

Durham Mennonite Church

May 24, 2020 Order of Worship

Gathering - 10:15 to 10:30

Call to Worship - Psalm 96:7-13 - Renee

Music Video – I'm Pressing on the Upward Way (Higher Ground)

Prayer of Confession and Words of Assurance – Renee

Scripture - Luke 24:44-53

Message – Following Jesus: A Song of Ascents - Jonathan Larson

Response to message – Renee

Sharing praise and prayer requests – Renee

The Lord's Prayer – Renee

Music Video – Jacob's Ladder

Benediction – Renee

Call to Worship (Psalm 96:7-13 NIV)

⁷ Ascribe to the LORD, all you families of nations,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

⁸ Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;
bring an offering and come into his courts.

⁹ Worship the LORD in the splendor of his^[a] holiness;
tremble before him, all the earth.

¹⁰ Say among the nations, "The LORD reigns."
The world is firmly established, it cannot be moved;
he will judge the peoples with equity.

¹¹ Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth be glad;
let the sea resound, and all that is in it.

¹² Let the fields be jubilant, and everything in them;
let all the trees of the forest sing for joy.

¹³ Let all creation rejoice before the LORD, for he comes,
he comes to judge the earth.

He will judge the world in righteousness
and the peoples in his faithfulness.

Prayer of Confession

We have to confess, O Lord, that we are people who want to have everything proven for us.

We hear the message in the scripture of Jesus' ascension, and we smile smugly, not truly believing the vision.

Forgive us for our arrogant doubts and attitudes of smugness.

Help us remember that everything Jesus taught us was to prepare us to help build God's realm here on earth.

We are called to be people of faith, not of absolute proof, as we understand it.

Let us place our trust in Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior.

Let us look with eyes of faith as he ascends to the Father.

We pray in his Name, AMEN.

Words of Assurance

Although you have not stood on the mountaintop to see his ascension to God,

yet believe in the love and power of Christ who taught you how to be faithful and joyful disciples.

Rejoice, and believe in him who came

that you may have abundant life. AMEN.

Luke 24:44-53 (NIV)

⁴⁴ He said to them, “This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms.”

⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. ⁴⁶ He told them, “This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷ and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹ I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.”

The Ascension of Jesus

⁵⁰ When he had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, he lifted up his hands and blessed them. ⁵¹ While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up into heaven. ⁵² Then they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. ⁵³ And they stayed continually at the temple, praising God.

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.

Benediction

The power and love of Jesus Christ is with you. You are sent forth to be his witnesses in the world, bringing the good news, healing, establishing ministries of justice and peace. Go in confidence and the power and love of God goes with you. AMEN