

# **Durham Mennonite Church**

**December 27, 2020 - Order of Worship**

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

**Announcements – Marcia Nice**

**Opening Prayer**

**Hymn - Hark the herald angels sing**

**Lighting of the Advent Candle - Renee**

**Hymn - O little town of Bethlehem**

**Scripture – Isaiah 9:2-7**

**Scripture – Psalm 96**

**Scripture – Titus 2:11-14**

**Scripture – Luke 2:1-14; 15-20**

**Message - Jonathan Robie**

**Musical Meditation - Mary Did you Know?**

**Reflection on the message – Renee**

**Sharing praise and prayer requests - Renee**

**The Lord's Prayer**

**Hymn - Joy to the World**

**Benediction**

## **Announcements**

### **Opening Prayer**

**Holy One, you have appeared in the flesh,  
bringing redemption to all.**

**Your glory is made known in a newborn child,  
born in a manger, the most precious of all gifts,  
a living, blessed hope.**

**Today we rejoice and are glad!**

**Gift of God, beautiful Christ-child,  
we welcome you!**

**Let love be born anew in our hearts  
on this joyous day. Amen.**

### **Hymn - Hark! the herald angels sing**

[Hark the herald angels sing](#)

# **Lighting of the Advent Candle**

## **Candle Lighting:**

Today we light all four candles in our Advent wreath, and we are reminded of the Expectation, Preparation, Proclamation, and Revelation of His coming.

Now as we light the Christ Candle, we rejoice that the promise of God has been fulfilled in the coming of the Baby born in a manger.

## **Prayer:**

Gracious and Mighty King, we celebrate your goodness to us as we join the triumph and joy of Christmas. As your love has been revealed in all of its fullness, we pray that love may abound in our hearts during today. Grant us the spirit of Christ that we may live in the fullness of his character every day. In His name we pray. Amen.

## **Hymn – O little town of Bethlehem**

[FOREST GREEN O LITTLE TOWN O BETHLEHEM](#)

## **Isaiah 9:2–7**

<sup>2</sup> The people walking in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
on those living in the land of deep darkness  
a light has dawned.

<sup>3</sup> You have enlarged the nation  
and increased their joy;  
they rejoice before you  
as people rejoice at the harvest,  
as warriors rejoice  
when dividing the plunder.

<sup>4</sup> For as in the day of Midian's defeat,  
you have shattered  
the yoke that burdens them,  
the bar across their shoulders,  
the rod of their oppressor.

<sup>5</sup> Every warrior's boot used in battle  
and every garment rolled in blood  
will be destined for burning,  
will be fuel for the fire.

<sup>6</sup> 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.

<sup>7</sup> 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.

## **Psalm 96**

<sup>1</sup> Sing to the Lord a new song;  
sing to the Lord, all the earth.

<sup>2</sup> Sing to the Lord, praise his name;  
proclaim his salvation day after day.

<sup>3</sup> Declare his glory among the nations,  
his marvelous deeds among all peoples.

<sup>4</sup> For great is the Lord and most worthy of praise;

- he is to be feared above all gods.
- <sup>5</sup> For all the gods of the nations are idols,  
but the Lord made the heavens.
- <sup>6</sup> Splendor and majesty are before him;  
strength and glory are in his sanctuary.
- <sup>7</sup> Ascribe to the Lord, all you families of nations,  
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.
- <sup>8</sup> Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name;  
bring an offering and come into his courts.
- <sup>9</sup> Worship the Lord in the splendor of his holiness;  
tremble before him, all the earth.
- <sup>10</sup> Say among the nations, "The Lord reigns."  
The world is firmly established, it cannot be moved;  
he will judge the peoples with equity.
- <sup>11</sup> Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth be glad;  
let the sea resound, and all that is in it.
- <sup>12</sup> Let the fields be jubilant, and everything in them;  
let all the trees of the forest sing for joy.
- <sup>13</sup> 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.

## Titus 2:11–14

<sup>11</sup> For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. <sup>12</sup> It teaches us to say “No” to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, <sup>13</sup> while we wait for the blessed hope—the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, <sup>14</sup> who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.

## **Luke 2:1–14 (15–20)**

2 In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. <sup>2</sup> (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) <sup>3</sup> And everyone went to their own town to register.

<sup>4</sup> So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. <sup>5</sup> He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. <sup>6</sup> While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, <sup>7</sup> and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

<sup>8</sup> And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. <sup>9</sup> An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup> But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. <sup>11</sup> Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup> This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.”

<sup>13</sup> Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

<sup>14</sup> “Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.”

[ <sup>15</sup> When the angels had left them and gone into heaven,  
the shepherds said to one another, “Let’s go to Bethlehem and  
see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us  
about.”

<sup>16</sup> So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby,  
who was lying in the manger. <sup>17</sup> When they had seen him, they  
spread the word concerning what had been told them about  
this child, <sup>18</sup> and all who heard it were amazed at what the  
shepherds said to them. <sup>19</sup> But Mary treasured up all these  
things and pondered them in her heart. <sup>20</sup> The shepherds  
returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had  
heard and seen, which were just as they had been told. ]

## **Message – Jonathan Robie**

## **Musical Meditation - Mary did you know?**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sXoozHmO9pM&feature=youtu.be>

## **Reflection Time - Renee**

### **Praises and Prayer Concerns - Renee**

#### **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 - Joy to the world**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kqi8aphPtNQ>

## **Benediction** (Isaiah 9, Luke 2)

A child has been born for us.

**God's grace has been given to us.**

From a stable in Bethlehem our savior has come.

**We have seen the glory of the Lord,  
revealed in the face of the Christ child.**

**We can hardly contain our amazement.**

Tell the world. Treasure the story.

Ponder it in your heart.

**We will Glorify and praise God,  
for all we have heard and seen!**

Rejoice! Rejoice! Christ has come!

Amen!