

# **Durham Mennonite Church**

December 13, 2020 - Order of Worship

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

**Announcements** – Marcia Nice

**Opening Prayer**

**Hymn** – O Come, O Come Emmanuel

**Lighting of the Advent Candle** - Spencer and Renee

**Scripture** – Psalm 61:1-4; 8-11

**Litany**

**Hymn** - Come, thou long expected Jesus

**Scripture** – Psalm 126

**Message** – **Hope vs. Wishful Thinking** - Duane Beck

**Reflection on the message** - Jackie Carroll

**Sharing praise and prayer requests**

**The Lord's Prayer**

**Hymn** - O come, all ye faithful

**Benediction**

**Announcements**

**Opening Prayer**

**Hymn - O Come, O Come Immanuel #172**

# **Lighting of the Advent Candle**

## **Third Sunday of Advent: Proclamation and Joy**

### **Scripture: Isaiah 9:6-7**

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the LORD Almighty will accomplish this.

### **Candle Lighting:**

We relight the candle of hope and expectation, recalling God's promise to send a Savior. As we relight the candle of preparation and peace, remember the voice crying out in the wilderness, "prepare ye the way of the Lord." Now we relight the candle of Proclamation and Joy. May our hearts be forever filled with the joy of His coming.

**Prayer:** Father, we are filled with joy because we have hope and peace that you have sent your son for all that believe. Help us to be the voices that proclaim grace and truth. In Christ name we pray. Amen.

## **Hymn - Come Thou Long Expected Jesus**

## **Scripture – Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11**

### **The Year of the LORD's Favor**

**61** The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me,  
because the LORD has anointed me  
to proclaim good news to the poor.  
He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted,  
to proclaim freedom for the captives  
and release from darkness for the prisoners,<sup>[a]</sup>  
<sup>2</sup> to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor  
and the day of vengeance of our God,  
to comfort all who mourn,  
<sup>3</sup> and provide for those who grieve in Zion—  
to bestow on them a crown of beauty  
instead of ashes,  
the oil of joy  
instead of mourning,  
and a garment of praise  
instead of a spirit of despair.  
They will be called oaks of righteousness,  
a planting of the LORD  
for the display of his splendor.  
<sup>4</sup> They will rebuild the ancient ruins  
and restore the places long devastated;  
they will renew the ruined cities  
that have been devastated for generations.

<sup>8</sup>“For I, the LORD, love justice;  
I hate robbery and wrongdoing.

In my faithfulness I will reward my people  
and make an everlasting covenant with them.

<sup>9</sup>Their descendants will be known among the nations  
and their offspring among the peoples.

All who see them will acknowledge  
that they are a people the LORD has blessed.”

<sup>10</sup>I delight greatly in the LORD;  
my soul rejoices in my God.

For he has clothed me with garments of salvation  
and arrayed me in a robe of his righteousness,  
as a bridegroom adorns his head like a priest,  
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

<sup>11</sup>For as the soil makes the sprout come up  
and a garden causes seeds to grow,  
so the Sovereign LORD will make righteousness  
and praise spring up before all nations

# Litany – Based on Psalm 61

## Precious Lord, Take My Hand\*

Though shadows press close and grief beset behind and before, as hundreds die alone while others collapse from attempting the impossible, can it be a hand yet reaches out to us in mercy?

**Precious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, help me stand.**

Though our prisons be turned to instruments of oppression, our streets and bridges a last haven of the broken, the poor, and the disgraced, can it be a hand yet reaches out to us for justice?

**Precious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, help me stand.**

Though we be a house divided, captive of insult, ill-will and enmity, and even at odds in the family of faith, can it be a hand yet reaches out to us with a garland of peace, sweet peace?

**Precious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, help me stand.**

And though we have despoiled the goodness of the earth, brought it to the brink of ruin, trampling what belongs to the future and most of all to Heaven, can it be a hand yet reaches out, calling us to restore the garden, to plant again the saplings of righteousness?

**Precious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, help me stand.**

**All: Through the storm, through the night,**

**Lead us on to the light,**

**Take our hands, precious Lord, lead us home!**

\* Hymn lyrics by Thomas Dorsey, 1938. JPL 12/8/20

# Scripture - Psalm 126

1

When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion,  
we were like those who dreamed.

2

Our mouths were filled with laughter,  
our tongues with songs of joy.

Then it was said among the nations,  
“The Lord has done great things for them.”

3

The Lord has done great things for us,  
and we are filled with joy.

4

Restore our fortunes, Lord,  
like streams in the Negev.

5

Those who sow with tears  
will reap with songs of joy.

6

Those who go out weeping,  
carrying seed to sow,  
will return with songs of joy,  
carrying sheaves with them.

**Message – Duane Beck**

**Hymn - Precious Lord, Take my Hand**

**Reflection Time - Jackie**

**Praises and Prayer Concerns - Jackie**

**The Lord's Prayer**

Our Father in heaven,  
Hallowed be your name,  
Your kingdom come,  
Your will be done,  
On earth as it is 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 - O come, all ye faithful**

### **Benediction**

God of Love,

Your son, Jesus, is your greatest gift to us.

He is a sign of your love.

Help us walk in that love

During the remaining days of Advent,

As we wait and prepare for his coming.

We pray in the name of Jesus, our Savior. Amen.