

## 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 W. Orange St.  
Lancaster, PA 17603

9.3.23

**Worship Leader:** Faith Cowell  
**Prelude** Netherlands Bach Society  
*Bach- Chorale Nun ruhen alle Wälder*

**Sermon:** Susan Gascho-Cooke  
*(Now all the Forests are Resting)*

**Song Leader:** Darlis Myer  
**Lighting of the Peace Candle** VT 984

**Call to Worship** VT 953

**Children's Time:** God of life,  
we thank you that in our work  
as well as in our worship  
**we gather in your presence.**

**Prelude & Offertory:** Ron Umble  
Come among us and guide us  
**as we meet together.**

**Sound:** Michael Eby-Good  
In our uncertainties,  
**give us direction;**  
in our differences,  
**give us understanding;**  
**Zoom Technician:** Drew Brubaker  
in our reporting,  
**give us honesty;**  
in our planning,  
**give us boldness;**  
**Greeter:** Carolyn Dries  
in our deciding,  
**give us graciousness.**

**Ushers:** Linford Good, Phil Kreider  
Let us never forget  
**that we are your people,**  
called to proclaim the reign of God,  
committed to follow christ in life,  
**united as one body in the Spirit. Amen**

**Fishbowl Volunteers:** Denise Cope, Ashley Miller  
**Welcome**

**Environment Design:** Celebrating Parrots, Pentecost & Pride.  
**Gathering Songs**  
*I Owe the Lord a Morning Song* VT 496  
Designed by: *Morning Has Broken* VT 495  
Zita Angelo  
& Renee King

**Children's Time** *Come and See* VT 282

**Offering Prayer**

**Offertory** Netherlands Bach Society  
*Bach- Ich ruf zu dir, Herr Jesu Christ*  
*(I call to you, Lord Jesus Christ)*

**Scripture - Ecclesiastes 3:9-13, 4:7-10**

What gain have the workers from their toil? I have seen the business that God has given to everyone to be busy with. God has made everything suitable for its time; moreover, God has put a sense of past and future into their minds, yet they cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end. I know that there is nothing better for them than to be happy and enjoy themselves as long as they live; moreover, it is God's gift that all should eat and drink and take pleasure in all their toil.

Again, I saw vanity under the sun: the case of solitary individuals, without sons or brothers; yet there is no end to all their toil, and their eyes are never satisfied with riches. 'For whom am I toiling', they ask, 'and depriving myself of pleasure?' This also is vanity and an unhappy business.

Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up the other; but woe to one who is alone and falls and does not have another to help.

**Sermon**

**Song of Response**

*Let There Be Light*

VT 714

**Sharing Time & Prayer**

**Announcements & Introduction of Visitors**

**Closing Song**

*Praise the Lord, Sing Hallelujah*

VT 95

**Benediction**

VT 984

This day, God, **may I dream your dreams;**

This day, God, **may I reflect your love;**

This day, God, **may I do your work;**

This day, God, **may I taste your peace.**