

## Durham Mennonite Church

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Pastor: Spencer Bradford

Elders: Jackie Carroll-Garcia, Eliza Griffith, Cheryl Van Horn

A Congregation of the Virginia Mennonite Conference & Mennonite Church USA

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March 4, 2018

Third Sunday of Lent

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10:30 a.m. Worship Leader – Jackie Carroll-Garcia, Music Leader – Carol Detweiler

### PRAISING OUR CREATOR WHO CALLS US

Call to Worship

Come, be encouraged in Christ. Come, be consoled in the love of the Father. Come, share in the Holy Spirit. Have faith in God, and let your joy be complete.

Opening Songs

Confession of Sin and Assurance of Grace (*adapted from Jeremiah 8:4-22*)

Thus says the Lord: When people fall, do they not get up again? If they go astray, do they not turn back? Why then has this people continued turning away? Why have they provoked me to anger with their idols? All of them turn to their own course, like a horse plunging headlong into battle. Even birds know the season to fly home, but my people do not know the instruction of the Lord. When I wanted to gather them, says the Lord, there are no grapes on the vine, nor figs on the fig tree; even the leaves are withered, and what I gave them has passed away from them. Therefore they shall fall among those who fall.

**My joy is gone, grief is upon me, my heart is sick. Why do we sit still? The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved. because we have sinned against the Lord. We have rejected the word of the Lord's instruction, preferring our own wisdom, and we lie that our own wisdom is God's law. So we hold fast to our self-deception, and our dishonesty constrains us from repenting of wickedness. In spite of our shameful sins, we forget how to be ashamed. From greatest to least, we are greedy for unjust profit, and deal with each other deceptively. We treat our wounds and brokenness carelessly, saying words of peace without action to make it true, so there is no peace. We look for peace but find no good, for a time of healing, but there is terror instead. The judgment of our sin overruns us, devours our land, fills our city, and poisons our life. O Lord, hear the cry of your poor people, scattered far and wide – heal and save us!**

Is there no balm in Gilead? Is there no physician there? Is the Lord not in Zion? Is our King not among us? The Lord knows the hurt of his poor people, and will restore the health of his poor people.

Passing the Peace

Announcements

Hymn

### HEARING JESUS, THE LIVING WORD

Exodus 10:1-20

Philippians 1:20-2:2

Mark 11:12-14, 20-25

Sermon

Jon Mark

### RECEIVING THE SPIRIT, JOINED IN CHRIST'S BODY

Testimonies, Sharing and Collected Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (Hymnal #731)

Offering and Offertory

### RETURNING TO GOD'S SERVICE AS NEW CREATURES

Closing Hymn

Sending to Serve

Let us live life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether near or apart, we stand firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel. Go in peace with one another and with God.

### SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE WEEK AND THE SEASON

3/11: Exodus 10:21-29; Jer. 3:12-25; Gal. 5:26-6:10; Mark 9:30-50  
Worship Leader, Jon Mark; Music, Cheryl Van Horn

3/18: Exodus 11:1-10; Psalm 38; Romans 7:1-25; Mark 5:1-20  
Worship Leader, Renee; Music, Spencer; Sermon, Jon Mark.

3/25: Ps. 118; Ex. 12:1-20; Jer. 7:1-15; Rom. 5:1-11; Mark 11:1-13, 15-19  
Palm Sunday – Worship Leader, Jon Mark; Music, Aaron Griffith

Tuesday, 10:30 am – Quilting at DMC!

LENTEN THURSDAYS, Mar. 8, 15, 22 – 6:30 –7:00 PM.

PRAYER AND FASTING Services, Share a time of prayer, hymns, scripture and silence together for spiritual renewal in Christ's Spirit.

**Saturday, Mar. 17, 9:00 a.m. – Church Retreat Day with Skip Tobin!**

**Sunday, Mar. 25 – Palm Sunday and CROP Hunger Walk!**

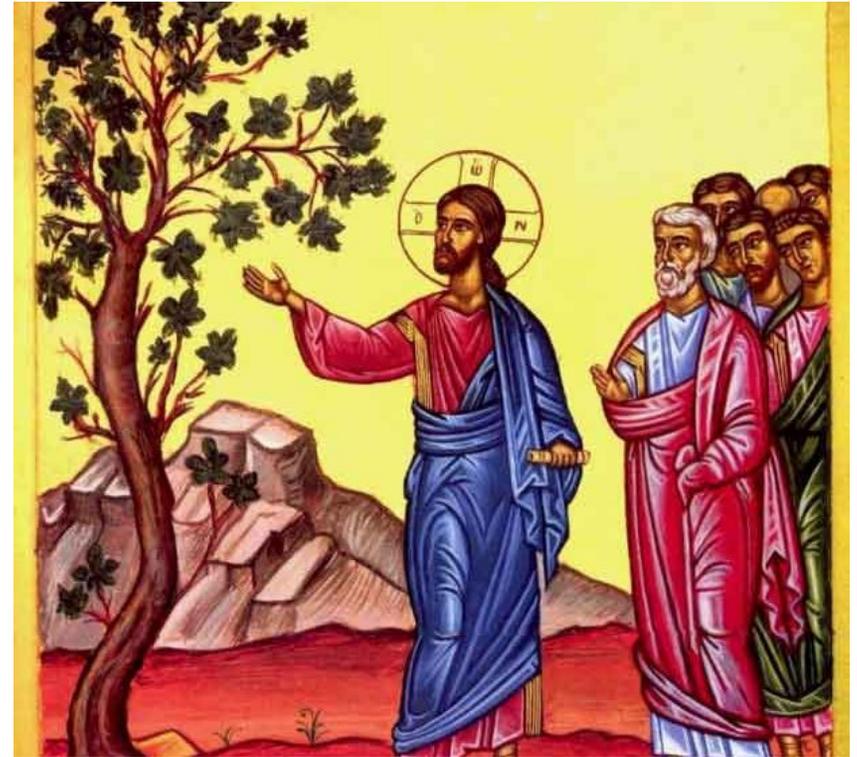
**Thursday, Mar. 29 – Maundy Thursday Supper with Communion and Footwashing.**

**Friday, Mar. 30 – Prepare and serve supper for 200 at Urban Ministries of Durham.**

**Easter Sunday, April 1, 9:00 – Potluck Fellowship Breakfast**

**Praying for Missions:** Pastors and their wives who minister in Ukraine's militarized zone look forward to a retreat this month. Mary Raber of Mennonite Mission Network, serving as a resource person, requests prayer for a restful gathering for those who have given their all to congregations for several stress-filled years.

Linda Oyer of Mennonite Mission Network is bringing closure to her 30-year ministry in France. Pray that the seeds she planted through teaching and mentoring will continue to bear fruit. Pray also that she will find joy in writing more of the books that have been percolating in her spirit.



*Lent - A Season for Change*

# **DURHAM MENNONITE CHURCH**

*Front Art: Christ Cursing the Fig Tree, Icon*

*Our mission is to restore people to relationships of communion  
with God and each other in Christ.*

*We will practice this mission through our worship and witness,  
our discipling, fellowship and service*