

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.



2.4.2024
**COMMUNITY
MENNONITE
CHURCH OF
LANCASTER**

328 West Orange St.
Lancaster, PA 17603

Worship Leader:
Melanie Yoder Salim

Prelude

Canon in D, Duet for Flute and Cello by Johann Pachelbel
Arr. John Dempsey

Prelude & Offertory:
Stock Woodstock,
Alicia Smith

Lighting of the Peace Candle

Welcome & Call to Worship

Sermon:
Susan Gascho-Cooke

Gathering Songs

Song Leader: *My Soul Cries Out* VT 412
Marty Kelley *We Are Marching* VT 793

Scripture Reader: **Children's Time** *Come and See* VT 282
Mike Kuhns

Offering Prayer

Children's Time:
Melanie Yoder Salim,
Mary Lou Weaver
Houser, Beth Crosby,
Christy Kauffman

Offertory

Dona Nobis Pacem/Finlandia Medley

Scripture

Zechariah 7:9-10

And the word of the LORD came again to Zechariah: "This is what the LORD Almighty says: 'Administer true justice; show mercy and compassion to one another. Do not oppress the widow or the fatherless, the alien or the poor. In your hearts do not think evil of each other.'"

Romans 12:14-21

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, 'Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.' No, 'if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads.' Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Sermon

You have heard that it was said...

Song of Response

Lord Listen to Your Children Praying

VT 682

Nick Martin - Mennonite Action

Sharing Time

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

Announcements & Introduction of Visitors

Closing Song

Oh Healing River

VT 706

Benediction

May God bless you with discomfort...
at easy answers, hard hearts,
half-truths, and superficial relationships.

May God bless you
so that you may live from deep within your heart
where God's Spirit dwells.

May God bless you with anger...
at injustice, oppression,
and exploitation of people.

May God bless you so that you may
work for justice, freedom, and peace.

And may God bless you with
enough foolishness
to believe that you can make a difference
in this world, in your neighborhood,
so that you will courageously try
what you don't think you can do, but,
in Jesus Christ you'll have all the strength necessary.