

## Who We Are

**Community Mennonite Church of Lancaster** is an inclusive, progressive, Mennonite/Anabaptist Christian peace church. We are a member congregation of the Atlantic Coast Conference of Mennonite Church USA, and of the Supportive Communities Network. To read our full covenant, core values and statement on LGBTQ inclusion, as well as more information about our congregation and denomination, please visit our website: [www.communitymennonite.org/about-us/what-we-believe/](http://www.communitymennonite.org/about-us/what-we-believe/)

## CMCL Vision Prayer

*Through your grace, O God, form us into a community called to follow Jesus, known and loved by you, nourished throughout our lives by worship, relationships and the biblical story, open to new voices and new dreams, committed to one another in times of celebration and difficulty, responsive to human need with justice and compassion. May your Spirit draw us together into your new creation.*

## Land Acknowledgement Statement

*We acknowledge that Community Mennonite Church of Lancaster owns land that was inhabited by the Susquehannock confederacy (also known as the Conestoga) and Lenape people at the time of European contact. We lament our ancestors' complicity in land theft from Indigenous Peoples and how we benefit from a legacy of exploitation and genocide.*

*We intend for this statement to be a first step in a journey of healing and reconciliation.*

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COMMUNITY  
MENNONITE  
CHURCH OF  
LANCASTER

328 West Orange St  
Lancaster, PA 17603

March 26, 2023

Lent V

**seeking:** Can these  
bones live?

**Worship Leader: Lighting of the Peace Lamp**

Leslie Homer-Cattell

**Song Leader: Prelude**

Christy Heatwole Kauffman

*Nunc Dimittis*

David Badsen

**Piano: Welcome & Call toWorship**

Matt Krebs (2nd)

Have you ever felt washed up, brittle, worn-down to the bone?

**Scripture Reader: Have you ever felt grief lay heavy on your back?**

Frank Muse

Have you ever felt like hope was out of reach?

**Have you ever wondered, can these bones live?**

**Children’s Time:** If you have, then you are in the right place, for this is God’s house.  
Susan Gascho-Cooke Hope lives here.

**Sermon/Sharing: So, come. Rest your weary bones.**

Susan Gascho-Cooke Let us worship Holy God.

**Prelude & Offertory: Gathering Songs**

Maren Morgan

*Holy Spirit, Come With Power*

VT 57

*God Who Touches Earth With Beauty*

VT 550

**Sound:**

Monte Garber (1st)

Daryl Snider (2nd)

**Scripture**

The hand of YHWH was upon me, and it carried me away by the Spirit of YHWH and set me down in a valley - a valley full of bones. God made me walk up and down among them. And I saw that there was a vast number of bones lying there in the valley, and they were very dry. God asked me, “Mere mortal, can these bones live?” I answered, “Only you know that, Sovereign YHWH.” And God said, “Prophecy to these bones, and say to them; ‘Dry Bones, hear the word of YHWH! Sovereign YHWH says to these bones: I am going to breathe life into you. I will fasten sinews on you, clothe you with flesh, cover you with skin, and give you breath. And you will live; and you will know that I am Sovereign YHWH.’” So I prophesied as I was commanded, and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and all the bones came together, bone to matching bone. As I watched, sinews appeared on them, flesh clothed them, and skin covered them. But there was no breath in them. Then God said to me, “Prophecy to the wind; prophecy mere mortal, and say to it: ‘Thus says Sovereign YHWH: Approach from the four winds, Breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live.’” I prophesied as I was commanded, and breath came into them; they came alive, and stood up on their feet - a vast multitude. Then God said to me, “Mere mortal, these bones are the whole House of Israel. The people keep saying, ‘Our bones are dry, our hope is gone, and we are doomed.’ Prophecy, therefore, and say to them, ‘Thus says Sovereign YHWH: I am going to open your graves and raise you up from the dead, my people. I will return you to the land of Israel. When I open your graves and raise you up, you, my people, will know that I am YHWH. Then I will put my Spirit into you and you will return to life, and I will settle you back on your own land. Then you will know that I, YHWH, have spoken and made all this happen, says Sovereign YHWH.’”

**Zoom Technician:**

Drew Brubaker

**Greeter:**

Tina Glanzer (1st)

Larry Groff (2nd)

**Ushers:**

Luke Good,

Jim Spicher (1st),

Pauline Zimmerman,

Sherry Groff (2nd)

**Fishbowl Volunteers:**

Margaret Krumm

Brenda Sauder

Eva Lucas Towers

**Environment:**

Lenten rose paintings:

Cara Longacre Hurst &

Cynthia Kilbourne

Needlework

& Prints of Menno

Simons sayings:

Rachel Kraybill-Stahl

**Children’s Time** (second service) *Come and See*

VT 282

**Offering Prayer/Offertory**

*Kyrie and Prayers*

Phillip Marshall

**Prayer of confession & words of assurance**

*Jesus of Nazareth,*

*We confess that we forget...*

*You, too, have wept.*

*You, too, have lost.*

*You, too, have gathered at the tomb,  
grieved for a friend, and felt the sting of humanity.*

*Forgive us...*

*...for the times we blame you,*

*...for the times we create distance,*

*...for imagining that you can’t understand.*

*Bring these dry bones back to life. Bring us closer to you.*

*With gratitude we pray. Amen*

**Scripture**

Creative retelling of John 11:1-45 (see insert)

Rev. Anna Strickland

**Sermon & Songs**

**Sharing Time & Prayer**

**Announcements and Introduction of Visitors**

**Sending Song**

*I am the Bread of Life*

VT 480

v. 1, 4 & 5

**Benediction**

As you leave this place,  
may God bless you with seeking.

Seek out the hungry.

Seek the weary.

Seek the good in every person you pass.

Seek out the hopeful.

Seek the faithful.

Seek God in each of us.

As you seek and as you wonder,  
may you find what you are looking for.  
In the name of our loving God,  
who is always seeking us,  
go now in peace. Amen.