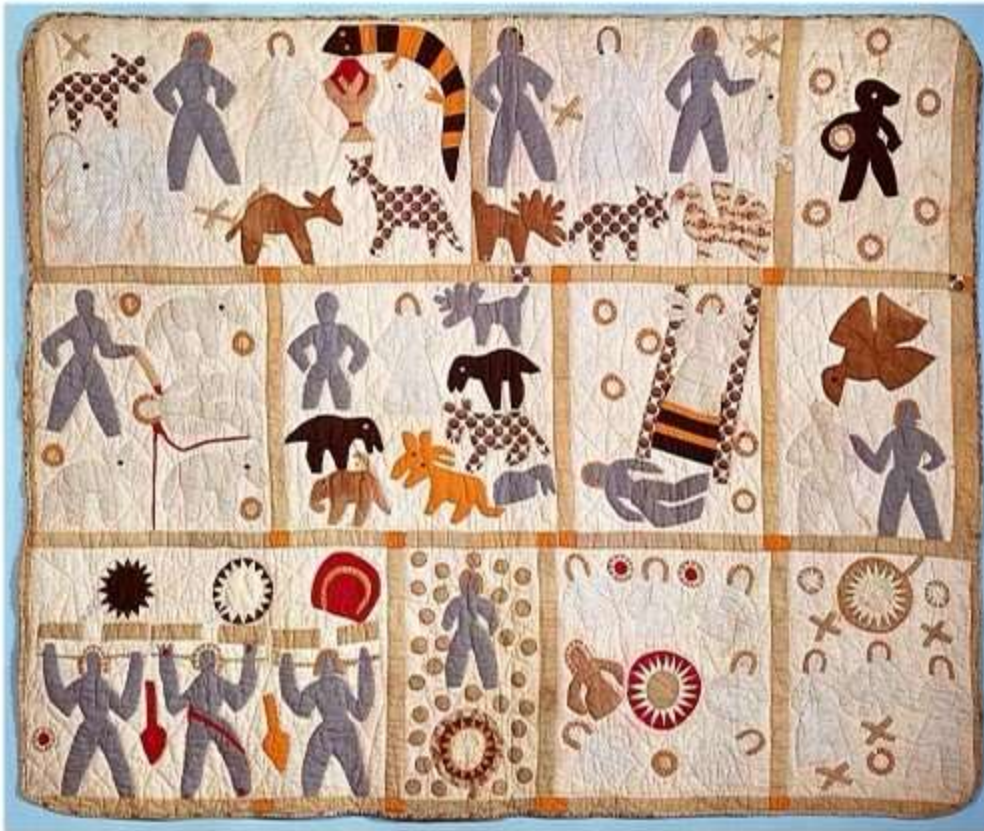
Jacob left Beer-sheba and went toward Haran. He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth,

the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. And the LORD stood beside him and said, “I am the LORD, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring; and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.” Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, “Surely the LORD is in this place—and I did not know it!” And he was

afraid, and said, “How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.”

Message - Jackie Carroll

Bible Quilt



Harriet Powers, Bible Quilt, 1886, Smithsonian National Museum of American History, Washington, DC, USA.

[Museum's website.](#)





The only photograph of Harriet Powers. [Textiles in Context.](#)



Janet's Dream by Janet Flower (2004)



Hymn - We are Climbing Jacob's Ladder

- 1. We are climbing Jacob's Ladder. (3x)
Seekers, one and all.**
- 2. Ev'ry round goes higher, higher. (3x)
Seekers, one and all..**
- 3. Sinner, do you love my Jesus. (3x)
Seekers, one and all.**
- 4. If you love him, why not serve him? (3x)
Seekers, one and all.**
- 5. Rise and shine, and give God glory. (3x)
Seekers, one and all.**

Congregational Response

Sharing Praises and Prayer Concerns

Prayers of the Church

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 #812 Sent Forth By God's Blessing

**1 Sent forth by God's blessing,
our true faith confessing,
the people of God from this dwelling take leave.**

The supper is ended.

**Oh, now be extended
the fruits of this service in all who believe.**

**The seed of Christ's teaching,
receptive souls reaching,
shall blossom in action for God and for all.**

**Your grace shall incite us,
your love shall unite us
to work for your kingdom and answer your call.**

**2 With praise and thanksgiving
to God ever-living,
the tasks of our ev'ryday life we will face—
our faith ever sharing,**

in love ever caring,

**embracing God's children,
the whole human race.**

With your feast you feed us,

with your light now lead us;

unite us as one in this life that we share.

Then may all the living

with praise and thanksgiving

give honor to Christ and his name that we bear.

Benediction