

# **Durham Mennonite Church**

**May 9, 2021**

**Worship Order**

**Worship 10:30**

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Opening Prayer**

**Call to Worship**

**Hymn - God is Love**

**Prayer of Confession**

**Words of Assurance**

**Scripture – John 15:9-17**

**Scripture – Acts 10:44-48**

**Sermon – Strengthen Your Core**

**Hymn – O the Deep Deep Love of Jesus**

**Reflection time**

**Sharing praise and prayer requests**

**The Lord's Prayer**

**Hymn - What a Friend We Have in Jesus**

**Benediction**

## Welcome and Announcements

### Opening Prayer

Lord, we are gathered here today as one body, your people, because you chose to call us your friends. We come from all walks of life. We are here to worship and praise your name! May the love we experience today in worship restore us, revive us, refresh us. God, use our broken selves as tools of hope and love on this day. Lord, we love you. Thank you for loving us and calling us your friends.

It's in your name, we pray. Amen.

### Call to Worship

L: We are called to love one another, because love is from God.

**P: God's love is poured in us from our birth.**

L: We are called to extend the love of God to all people.

**P: God's love is taught to us through the witness of God's faithful people.**

L: We are called to proclaim God's love in all that we say and do.

**P: In all creation, in all our relationships, may God's love be made known.**

**AMEN.**

## **Hymn - Praise to the Lord, the Almighty**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=roxlm\\_gCb7c](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=roxlm_gCb7c)

## **Hymn - God is Love**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WM67XFmS6hE>

## **Prayer of Confession**

Jesus, Savior and friend,  
you taught us to abide in your generous love,  
for it completes our lives and gives us joy;  
you ask us to love others as you have loved us,  
for it brings your creation to fruition.  
We sometimes struggle  
to love the people in our lives  
as you have loved us.  
Forgive us, we pray,  
and teach us your love again. Amen.

## **Assurance of Grace**

Long ago Jesus said to his disciples,  
“I have called you friends, because I have made  
known to you everything that I have heard from God.  
You did not choose me, but I chose you!”  
Jesus speaks these words to us today.  
Jesus forgives us and chooses us to be his friends,  
sharing his great work of love. Hallelujah!

## Scripture – John 15:9-17

**9** “As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. **10** If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commands and remain in his love. **11** I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. **12** My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. **13** Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. **14** You are my friends if you do what I command. **15** I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master’s business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. **16** You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you. **17** This is my command: Love each other.

## Scripture – Acts 10:44-48

44 While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message. 45 The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on Gentiles. 46 For they heard them speaking in tongues<sup>[a]</sup> and praising God.

Then Peter said, 47 “Surely no one can stand in the way of their being baptized with water. They have received the Holy Spirit just as we have.” 48 So he ordered that they be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked Peter to stay with them for a few days.

## **Message – Strengthen Your Core**

**Hymn – O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TliCy09D3v0>

**Reflection Time**

**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 – What a Friend We Have in Jesus**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pi1-5kmbkyQ>

## **Benediction (John 15:12)**

Jesus speaks again today:

**“This is my commandment,  
that you love one another as I have loved you.”**

Go in joy and faithfulness, knowing that you,  
the chosen friends of Jesus, abide in Jesus’ love  
and bear the gift of this love to the world. Amen.