

## 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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Sunday, January 29, 2017

Fourth Sunday After Epiphany

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9:30 a.m. Bible Study

10:30 a.m. Worship Leader: Lowell Tieszen

### PRAISING OUR CREATOR WHO CALLS US

Call to Worship (*Psalm 105:1-3*)

O give thanks to the Lord, call on his name,  
make known his deeds among the peoples.

**Sing to God, sing praises to him; tell of all his wonderful works.**

Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

Opening Songs

Sing the Journey #42 – *Listen, God is Calling*

Hymnal #327 – *Great is Thy Faithfulness*

Confession of Sin and Assurance of Grace

**Holy and awesome God, we stand in your presence filled with regret for our many sins and failings. Though you have planted your Spirit within us, and a deep longing for goodness, we have often refused to hear your voice calling us and resisted conformity to your image. For there is weakness in us, as well as strength. At times we choose to walk in darkness, our vision obscured. We do not care to look within, and we are unwilling to look beyond at those who need our help. O God, we are too weak to walk unaided. Be with us as the source of our life, our strong and wise guide, and teach us to walk by the light of your truth. Amen.**

May the almighty and merciful Lord grant us remission of all our sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Passing the Peace

Announcements

Hymn #162 – *The God of Abraham Praise*

### HEARING JESUS, THE LIVING WORD

Genesis 17:1-22

Psalm 105:1-15

Ephesians 2:11-22

John 8:39-59

Sermon

Spencer Bradford

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

Word Made Music

Testimonies and Sharing

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

Offertory and Offering

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

Closing Hymn #111 – *O Praise the Gracious Power*

Sending to Serve

Now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ, for he is our peace. Go with Christ our cornerstone, to grow together as a holy temple, a dwelling place for God in the world.

### SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Genesis 18:1-15; 1 Chron. 16:7-36; 3John 1-15; John 3:22-30

Next Worship Leader: Sylvia Daniel; Music: Aaron Griffith

**Pray for Mennonite Missions:** Mary Raber of Mennonite Mission Network requests prayer for pastors who spend time in the militarized zones of eastern Ukraine and for the thousands of displaced people they serve. May God provide for the physical and spiritual resources for those who have suffered so much.

### Upcoming Durham Mennonite Dates:

Tuesday, Feb. 21, 7:30 p.m. – Church Council

Sunday, Feb. 26, Communion at Morning Worship, Potluck Fellowship Meal after.

Wednesday, Mar. 1, 7:00 pm – Ash Wednesday service.

Saturday, Mar. 4, 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 pm – Workday on DMC building & grounds.

Friday, Mar. 31 – Prep and serve supper for 200 at Urban Ministries of Durham.

Sunday, April 2, Hot Dog Lunch after Morning Worship,

CROP Walk at 2:00 pm, begins at Duke Chapel.

April 13, Maundy Thursday Love Feast with Footwashing, 6:00-8:00 pm.

April 14, Good Friday Tenebrae Service of Darkness, 7:00 pm.

April 16, Easter Breakfast Potluck, 8:30 a.m.

**Wednesday, Feb. 1, 6:00 pm - Religious Coalition for a Nonviolent Durham Community Prayer Vigil, corner of Liberty and Park Streets in Durham.**

The family of Alfredo Jobel invite you to a vigil on Wednesday, February 1 at 6 pm, on the corner of Liberty and Park Streets in Durham. In gathering where Mr. Jobel was fatally shot three years ago, we join his family in honoring 28 years of life and seeking new insight into those responsible for his death.

***Locked in Solidarity Vigil, Thursday, Feb 9 @ 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm, at Nehemiah Christian Center, 514 N. Mangum Street, Durham, NC.*** Locked in Solidarity is intended to raise awareness about the devastating impacts that the War on Drugs, mandatory minimums, “three-strikes you’re out” laws, the private prison industrial complex, solitary confinement, our broken immigration system, the over-policing of our schools, racial profiling, the militarization of the police, re-entry hurdles for returning citizens and other factors in our current mass incarceration system. During the event, people who were formerly incarcerated will share about their experiences. There will also be a time of praying for every aspect of the system – people directly affected, the policies that need to be changed, and how the broader community can take action. To RSVP, email Reynolds Chapman at [rchapman@durhamcares.org](mailto:rchapman@durhamcares.org).



*Your name shall be Abraham;  
for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations*

Front Art: “Abraham,” Lorenzo Monaco, 1410

*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, witness,  
discipling, fellowship and service.*

[www.durhammennonite.org](http://www.durhammennonite.org)

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