

Durham Mennonite Church

September 10, 2023



Welcome to Durham Mennonite Church

Welcome and Announcements

Opening Prayer

Call to Worship (Psalm 148)

1 Praise the LORD.

Praise the LORD from the heavens;
praise him in the heights above.

2 Praise him, all his angels;
praise him, all his heavenly hosts.

3 Praise him, sun and moon;
praise him, all you shining stars.

**4 Praise him, you highest heavens
and you waters above the skies.**

**5 Let them praise the name of the LORD,
for at his command they were created,**

**6 and he established them for ever and ever—
he issued a decree that will never pass away.**

**7 Praise the LORD from the earth,
you great sea creatures and all ocean
depths,**

**8 lightning and hail, snow and clouds,
stormy winds that do his bidding,**

9 you mountains and all hills,
fruit trees and all cedars,

10 wild animals and all cattle,
small creatures and flying birds,

11 kings of the earth and all nations,
you princes and all rulers on earth,

12 young men and women,
old men and children.

13 Let them praise the name of the LORD,
for his name alone is exalted; his splendor is
above the earth and the heavens.

**14 And he has raised up for his people a horn,
the praise of all his faithful servants,
of Israel, the people close to his heart.**

Praise the LORD.

Hymn - VT #390

In Christ There is No East or West

In Christ there is no east or west,
in him no south or north,
but one great fellowship of love
throughout the whole wide earth.

In Christ shall true hearts ev'rywhere
their high communion find.

His service is the golden cord
close binding humankind.

Join hands, then, people of the faith,
whate'er your race may be.

All children of the living God
are surely kin to me.

In Christ now meet both east and west,
in him meet south and north.

All Christly souls are joined as one
throughout the whole wide earth.

Hymn - VT #767

God Loves all His Many People

1. God loves all his many people
with surpassing love,
blesses all as his own children,
cares for ev'ry one.
Come to him, friend,
come to him, friend,
come, receive his joy.
Earthly things don't last forever;
come receive his joy.
2. God wants you to come to him now,
wants you as his child.
Come, my friend his arms are open;
He is Lord of all.

Come to him, friend,
come to him, friend,
come, receive his joy.
Earthly things don't last forever;
come receive his joy.

3. In the Lord is our salvation,
In the Lord is love.
Come, my friend, his arms are open;
come, receive his joy.
Come to him, friend,
come to him, friend,
come, receive his joy.
Earthly things don't last forever;
come receive his joy.

Hymn - Amen, Siakudumisa

Xhosa lyrics:

Amen siyakudumisa (masithi)

Amen siyakudumisa (masithi)

Amen, Bawo; Amen Bawo;

Amen siyakudumisa. (masithi)

English lyrics:

Amen, we praise your name, O Lord.

(sing 'amen')

Amen, we praise your name, O Lord.

(sing 'amen')

Amen, amen

Amen, amen

Amen, we praise your name, O Lord.

(sing 'amen')

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 – Exodus 26:1-6 NRSV

The Tabernacle

Moreover you shall make the tabernacle with ten curtains of fine twisted linen, and blue, purple, and crimson yarns; you shall make them with cherubim skillfully worked into them. The length of each curtain shall be twenty-eight cubits, and

the width of each curtain four cubits; all the curtains shall be of the same size.

Five curtains shall be joined to one another; and the other five curtains shall be joined to one another. You shall make loops of blue on the edge of the outermost curtain in the first set; and likewise you shall make loops on the edge of the outermost curtain in the second set. You shall make fifty loops on the one

curtain, and you shall make fifty loops on the edge of the curtain that is in the second set; the loops shall be opposite one another. You shall make fifty clasps of gold, and join the curtains to one another with the clasps, so that the tabernacle may be one whole.

Scripture - Revelation 21:1-4, 15-21 NRSV

The New Heaven and the New Earth

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

“See, the home of God is among mortals.

He will dwell with them as their God;
they will be his peoples, and God himself
will be with them; he will wipe every
tear from their eyes. Death will be no
more; mourning and crying and pain will
be no more, for the first things have
passed away.”

The angel who talked to me had a measuring rod of gold to measure the city and its gates and walls. The city lies foursquare, its length the same as its width; and he measured the city with his rod, fifteen hundred miles; its

length and width and height are equal. He also measured its wall, one hundred forty-four cubits by human measurement, which the angel was using. The wall is built of jasper, while the city is pure gold, clear as glass. The foundations of the wall of the city are adorned with every jewel; the first was jasper, the second sapphire, the third agate, the fourth emerald, the fifth onyx, the sixth carnelian, the seventh chrysolite, the eighth beryl, the ninth topaz, the tenth chrysoprase, the eleventh jacinth, the twelfth amethyst. And the twelve gates are twelve pearls, each of the gates is a single pearl, and the street of the city is pure gold, transparent as glass.

Sermon – Jonathan Larson

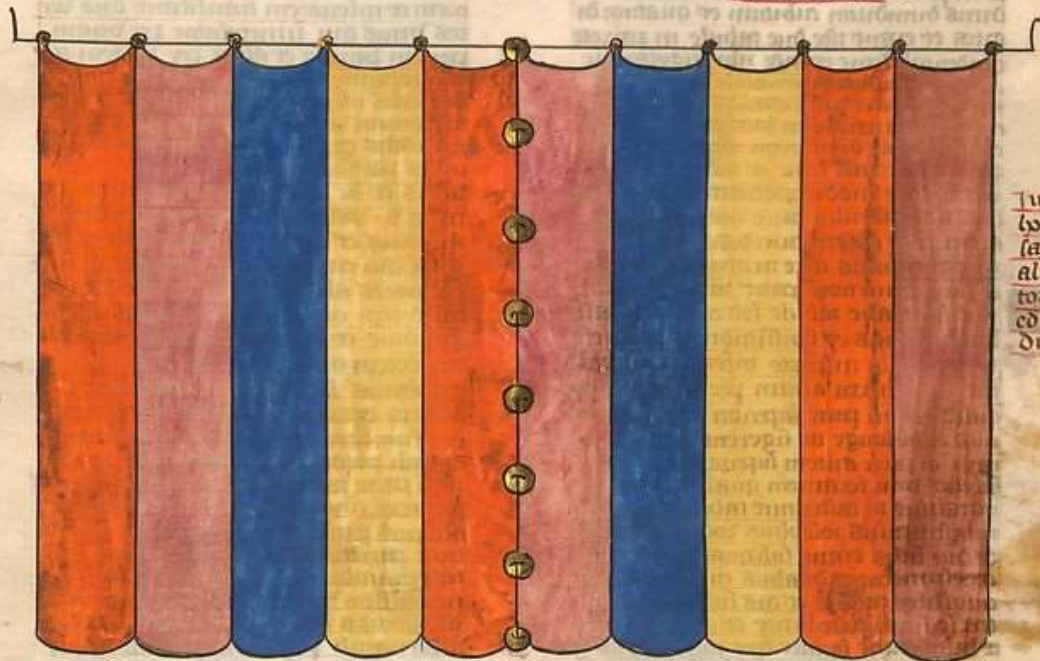
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Congregational Response

Hymn – VT#679

Come, Bring Your Burdens to God

Come, bring your burdens, oh,
Come, bring your burdens to God,
Come bring your,
Come, bring your burdens,
Oh, come, bring your burdens
burdens to God
Come bring your burdens to God
for Jesus will never say
for Jesus will never say no."

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 #832 The Lord Lift You Up

The Lord lift you up,
the Lord take your hand,
the Lord lead you forth,
and cause you to stand,
secure in God's word, seeking God's face,
abounding in love, abiding in grace.

Sending