

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, March 19, 2017

Third Sunday of Lent

9:30 a.m. Bible Study

10:30 a.m. Worship Leader: Sylvia Daniel, Music: Anna Showalter

PRAISING OUR CREATOR WHO CALLS US

Call to Worship

Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

Opening Songs

Confession of Sin (from Ezekiel 18)

The word of the Lord came to me: O House of Israel, you say, "The way of the Lord is unfair." But hear now: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? You say, "Why should not the son suffer for the iniquity of the father?" When the son has done what is lawful and right, and has been careful to observe all my statutes, he shall surely live. The person who sins shall die. A child shall not suffer for the iniquity of a parent, nor a parent suffer for the iniquity of a child; the righteousness of the righteous shall be his own, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be his own. Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die. Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord God. Turn, then, and live.

Lord God, when we betray your righteousness, and turn away from your goodness, and commit iniquity, we are guilty of treachery and bring death upon ourselves. We betray you with wickedness when we are violent and hateful, when we honor and exalt idols, when we defile neighbors with our lust, when we profit by the weakness of the poor, when we steal, when we defraud the vulnerable, when we

extort interest from the neediness of others, when we indulge ourselves in gluttony. In all these things, we are responsible and our blood is on ourselves. Yet we turn now, and seek life in your justice and mercy.

The Lord says, If the wicked turn away from all their sins that they have committed and keep my commands and do what is lawful and right, they shall surely live; they shall not die. So live righteously: do not celebrate idols, or defile your neighbor sexually; treat others fairly and kindly; steer clear of dishonesty and theft; do not take advantage of others' need but treat them generously; share bread with the hungry and shelter with the poor, and do not charge them interest; make peace justly between adversaries; care for the ways I have taught you, and trust my instruction. Have I any pleasure in the death of the wicked, says the Lord God, and not rather that they should turn from their ways and live? Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall not die, but will surely live. None of the transgressions that they have committed shall be remembered against them; for the righteousness that they have done they shall live.

Passing the Peace

Announcements

Hymn

HEARING JESUS, THE LIVING WORD

Genesis 4:1-25

1 John 2:28- 3:15

John 3:1-10

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

Sending to Serve

May the Spirit of God blow upon you from above with new life. Abide in Christ, as children of God, loved by the Father with grace and peace.

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Gen. 6: 1-22, 7: 11-8: 4; 1Kings 17: 1-7, 18: 1-18; 1John 2: 7-14;

John 3: 11-21

Happy Anniversary to Kevin & Marcia Nice (3/28)!

Pray for Mennonite Missions: C. Paul and Hildi Amstutz have served with Mennonite Mission Network since 1985. Pray for C. Paul as he works with more than 50 business chaplains in Paraguay who reach out to employees in the workplace, and pray for Hildi as she provides spiritual direction to help people deepen their faith.

Upcoming Durham Mennonite Dates:

Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m. – Quilting at Durham Mennonite

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, 9:00 a.m.

Volunteers from our Eastern Carolina District of Mennonite churches will be working on a Mennonite Disaster Service team in Princeville, NC, for rebuilding and renovating flood-damaged homes during the last week of April, 4/24- 4/29.

Sunday, April 2, 2:00 pm - Durham CROP Hunger Walk -- Help hundreds of others in Durham in raising \$200,000 for poverty relief and refugee assistance around the world and here in Durham! Learn more and register at cropwalkdurham@gmail.com and <http://durhamcropwalk.org/>



*You must be born from above.
No one can enter the kingdom of God
without being born of water and Spirit.*

***DURHAM
MENNONITE
CHURCH***

Front Art: "Nicodemus Coming to Christ" - Henry Ossawa Tanner, 1927

*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