

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/

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.

DISMANTLING RACISM STATEMENT

The predominantly white CMCL community acknowledges a history of unearned privilege and opportunity that occurred at the expense of those of color. We commit to move beyond mere words to tangible reparative acts, increasingly reflected in our annual church budget and through individual contributions. We see this lifelong process of learning and action to be transformational yet acknowledge this is only a step.



COMMUNITY
MENNONITE
CHURCH OF
LANCASTER

328 West Orange St.
Lancaster, PA 17603

01.21.24

Worship Leader: Susan Gascho-Cooke	Prelude <i>Acony Bell</i>	By Gillian Welch	
Prelude & Offertory: Rhea Miller, Dean Clemmer, Susan Gascho-Cooke	Lighting of the Peace Candle		VT 1006
	Welcome & Call to Worship		VT 879
	Gathering Songs		
	<i>We are People of God's Peace</i>		VT 797
Sermon: Verna Miller	<i>You are the Salt of the Earth</i>		VT 297
Song Leader: Kate Umble Smucker	Children's Time	<i>Come and See</i>	VT 282
	Offering Prayer		
Children's Time: Jonathan Sauder	<i>Take My Life, And Let It Be</i>		VT 759
	Offertory		
Sound: Monte Garber	<i>Tomorrow Will Be Kinder</i>	By The Secret Sisters	
	Scripture - Matthew 5: 9-16, 43-48		
Zoom Technician: Steve Walter	‘Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.		
	‘Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.		
Greeter: Joanne Leatherman	‘Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.		
Ushers: John Kanagy Linford Good	‘You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.		
Fishbowl Volunteers: André Chubb Lori Bergey	‘You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hidden. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lamp stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.		
Environment Design: Zita Angelo & Renee King	‘You have heard that it was said, “You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.” But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be children of your Father in heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous. For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax-collectors do the same? And if you greet only your brothers and sisters, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.		

Sermon - *Old Yet New*

“I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.” - John 13.34

Song of Response

Heart with Loving Heart United

VT 813

Sharing Time

Announcements & Introduction of Visitors

Closing Song

Draw the Circle

VT 802

Benediction

God dearly loves us

Mayken Boosers, 1564
VT 1056

Cover Image

VT 780

At the Impulse of God's Love: A Re-envisioning of Dirk Willems Saving His Captor's Life (1685)
by Jan Luyken — © 2018 Michelle L Hofer

Artist Statement

No other illustration from Thieleman J. van Braght's volume, *Martyrs Mirror*, has so inspired generations of Anabaptists to respond with love in the face of persecution and violence. In a swift and sacrificial act, escaping Anabaptist prisoner, Dirk Willems, turns around to save his pursuer's life, reaching to pull him from the chilly water having broken through the ice. The presence of God's Spirit and love in this radical effort is visually represented by dot work surrounding and flowing between the outstretched hands — a technique influenced by medieval Celtic gospel illuminators' use of red dots to enliven the Word. Additional hands in the piece serve as a chorus allowing viewers the opportunity to enter into this moving witness of divine peace in action. May the people of God in unison sing, as was so aptly written by Frances Ridley Havergal in his hymn, *Take My Life and Let It Be* (1874).