

Durham Mennonite Church

603 Lynn Road Durham NC 27703 → Telephone (919) 766-0604 (Rom. 6:4)
ecumenno@gmail.com, www.durhammennonite.org

Pastor: Spencer Bradford

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

A Congregation of the Virginia Mennonite Conference & Mennonite Church USA

Sunday, January 1, 2017

New Year's Day

10:30 a.m. Worship Leader: Sylvia Daniel

PRAISING OUR CREATOR WHO CALLS US

Call to Worship and Lighting of Christ Candle

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward all.

O Lord God, heavenly Sovereign, Almighty God and Father,

we praise you, we bless you, we worship you, we glorify you,

we give thanks to you for your great glory,

O Lord God, Lamb of God, only Son of the Father,

you take away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

You that take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer.

You that sit at the right hand of God the Father,

have mercy upon us.

For only you are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,

only you, O Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,

are most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Opening Hymns

#221 – *Hail the Bless'd Morn*

#13 – *Blessed Jesus, At Your Word*

#216 – *Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies*

#639 – *Great God, We Sing*

Confession of Sin and Assurance (*adapted from 1 Jn.1:5-10*)

This is the message we have heard from Christ and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all.

Lord, we confess that we have walked in darkness, and lied to ourselves that we were still in fellowship with Christ. We did not act truthfully. Help us to face our sin, to embrace the truth of God's light, and to welcome his word in us. Grant us to walk in the light as you yourself are in light; restore our fellowship with one another, and cleanse us from all sin by the blood of Jesus your Son. Amen.

If we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Passing the Peace

Announcements

Hymn #371 - *Let There Be Light*

HEARING JESUS, THE LIVING WORD

Genesis 1:1-2:3

1 John 1:1-7

John 8:12-20

Sermon – *To Light the World*

Spencer Bradford

RECEIVING THE SPIRIT, JOINED IN CHRIST'S BODY

Testimonies and Sharing

Collected Prayer and The Lord's Prayer (Hymnal #731)

Offertory and Offering

Communion Prayer of Thanksgiving (*see insert*)

Sharing of the Bread and the Cup at the Lord's Table

RETURNING TO GOD'S SERVICE AS NEW CREATURES

Hymn #334, *Christ is the World's True Light*

Sending to Serve, Hymnal #769

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Genesis 11:31-12:9, 13:2-18; Galatians 3:2-9; John 1:29-34; Rev. 5:1-14
Next Worship Leader: Jackie Carroll-Garcia; Music: Rebekah Ackerman

Today, January 1, 6:00 pm – Emancipation Day Community Service at
Peace Missionary Baptist Church, 2608 Highway 55, Durham.

Happy Birthday to Aggery Ohando Demba (1/4)! Happy Anniversary to Joyce Pusel & Mike Quante, 1/5!

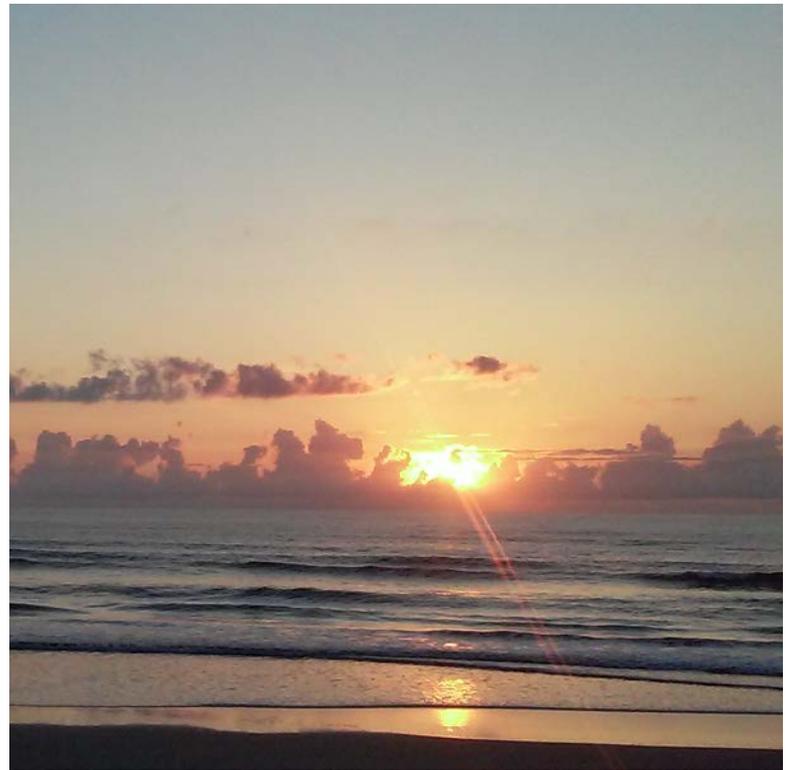
Martin Luther King Jr. Day Annual March - January 16, 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., begins at NC Mutual Building, 411 W. Chapel Hill St., and ends with program inside First Presbyterian Church, 305 E Main St. Bring a children's book to donate for BookHarvest!

Annual Service of Prayer for Christian Unity - January 19, 7:00 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, 305 E Main St. Ecumenical celebration and call to unity among diverse Christian traditions as 500th anniversary of Protestant Reformation commences. NCCU Choir performs.

Tuesday, Jan. 24, 5:30-8:00 p.m. – Annual Banquet of Durham Congregations in Action, at Trinity Ave. Presbyterian Church, corner of W. Trinity and N. Gregson St. Program on “Hospitality toward Refugees and Immigrants.” \$14 per plate, RSVP to dcia@dcia.org or 919-682-0538.

Pray for Mennonite Missions: Linda Oyer, serving with Mennonite Mission Network, is waiting for surgery to remove her gallbladder after severe attacks of cholecystitis last month. Pray for rest and peace as she regains health in her home near Paris, France, so she can be ready for the operation this month.

.... Home is where one starts from. As we grow older
The world becomes stranger, the pattern more complicated
Of dead and living. Not the intense moment
Isolated, with no before and after,
But a lifetime burning in every moment
And not the lifetime of one man only
But of old stones that cannot be deciphered.
There is a time for the evening under starlight,
A time for the evening under lamplight
(The evening with the photograph album).
Love is most nearly itself
When here and now cease to matter.
Old men ought to be explorers
Here or there does not matter
We must be still and still moving
Into another intensity
For a further union, a deeper communion
Through the dark cold and the empty desolation,
The wave cry, the wind cry, the vast waters
Of the petrel and the porpoise. In my end is my beginning.
From "East Coker", Four Quartets, by T.S. Eliot



Let There Be Light

DURHAM MENNONITE CHURCH

*The mission of Durham Mennonite Church is to restore people
to relationships of communion with God and each other in Christ.*

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

www.durhammennonite.org

CHRISTMAS THANKSGIVING AT COMMUNION

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, and for calling your people into obedient love through your law, prophets, and apostles, we joyfully unite our voices to the heavenly host offering the angelic hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might!
Glory to God in the highest,
and peace on earth, goodwill toward all!**

For your Son Jesus Christ, your Word, in whom you became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth, your glory present with us, Emmanuel; for his humility in the stable and his vulnerability as an infant, summoning us to your life and truth; for his death and resurrection to bring forgiveness while we were your enemies killing him; for life in his Spirit, free from sin and death; for our communion with him in his Body, and the promise of his return in your full kingdom.

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

Come, Spirit of Christ, and fulfill the promise of your kingdom among us. As your Word became flesh, born of woman, on that night long ago, so 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, Christ's presence in the world even as Jesus was God-with-us. 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. 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. 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.