

Durham Mennonite Church

March 24, 2024



Welcome to Durham Mennonite Church

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING PRAYER

Hosanna! Blessed is Jesus who comes in God's Name! We stand at the gates of our Jerusalem and wave our branches high.

Jesus comes, riding on a donkey, a beast of burden bearing a most precious gift. Let the joy fill our hearts this day as we shout our Hosannas. Praise God for the wondrous ways in which our lives have been touched. Prepare our hearts to worship and celebrate this day!

CALL TO WORSHIP - PALM SUNDAY LITANY

**Lift Up Your Heads, O You Gates! (fr. Psalm
24:7ff)**

(In Unison) Lift up your heads, O you gates!

And be lifted up, o ancient doors!

You gates, once bolted with fear,

You doors, long heavy with suspicion and
dread,

Lift up your heads, o you gates,

And be lifted up, o ancient doors!

You gates, groaning with stillborn dreams,
You doors, creaking from rusted hope,

**Lift up your heads, o you gates,
And be lifted up, o ancient doors!**

You gates, sagging with tradition,
You doors, forgetful of promise and calling,

**Lift up your heads, o you gates,
And be lifted up, o ancient doors!**

You gates who do the bidding of sword and
spear,

You doors who await command of
warhorse and throne,

Lift up your heads, o you gates,

And be lifted up, o ancient doors!

For the sovereign of glory approaches
now with humble mien,

A lowly rider without archers asks to be
received.

**Make no delay! Lift up your heads, o you
gates,**

**And be forever lifted up, o ancient doors!
AMEN**

**HYMN - VT#31 Come we That Love the
Lord**

**1. Come, we that love the Lord,
and let our joys be known;
join in a song with sweet accord,
join in a song with sweet accord,
and thus surround the throne,
and thus surround the throne.
We're marching to Zion
beautiful beautiful Zion**

**We're marching upward to Zion
the beautiful city of God.**

**2. The hill of Zion yields
a thousand sacred sweets
before we reach the heavenly fields,
before we reach the heavenly fields,
or walk the golden streets.
or walk the golden streets.
We're marching to Zion
beautiful beautiful Zion
We're marching upward to Zion
the beautiful city of God.**

**3. Then let our songs abound,
and every tear be dry;
we're marching through Emmanuel's
ground,**

**we're marching through Emmanuel's
ground,
to fairer worlds on high.
to fairer worlds on high.
We're marching to Zion
beautiful beautiful Zion
We're marching upward to Zion
the beautiful city of God.**

HYMN - We Will Glorify the One Who Reigns.

(adapted words). Twila Paris

We will glorify the One who reigns,

We will glorify the Lamb

We will glorify the Lord of Lord

Who is the great I Am.

Lord Jehovah reigns in majesty

We will bow before God's throne

We will worship God in righteousness

We will worship God alone.

Hallelujah to the One who reigns,

Hallelujah to the Lamb!

Hallelujah to the Lord of Lords

Who is the great I Am

**Hymn - VT#68 There's No One in This
World**

Zulu:

Akekho ofana no Jesus

Akekho ofana no Jesus

Akekho ofana no Jesus

Akekho ofana naye.

Sahamba, sahamba, akekho, akekho.

Sajika, sajika, kwese, kwese

Ndatsvaka, tsvaka, kwese, kwesa,
Haku, haku, china

Shona:

Hakuna wakaita sa Jesus
hakuna wakaita saye
Hakuna wakaita sa Jesu
Haku, hakuchina

Ndamhanya, mhanya, kwese, kwese
Ndatende, rera, kwese, kwese.
Ndatsvaka, tsvaka, kwese, kwese,
Haku, hakuchina

English:

There's no one in this world like Jesus
There's no one in this world like him.
There's no one in this world like Jesus.
There's no one, there's no one like him.

I'm running, running, searching, searching.

I'm turning, turning, searching, searching.

I'm searching, searching everywhere.

There's no one there's no one there's no
one like him.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Triumphant Lord, we rejoice in your entry into the world and into our lives!

Joining with the crowds, we sing your praises and exalt your reign, though at times our hearts may be far from true worship, and our minds distant from true understanding.

We lack your humility and your selflessness.

Our sin leads us to give you death even though you give us life.

Our treachery guides us to war even though you call us to peace.

Help us to reflect in our lives the glory of your Son and to live faithfully here and now.

Have mercy on us, Savior of all,

find us in these forsaken places.

Forgive what we have done

and who we have been.

Bring us home again and impart within us a

new song of joy and celebration.

Prayer of Illumination

Merciful God, as we enter Holy week, turn our hearts again to Jerusalem, and to the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Stir up within us the gift of faith that we may not only praise him with our lips, but may follow him in the way of the cross.

HYMN - VT#752 Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!

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...

SCRIPTURE - ZECHARIAH 9:9-10,16-17

The Coming Ruler of God's People

9 Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion!

Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem!

**Lo, your king comes to you;
triumphant and victorious is he,
humble and riding on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.**

**10 He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim
and the war-horse from Jerusalem;
and the battle bow shall be cut off,
and he shall command peace to the nations;
his dominion shall be from sea to sea,
and from the River to the ends of the earth.**

16 On that day the LORD their God will save

them

for they are the flock of his people;

for like the jewels of a crown

they shall shine on his land.

17 For what goodness and beauty are his!

Grain shall make the young men flourish,

and new wine the young women.

SCRIPTURE - JOHN 12:12-19

Jesus' Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem

12 The next day the great crowd that had come to the festival heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. 13 So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, shouting,

“Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord - the King of Israel!”

14 Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it;

as it is written:

15 “Do not be afraid, daughter of Zion.

**Look, your king is coming,
sitting on a donkey's colt!"**

16 His disciples did not understand these things at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written of him and had been done to him. 17 So the crowd that had been with him when he called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to testify. 18 It was also because they heard that he had performed this sign that the crowd went to meet him. 19 The Pharisees then said to one another, "You see, you can do nothing. Look, the world has gone after him!"

SERMON – JONATHAN LARSON

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

SHARING PRAISES AND PRAYER CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

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#667 Shall We Gather at the River

1 Shall we gather at the river,
Where bright angel feet have trod;
With its crystal tide forever
Flowing by the throne of God?
Yes, we'll gather at the river,
The beautiful, the beautiful river;
Gather with the saints at the river
That flows by the throne of God.

2 On the margin of the river,
Washing up its silver spray,
We will walk and worship ever,
All the happy golden day.
Yes, we'll gather at the river,
The beautiful, the beautiful river;
Gather with the saints at the river
That flows by the throne of God.

3 Ere we reach the shining river,
Lay we ev'ry burden down;
Grace our spirits will deliver,
And provide a robe and crown.
Yes, we'll gather at the river,
The beautiful, the beautiful river;

Gather with the saints at the river
That flows by the throne of God.

4 Soon we'll reach the shining river,
Soon our pilgrimage will cease;
Soon our happy hearts will quiver
With the melody of peace.

Yes, we'll gather at the river,
The beautiful, the beautiful river;
Gather with the saints at the river
That flows by the throne of God.

SENDING

Go in peace, dear people of God.

Go ready to proclaim with your lives
that Jesus is Lord and Savior.

Go to offer God's love and peace to all.

AMEN.