

Durham Mennonite Church

May 19, 2024



Welcome to Durham Mennonite Church

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

INVOCATION - SING THE STORY #189

Come, Holy Spirit,
lamplighter, midwife of change,
comforter, disturber, inspirer and advocate.

Come, and fill the church

with the gifts earth

can neither produce nor afford.

Come, fill our lives

with that rich mixture of peace and
restlessness, calm and enthusiasm,
which are hallmarks of holiness.

**Come promised Spirit of God, find your
way and make your home among us.**

Amen.

SCRIPTURE – JOEL 2:28-29

God's Spirit Poured Out

28 Then afterward I will pour out my spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions.

29 Even on the male and female slaves, in those days, I will pour out my spirit.

HYMN - VT #706 O HEALING RIVER

Oh healing river send down your water
Send down your water upon this land
Oh healing river send down your waters
And wash the blood from off the sand

This land is parching, this land is burning
No seed is growing on the barren ground
Oh healing river send down your waters
Oh healing river send your waters down

Let the seed of freedom awake and
flourish

Let the deep roots nourish,
let the tall stalks rise

Oh healing river send down your waters
Oh healing river from out of the skies

HYMN - HWB #355 SAVIOR LIKE A SHEPHERD

Savior, like a shepherd lead us,
Much we need Thy tender care;
In Thy pleasant pastures feed us,
For our use Thy folds prepare:

Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
Thou hast bought us, Thine we are;
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
Thou hast bought us, Thine we are.

We are Thine, do Thou befriend us,
Be the guardian of our way;
Keep Thy flock, from sin defend us,
Seek us when we go astray:
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
Hear, O hear us when we pray;
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
Hear, O hear us when we pray.

Early let us seek Thy favor,
Early let us do Thy will;
Blessed Lord and only Savior,
With Thy love our spirits fill:
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,

Thou hast loved us, love us still;
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
Thou hast loved us, love us still.

HYMN - VT #670 In the Bulb There is a Flower

1 In the bulb there is a flower;
in the seed, an apple tree;
in cocoons, a hidden promise:
butterflies will soon be free!
In the cold and snow of winter
there's a spring that waits to be,
unrevealed until its season,
something God alone can see.

2 There's a song in ev'ry silence,
seeking word and melody.
There's a dawn in ev'ry darkness,
bringing hope to you and me.

From the past will come the future;
what it holds, a mystery,
unrevealed until its season,
something God alone can see.

3 In our end is our beginning;
in our time, infinity;
in our doubt there is believing;
in our life, eternity.
In our death, a resurrection;
at the last, a victory,
unrevealed until its season,
something God alone can see.

CONFESSION OF SIN (IN UNISON)

God of healing,
God of wholeness,
we bring our brokenness,

our sinfulness,
our fears
and despair,
and lay them at your feet.

God of healing,
God of wholeness,
we hold out hearts and hands,
minds and souls
to feel your touch,
and know the peace
that only you can bring.

God of healing,
God of wholeness,
this precious moment
in your presence and power
grant us faith and confidence

that here broken lives
are made whole.
Amen.

SCRIPTURE - Psalm 6:1-9

1 O Lord, do not rebuke me in your anger,
or discipline me in your wrath.

2 Be gracious to me, O Lord, for I am
languishing;

O Lord, heal me, for my bones are shaking
with terror.

3 My soul also is struck with terror,
while you, O Lord—how long?

4 Turn, O Lord, save my life;
deliver me for the sake of your steadfast
love.

5 For in death there is no remembrance of
you;

in Sheol who can give you praise?

6 I am weary with my moaning;
every night I flood my bed with tears;
I drench my couch with my weeping.

7 My eyes waste away because of grief;
they grow weak because of all my foes.

8 Depart from me, all you workers of evil,
for the Lord has heard the sound of my
weeping.

9 The Lord has heard my supplication;
the Lord accepts my prayer.

SCRIPTURE - Psalm 13

1 How long, O Lord? Will you forget me forever?

How long will you hide your face from me?

2 How long must I bear pain in my soul, and have sorrow in my heart all day long?

How long shall my enemy be exalted over me?

3 Consider and answer me, O Lord my God! Give light to my eyes, or I will sleep the sleep of death,

4 and my enemy will say, "I have prevailed"; my foes will rejoice because I am shaken.

5 But I trusted in your steadfast love; my heart shall rejoice in your salvation.

6 I will sing to the Lord,

because he has dealt bountifully with me.

SCRIPTURE - Ruth 1:1-22

1 In the days when the judges ruled, there was a famine in the land, and a certain man of Bethlehem in Judah went to live in the country of Moab, he and his wife and two sons.

2 The name of the man was Elimelech and the name of his wife Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Chilion; they were Ephrathites from Bethlehem in Judah. They went into the country of Moab and remained there.

3 But Elimelech, the husband of Naomi, died, and she was left with her two sons.

4 These took Moabite wives; the name of the one was Orpah and the name of the other Ruth. When they had lived there about ten years,

5 both Mahlon and Chilion also died, so that the woman was left without her two sons and her husband. Naomi and Her Moabite Daughters-in-Law

6 Then she started to return with her daughters-in-law from the country of Moab, for she had heard in the country of Moab that the Lord had considered his people and given them food.

7 So she set out from the place where she had been living, she and her two daughters-in-law, and they went on their way to go back to the land of Judah.

8 But Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, "Go back each of you to your mother's house. May the Lord deal kindly with you, as you have dealt with the dead and with me.

9 The Lord grant that you may find security, each of you in the house of your husband." Then she kissed them, and they wept aloud.

10 They said to her, "No, we will return with you to your people."

11 But Naomi said, "Turn back, my daughters, why will you go with me? Do I still have sons in my womb that they may become your husbands?

12 Turn back, my daughters, go your way, for I am too old to have a husband. Even if I thought there was hope for me, even if I

should have a husband tonight and bear sons,

13 would you then wait until they were grown? Would you then refrain from marrying? No, my daughters, it has been far more bitter for me than for you, because the hand of the Lord has turned against me.”

14 Then they wept aloud again. Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, but Ruth clung to her.

15 So she said, “See, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods; return after your sister-in-law.”

16 But Ruth said,

“Do not press me to leave you or to turn back from following you!

Where you go, I will go;
where you lodge, I will lodge;
your people shall be my people,
and your God my God.

17 Where you die, I will die—
there will I be buried.

May the Lord do thus and so to me,
and more as well,
if even death parts me from you!”

18 When Naomi saw that she was
determined to go with her, she said no
more to her.

19 So the two of them went on until they
came to Bethlehem. When they came to
Bethlehem, the whole town was stirred
because of them; and the women said, “Is
this Naomi?”

20 She said to them, "Call me no longer Naomi,
call me Mara, for the Almighty has dealt
bitterly with me.

21 I went away full, but the Lord has
brought me back empty; why call me Naomi
when the Lord has dealt harshly with me,
and the Almighty has brought calamity
upon me?"

22 So Naomi returned together with Ruth
the Moabite, her daughter-in-law, who
came back with her from the country of
Moab. They came to Bethlehem at the
beginning of the barley harvest.

SCRIPTURE - Ruth 4:13-17

13 So Boaz took Ruth and she became his wife. When they came together, the Lord made her conceive, and she bore a son. 14 Then the women said to Naomi, “Blessed be the Lord, who has not left you this day without next-of-kin; and may his name be renowned in Israel! 15 He shall be to you a restorer of life and a nourisher of your old age; for your daughter-in-law who loves you, who is more to you than seven sons, has borne him.” 16 Then Naomi took the child and laid him in her bosom, and became his nurse. 17 The women of the neighborhood gave him a name, saying, “A son has been born to Naomi.” They named

him Obed; he became the father of Jesse,
the father of David.

SERMON - Jackie Carroll

HYMN - VT #647 There is a Balm in Gilead

There is a balm in Gilead
To make the wounded whole
There is a balm in Gilead
To heal the sin-sick soul.

**Sometimes I feel discouraged
And think my work's in vain,
But then the Holy Spirit
Revives my soul again.**

There is a balm in Gilead
To make the wounded whole,
There is a balm in Gilead
To heal the sin-sick soul.

**If you can not preach like Peter,
If you can not pray like Paul,
You can tell the love of Jesus
And say, "He died for all."**

There is a balm in Gilead
To make the wounded whole,
There is a balm in Gilead
To heal the wounded soul.

Prayer

O Lord our God, for those whose lives are strained and stressed.....

Hear our prayer and pour out your peace.

For those whose hold on life is fragile.....

Hear our prayer and pour out your peace.

For those whose illness makes them vulnerable..... **Hear our prayer and pour out your peace.**

For those whose families struggle to understand them.....

Hear our prayer and pour out your peace.

For families and friends, nurses, doctors and therapists and all who seek to walk alongside the stressed and strained, the vulnerable and the fragile.....

Hear our prayer and pour out your peace.

O Lord our God, for all whose lives are in turmoil through the effects of mental illness.....

Hear our prayer and pour out your peace.

Amen.

-Mary Hawes

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 #601

Lead Me, Guide Me Along the Way

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.

SENDING

On the Sabbath,
Jesus was teaching in the synagogue,
and a crippled woman was healed.

Jesus set her free.

After he touched her,
she rose up and praised God.

**As we depart today, may God set us free.
May we lead lives worthy of our calling,
and may your praise be always upon our lips.
Amen.**