

# **Durham Mennonite Church**

## **September 20, 2020 Order of Worship**

**Gathering** - 10:15 to 10:30

**Announcement** - Renée Collins Bradford

**Opening Prayer** – Renée Collins Bradford

**Call to Worship** – Psalm 145:1-8

**Hymn** – Great is the Lord

**Prayer of Confession and Prayer of Assurance**

**Scripture** Philipians 1:1-20

**Scripture** Matthew 20:1-16

**Scripture** Jonah 3:10 - 4:11

**Message** – Jonathan Robie

**Response to message** – Jackie Carroll

**Sharing praise and prayer requests** – Jackie Carroll

**The Lord's Prayer** – Jackie Carroll

**Hymn** - The Blessing

**Benediction** – Marcia Nice

## **Announcements**

### **Opening Prayer**

Lord, who lifts us up, reside in our hearts today. Help us to listen closely for your word to us. Remind us that you are always with us, throughout all of our lives. Give us confidence in your presence, so that we may go into your world ready to witness to your love through our works and our deeds, for we pray these things in Jesus' name. AMEN.

## Call to Worship –

- <sup>1</sup> I will exalt you, my God the King;  
I will praise your name for ever and ever.
- <sup>2</sup> Every day I will praise you  
and extol your name for ever and ever.
- <sup>3</sup> Great is the Lord and most worthy of praise;  
his greatness no one can fathom.
- <sup>4</sup> One generation commends your works to another;  
they tell of your mighty acts.
- <sup>5</sup> They speak of the glorious splendor of your  
majesty—  
and I will meditate on your wonderful works.
- <sup>6</sup> They tell of the power of your awesome works—  
and I will proclaim your great deeds.
- <sup>7</sup> They celebrate your abundant goodness  
and joyfully sing of your righteousness.
- <sup>8</sup> The Lord is gracious and compassionate,  
slow to anger and rich in love.

### Call to Worship #1:

L: Come, let us worship God who provides for us.

P: Even though we whine and complain, God hears our cries.

L: Lift your voices in praise, for God has come to comfort you.

P: Thanks be to God who forgives and heals our wounded souls.

L: Come, celebrate God's steadfast love.

P: Open our hearts, O Lord, and let us truly listen to your words. AMEN.

## **Hymn – Great is the Lord**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ocmCTU\\_rEel](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ocmCTU_rEel)

## **Prayer of Confession**

O Lord,  
We proclaim your presence with us  
Then we behave in ways which run counter from your word.  
We get caught up in our own needs  
And complain about the injustices we feel in our lives.  
Help us to always place our trust in your mercy  
And your compassionate love.  
Forgive us when we stray from your ways  
And wander into paths of self-pity and self-destruction.  
Lift us up and put us back on track.  
Give us confidence in your presence  
And your direction throughout our lives,  
For we ask these things in Jesus' name. AMEN.

## Assurance of Grace

Feel the comforting power of God's love and mercy in your lives.

God is with us through all our experiences.

Though we try, we cannot stray from God's love.

Rejoice! This is the good news for all of us! AMEN.

## Scripture – Philippians 1:21-30

<sup>21</sup> For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain. <sup>22</sup> If I am to go on living in the body, this will mean fruitful labor for me. Yet what shall I choose? I do not know! <sup>23</sup> I am torn between the two: I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far; <sup>24</sup> but it is more necessary for you that I remain in the body. <sup>25</sup> Convinced of this, I know that I will remain, and I will continue with all of you for your progress and joy in the faith, <sup>26</sup> so that through my being with you again your boasting in Christ Jesus will abound on account of me.

<sup>27</sup> Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ. Then, whether I come and see you or only hear about you in my absence, I will know that you stand firm in the one Spirit, striving together as one for the faith of the gospel <sup>28</sup> without being frightened in any way by those who oppose you. This is a sign to them that they will be destroyed, but that you will be saved—and that by God. <sup>29</sup> For it has been granted to you on behalf of Christ not only to believe in him, but also to suffer for him, <sup>30</sup> since you are going through the same struggle you saw I had, and now hear that I still have.

## **Scripture - Matthew 20:1-16**

“For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire workers for his vineyard. <sup>2</sup> He agreed to pay them a denarius for the day and sent them into his vineyard.

<sup>3</sup> “About nine in the morning he went out and saw others standing in the marketplace doing nothing. <sup>4</sup> He told them, ‘You also go and work in my vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ <sup>5</sup> So they went.

“He went out again about noon and about three in the afternoon and did the same thing. <sup>6</sup> About five in the afternoon he went out and found still others standing around. He asked them, ‘Why have you been standing here all day long doing nothing?’

<sup>7</sup> “ ‘Because no one has hired us,’ they answered.

“He said to them, ‘You also go and work in my vineyard.’

<sup>8</sup> “When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, ‘Call the workers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last ones hired and going on to the first.’

<sup>9</sup> “The workers who were hired about five in the afternoon came and each received a denarius. <sup>10</sup> So when those came who were hired first, they expected to receive more. But each one of them also received a denarius. <sup>11</sup> When they received it, they began to grumble against the landowner. <sup>12</sup> ‘These who were hired last worked only one hour,’ they said, ‘and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the work and the heat of the day.’

<sup>13</sup> “But he answered one of them, ‘I am not being unfair to you, friend. Didn’t you agree to work for a denarius? <sup>14</sup> Take your pay and go. I want to give the one who was hired last the same as I gave you. <sup>15</sup> Don’t I have the right to do what I want with my own money? Or are you envious because I am generous?’

<sup>16</sup> “So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

## **Scripture – Jonah 3:10 - 4:11**

<sup>10</sup> When God saw what they did and how they turned from their evil ways, he relented and did not bring on them the destruction he had threatened.

**4** But to Jonah this seemed very wrong, and he became angry. <sup>2</sup> He prayed to the Lord, “Isn’t this what I said, Lord, when I was still at home? That is what I tried to forestall by fleeing to Tarshish. I knew that you are a gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abounding in love, a God who relents from sending calamity. <sup>3</sup> Now, Lord, take away my life, for it is better for me to die than to live.”

<sup>4</sup> But the Lord replied, “Is it right for you to be angry?”

<sup>5</sup> Jonah had gone out and sat down at a place east of the city. There he made himself a shelter, sat in its shade and waited to see what would happen to the city. <sup>6</sup> Then the Lord God provided a leafy plant and made it grow up over Jonah to give shade for his head to ease his discomfort, and Jonah was very happy about the plant. <sup>7</sup> But at dawn the next day God provided a worm, which chewed the plant so that it withered. <sup>8</sup> When the sun rose, God provided a scorching east wind, and the sun blazed on Jonah’s head so that he grew faint. He wanted to die, and said, “It would be better for me to die than to live.”

<sup>9</sup> But God said to Jonah, “Is it right for you to be angry about the plant?”

“It is,” he said. “And I’m so angry I wish I were dead.”

<sup>10</sup> But the Lord said, “You have been concerned about this plant, though you did not tend it or make it grow. It sprang up overnight and died overnight. <sup>11</sup> And should I not have concern for the great city of Nineveh, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who cannot tell their right hand from their left—and also many animals?”

## **Message – Jonathan Robie**

## **Musical Meditation –**

## **Response to the Sermon**

## **Praises and Prayer Concerns**

## **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.**

## **Hymn - The Blessing**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PUtlI3mNj5U>

## **Benediction**

As you have been forgiven,  
Now go into a world that needs your forgiving, healing touch.  
Bring peace and hope to others, sharing God's love with them.  
AMEN.