

## 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.*

## 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

01.28.24

Jesus, in the style of a laborer, embracing a child and carrying ears of corn (a symbol of work)

**Worship Leader:**  
Susan Gascho-Cooke

**Prelude**  
*Joy is Like the Rain*

**Prelude & Offertory:**  
Sauder Family,  
Dan Laubach

**Lighting of the Peace Candle**  
*Prayer for Peace* by Wallace B. Smith

**Welcome & Call to Worship**  
Welcome, makers, dreamers, doers, lovers.  
Welcome, workers of justice.  
Welcome all, to this circle.

**Sermon:**  
Jackie Wyse Rhodes

**Song Leader:**  
Beth Graybill

**Musicians:**  
Piano: Roger Lentz  
Drums: Maren Morgan

**Children's Time:**  
Jane Weigel

**Gathering Songs**  
*There's a Wideness in God's Mercy* VT 156  
*Let's Walk Together* VT 6

**Sound:**  
Ezra Kauffman

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

**Zoom Technician:**  
Steve Walter

**Offering Prayer**

**Greeter:**  
Larry Groff

**Offertory**  
*Rain, Come Down*

**Ushers:**  
Sherry Groff,  
Laurel Martin

**Fishbowl Volunteers:**  
Carol Spicher,  
Jane Weigel

**Environment Design:**  
Zita Angelo  
& Renee King

**Scripture - Numbers 11:24-30**  
So Moses went out and told the people the words of the Lord; and he gathered seventy elders of the people, and placed them all around the tent. Then the Lord came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders; and when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied. But they did not do so again. Two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the spirit rested on them; they were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied in the camp. And a young man ran and told Moses, 'Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.' And Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses, one of his chosen men, said, 'My lord Moses, stop them!' But Moses said to him, 'Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the Lord's people were prophets, and that the Lord would put his spirit on them!' And Moses and the elders of Israel returned to the camp.

## Sermon

We are so happy to welcome guest preacher Jackie Wyse-Rhodes, PhD, Associate Professor of Hebrew Bible; Bible Department Chair; Associate Director, Institute of Mennonite Studies at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary in Elkhart, Indiana. Dr Wyse-Rhodes teaches courses on the Old and New Testaments, methods of biblical interpretation, exegetical studies, and introductory Greek and Hebrew, among other topics.

An active scholar, presenter and speaker, she is currently writing Numbers for the Believers Church Bible Commentary series (Herald Press). Jackie will also be leading our Adult Christian Education session this morning on the very timely topic of Supersessionism and Biblical Interpretation:

Supersessionism is the harmful theological claim that the church has replaced Israel as God's covenant community and the authority of the New Testament "supersedes" that of the Old Testament. This seminar will explore how supersessionism results in shallow and unsatisfying experiences with the Bible, often leading Christians to discount whole swaths of the biblical tradition. We will also investigate various ways that supersessionism among Christians contributes to physical violence and hateful speech against Jews. Finally, we will delve into several methods of reading the whole Bible with integrity, as followers of Jesus today.

## Song of Response

*Fill Us with Your Feast*

VT 309

## Sharing Time

*Lord, in your mercy ... Hear our prayers.*

## Announcements & Introduction of Visitors

## Closing Song

*Hakuna Wakaita*

VT 68

## Benediction

God of power,  
may the boldness of your Spirit  
transform us,  
may the gentleness of your Spirit  
lead us,  
may the gifts of your Spirit  
be our goal and our strength,  
now and always.

VT 1067

**Cover Art:** by Rodrigo Pedroza, Conferencia de Iglesias Evangélicas Anabautistas Menonitas de México, YABS Committee (2009-2015)

**Call to Worship:** by Annabeth Roeschley, *Along the Arc: Worship and Ritual for Welcoming Communities*