

Durham Mennonite Church

March 7, 2021 - Order of Worship

Gathering - 10:15 to 10:30

Welcome and Announcements

Opening Prayer

Call to Worship

Hymn – Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God

Prayer of Confession

Words of Assurance

Scripture – II Kings 18:1-5; 20:1-5

Scripture – Acts 12:1-17

Scripture – Matthew 7:7-11

Sermon – Does Prayer Change Things? Glenn Detweiler

Reflection Time

Sharing praise and prayer requests

The Lord's Prayer

Hymn - Great is Thy Faithfulness

Benediction

Welcome and Announcements

Opening Prayer - Marcia

Call to Worship - Seeking God's Face

Come, follow Jesus to the sacred place where God is,
a place of intimate prayer, of open heart.

**We come, seeking seeking God's face,
pierced by the power of Love's presence,
silent before the glory of divine beauty.**

Come follow Jesus to a place of community,
to the place where sons and daughters join as one,
sharing in the bountiful grace of our Provider.

**We come, seeking God's face,
in our brothers and sisters as we worship
and share our lives together.**

**Jesus, lead us to the Holy One
that we may see God's face. Amen**

Hymn - Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FFxZeY2D5tc>

Prayer of Confession

God of all the saints, God of all the sinners, hear our prayer.
We would be saintlike – holy, good, patient, loving.

**But we end up feeling more like sinners
full of failures of morality, selfish, mean.**

Perhaps You see us simply as human
as beloved, and flawed, and trying,
and failing, and succeeding.

**In all of this, forgive the wrong that we have done,
and the bless the good we have accomplished.**

Keep on loving us, and helping us,
and molding us more and more into the image of Christ,
in whose name we pray. Amen.

Assurance of Grace

Friends, hear this Good News:
the love of God is beyond measure,
and you are included in that love.
Know that you are forgiven and thus freed to love and serve.
Alleluia! Amen.

Scripture - II Kings 18:1-5, 20:1-5

Hezekiah King of Judah

18 In the third year of Hoshea son of Elah king of Israel, Hezekiah son of Ahaz king of Judah began to reign. 2 He was twenty-five years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem twenty-nine years. His mother's name was Abijah daughter of Zechariah. 3 He did what was right in the eyes of the Lord, just as his father David had done. 4 He removed the high places, smashed the sacred stones and cut down the Asherah poles. He broke into pieces the bronze snake Moses had made, for up to that time the Israelites had been burning incense to it. (It was called Nehushtan.)

5 Hezekiah trusted in the Lord, the God of Israel. There was no one like him among all the kings of Judah, either before him or after him.

Hezekiah's Illness

20 In those days Hezekiah became ill and was at the point of death. The prophet Isaiah son of Amoz went to him and said, "This is what the Lord says: Put your house in order, because you are going to die; you will not recover."

2 Hezekiah turned his face to the wall and prayed to the Lord, 3 "Remember, Lord, how I have walked before you faithfully and with wholehearted devotion and have done what is good in your eyes." And Hezekiah wept bitterly.

4 Before Isaiah had left the middle court, the word of the Lord came to him: 5 "Go back and tell Hezekiah, the ruler of my people, 'This is what the Lord, the God of your father David, says: I have heard your prayer and seen your tears; I will heal you. On the third day from now you will go up to the temple of the Lord.

Scripture - Acts 12:1-17

Peter's Miraculous Escape From Prison

12 It was about this time that King Herod arrested some who belonged to the church, intending to persecute them. 2 He had James, the brother of John, put to death with the sword. 3 When he saw that this met with approval among the Jews, he proceeded to seize Peter also. This happened during the Festival of Unleavened Bread. 4 After arresting him, he put him in prison, handing him over to be guarded by four squads of four soldiers each. Herod intended to bring him out for public trial after the Passover.

5 So Peter was kept in prison, but the church was earnestly praying to God for him.

6 The night before Herod was to bring him to trial, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains, and sentries stood guard at the entrance. 7 Suddenly an angel of the Lord appeared and a light shone in the cell. He struck Peter on the side and woke him up. "Quick, get up!" he said, and the chains fell off Peter's wrists.

8 Then the angel said to him, "Put on your clothes and sandals." And Peter did so. "Wrap your cloak around you and follow me," the angel told him. 9 Peter followed him out of the prison, but he had no idea that what the angel was doing was really happening; he thought he was seeing a vision.

10 They passed the first and second guards and came to the iron gate leading to the city. It opened for them by itself, and they went through it. When they had walked the length of one street, suddenly the angel left him.

11 Then Peter came to himself and said, “Now I know without a doubt that the Lord has sent his angel and rescued me from Herod’s clutches and from everything the Jewish people were hoping would happen.”

12 When this had dawned on him, he went to the house of Mary the mother of John, also called Mark, where many people had gathered and were praying. 13 Peter knocked at the outer entrance, and a servant named Rhoda came to answer the door. 14 When she recognized Peter’s voice, she was so overjoyed she ran back without opening it and exclaimed, “Peter is at the door!”

15 “You’re out of your mind,” they told her. When she kept insisting that it was so, they said, “It must be his angel.”

16 But Peter kept on knocking, and when they opened the door and saw him, they were astonished. 17 Peter motioned with his hand for them to be quiet and described how the Lord had brought him out of prison. “Tell James and the other brothers and sisters about this,” he said, and then he left for another place.

Scripture - Matthew 7:1-7

Ask, Seek, Knock

7 “Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. 8 For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.

9 “Which of you, if your son asks for bread, will give him a stone? 10 Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake? 11 If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him!

Message

Does Prayer Change Things? - Glenn Detweiler

Reflection Time - Jackie

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 - Great is His Faithfulness

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=liQzzc41z5Q>

Benediction - Glenn

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