

Durham Mennonite Church

August 6, 2023



Welcome to Durham Mennonite Church

Welcome and Announcements

Opening Prayer

In the darkness of night and the brightness of day, you, O Lord, are present to us. As we wrestle with situations which seem to drain us of our energy; as we struggle to find out who you call us to be, you reach out to us with reassurance of empowerment and courage for the days ahead. Calm our spirits and prepare our hearts and lives to receive your awesome grace. It is in Jesus' name that we pray. AMEN.

Call to Worship - VT #854

Leader: Some of us are exhausted.

People: We come to rest.

Leader: Some of us are curious about Jesus.

People: We come to learn.

Leader: Some of us are hungry.

People: We come to be fed.

Leader: Some of us are disoriented.

People: We come to pray.

Leader: Some of us are broken.

People: We come to be healed.

Leader: We gather around you today,
O Christ.

People: Teach us, feed us, hear us, heal us.

All: Grant us your peace. Amen.

Scripture - Isaiah 55:1-5

**1 Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters;
and you that have no money, come, buy and eat!
Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.**

**2 Why do you spend your money for that which is
not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy?**

**Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,
and delight yourselves in rich food.**

**3 Incline your ear, and come to me;
listen, so that you may live.**

**I will make with you an everlasting covenant,
my steadfast, sure love for David.**

**4 See, I made him a witness to the peoples,
a leader and commander for the peoples.**

**5 See, you shall call nations that you do not know,
and nations that do not know you shall run to you,
because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel,
for he has glorified you.**

Hymn - VT #764

Oh, For a Thousand Tongues

O for a thousand tongues to sing
My great Redeemer's praise,
With glories ever echoing,
The triumphs of His grace!

Jesus! the name that charms our fears,
That bids our sorrows cease;
'Tis music to the sinner's ears,
'Tis life, and health, and peace.

He speaks, and, listening to His voice,
New life the dead receive,
The mournful, broken hearts rejoice,
The humble poor believe.

My gracious savior and my God,
Assist me to proclaim,
To spread through all the earth abroad
The honors of Thy name.

Glory to God, and praise and love
Be ever, ever given,
By saints below and saints
above,
The church in earth and Heaven.

Hymn - HWB #495 O Let All Who Thirst

O let all who thirst
Let them come to the water
And let all who have nothing
Let them come to the Lord:
Without money, without price
Why should you pay the price
Except for the Lord?

And let all who seek
Let them come to the water
And let all who have nothing
Let them come to the Lord:
Without money, without strife
Why should you spend your life
Except for the Lord?

And let all who toil
Let them come to the water
And let all who are weary
Let them come to the Lord:
All who labor, without rest
How can your soul find rest
Except for the Lord?

And let all the poor
Let them come to the water
Bring the ones who are laden
Bring them all to the Lord:
Bring the children without might
Easy the load and light:
Come to the Lord

Prayer of Confession

Have mercy on me, O God,
according to your steadfast love;
according to your abundant mercy
blot out my transgressions.

**Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,
and cleanse me from my sin.**

**For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is ever before me.**

Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and put a new and steadfast spirit within me.

Do not cast me away from your presence,
and do not take your holy spirit from me.

Restore to me the joy of your salvation,

and sustain in me a willing spirit.

Amen.

Scripture - Psalm 145:8-9,14-21

1 I will extol you, my God and King,

and bless your name forever and ever.

2 Every day I will bless you

and praise your name forever and ever.

3 Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised;

his greatness is unsearchable.

4 One generation shall extol your works to another and shall declare your mighty acts.

5 They will recount the glorious splendor of your majesty, and on your wondrous works

I will meditate.

6 They will proclaim the might of your awesome deeds, and I will declare your greatness.

7 They shall celebrate the fame of your

**abundant goodness and shall sing aloud of
your righteousness.**

**8 The LORD is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger and abounding
in steadfast love.**

**9 The LORD is good to all, and his compassion
is over all that he has made.**

**10 All your works shall give thanks to you,
O LORD, and all your faithful shall bless
you.**

11 They shall speak of the glory of your

kingdom and tell of your power,

**12 to make known to all people your mighty
deeds and the glorious splendor of your
kingdom.**

**13 Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,
and your dominion endures throughout
all
generations. The LORD is faithful in all his
words and gracious in all his deeds.**

**14 The LORD upholds all who are falling
and raises up all who are bowed down.**

15 The eyes of all look to you, and you give

them their food in due season.

**16 You open your hand,
satisfying the desire of every living thing.**

**17 The LORD is just in all his ways
and kind in all his doings.**

**18 The LORD is near to all who call on him,
to all who call on him in truth.**

**19 He fulfills the desire of all who fear him;
he also hears their cry and saves them.**

**20 The LORD watches over all who love him,
but all the wicked he will destroy.**

**21 My mouth will speak the praise of the
LORD, and all flesh will bless his holy name
forever and ever.**

**Hymn - VT #622 Jesus, Rock of Ages
Jesus, Rock of ages,
let me hide myself in thee
Jesus, living Water,
let me drink from your flowing stream.**

Your love comes pouring in my life,
fills my heart till it overflows
You revive my dying spirit
till it blossoms and grows.

**Jesus, Rock of ages,
let me hide myself in thee
Jesus, living Water,
let me drink from your flowing stream.**

Your love has been a firm foundation,
a solid rock that never moves
Your words of wisdom will protect me
and guide me to the truth.

**Jesus, Rock of ages,
let me hide myself in thee
Jesus, living Water,
let me drink from your flowing stream.**

Scripture – Matthew 14:13-21

Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, “This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves.” Jesus said to them, “They need not go away; you give them something to eat.” They replied, “We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish.” And he said, “Bring them here to me.” Then he ordered the crowds to sit down

on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

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.

Communion Prayer of Thanksgiving

These are the gifts of God for the people of God. We come in grateful celebration of Jesus' cross and resurrection, giving from our receiving, inviting as we have been invited, serving as we are served, renewing our bond to the narrow way of Jesus. There is room at his table for all who follow Jesus in God's covenant of grace and obedience.

The Lord is God, compassionate and gracious, overflowing in loving mercy and steadfast kindness. Blessed be God, now and forever!

As the grain once scattered in the fields and the grapes once dispersed on the hills are now united on this table in bread and drink, so Lord, may we be made a true community of your Spirit as your Body on earth, and may your whole people soon be gathered together from across the earth in your Kingdom of holy peace.

Come, Lord Jesus! To you be glory forever!

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise
to the Lord, because he is good;
his love is eternal.**

Truly, it is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to offer our praise, worship, and thanksgiving to you, Almighty and Ever-living God. For your generous creating grace, for redemption from slavery and sin when we have resisted and left you, and for calling your people into obedient love through your law, prophets, and apostles,

Blessed are you, O God, holy and mighty.

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ, our Lord, who emptied himself of divine power and status, taking the form of a servant and being born as one among us. He humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even death on a cross. He took upon himself the weight of our sin and carried the burden of our violence. He shared our life in every way, and though tempted, was sinless and loved us to the end. We thank you for the baptism of his willing suffering, death, and resurrection that redeems us from slavery to sin and death, and adopts us with new birth into God's covenant family by water and the Spirit.

**Blessed are you, Creator Spirit,
who makes all things new!**

Come, Spirit of Christ, and fulfill the promise of your kingdom among us. For on the night that he was betrayed, during supper, Jesus took

bread, and after blessing it, he broke the bread and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take and eat. This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks, he gave it to them, saying: "Drink from this, all of you, for this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." So with praise and thanksgiving, we offer to you all these gifts and our very selves, received from your grace, to be a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's self-giving for us and for the whole world:

**We praise you, we bless you, we worship
and thank you, O Lord our God.**

Pour out your Holy Spirit upon this communion, on us gathered here and on these gifts, that the sharing of this bread and cup may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ. Sanctify and fill us with your true

presence, that in all our lives we may be for the world the Body of Christ, redeemed by his blood, shining with the light of his love and grace toward all. As we share your presence anew at this table of your giving, let us share your presence with the world in the giving of our lives and selves, in your service for all people, doing justice, loving mercy, and walking humbly in your ways. By your Spirit, make us one with Christ, one in fellowship with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until we feast together at your heavenly table with all your saints, fully reconciled in grace and peace. Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

AMEN.

Sharing of Bread and Cup at the Lord's Table

Song - Love Lifted Me

Love lifted me! Love lifted me!

When nothing else could help

Love lifted me

Love lifted me! Love lifted me!

When nothing else could help

Love lifted me

Hymn - VT#626

A Wonderful Savior is Jesus

1 A wonderful Savior is Jesus my Lord,
a wonderful Savior to me.

He hideth my soul in the cleft of the rock,
where rivers of pleasure I see.

He hideth my soul in the cleft of the rock
that shadows a dry, thirsty land.

He hideth my life in the depths of his love,
and covers me there with his hand,
and covers me there with his hand.

2 A wonderful Savior is Jesus my Lord;
he taketh my burden away.

He holdeth me up,

and I shall not be moved;

he giveth me strength as my day.

He hideth my soul in the cleft of the rock
that shadows a dry, thirsty land.

He hideth my life in the depths of his love,
and covers me there with his hand,
and covers me there with his hand.

3 With numberless blessings each
moment he crowns,

and filled with his fullness divine,

I sing in my rapture, "Oh, glory to God
for such a Redeemer as mine!"

He hideth my soul in the cleft of the rock
that shadows a dry, thirsty land.

He hideth my life in the depths of his love,

and covers me there with his hand,
and covers me there with his hand.

4 When clothed in his brightness,
transported I rise
to meet him in clouds of the sky,
his perfect salvation, his wonderful love,
I'll shout with the millions on high.
He hideth my soul in the cleft of the rock
that shadows a dry, thirsty land.
He hideth my life in the depths of his love,
and covers me there with his hand,
and covers me there with his hand.

Sending

May the God of glory,
the Word of life,
and the Spirit in truth
bless you all, now and forever.
Amen.