

## 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

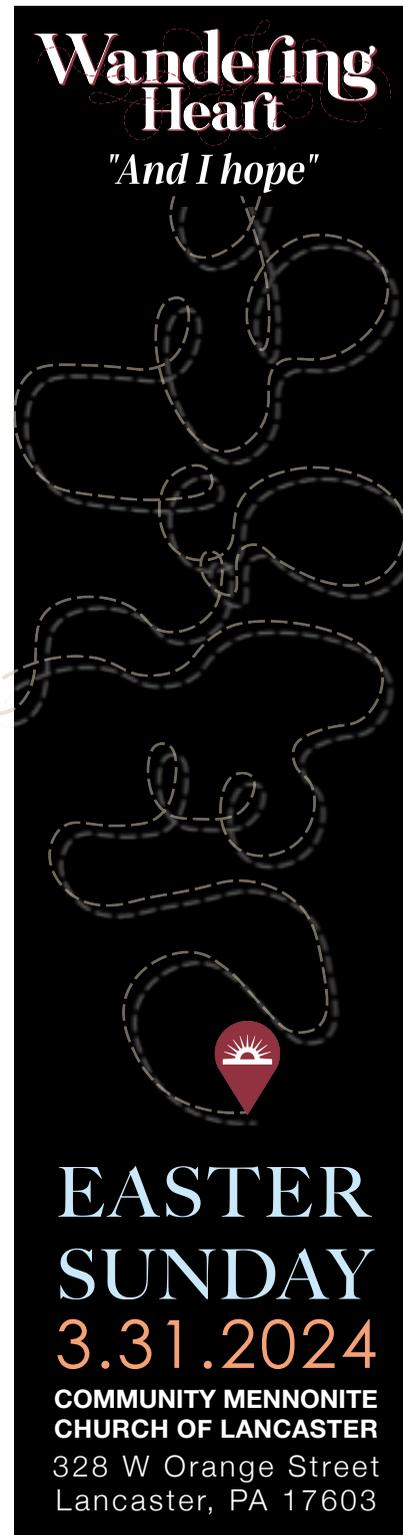
*We acknowledge that Community Mennonite Church of Lancaster owns land that was inhabited by the Susquehannock confederacy (also known as the Conestoga) and Lenape people at the time of European contact. We lament our ancestors' complicity in land theft from Indigenous Peoples and how we benefit from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



**Wandering Heart**  
*"And I hope"*



**EASTER SUNDAY**  
**3.31.2024**  
**COMMUNITY MENNONITE CHURCH OF LANCASTER**  
328 W Orange Street  
Lancaster, PA 17603



**Worship Leader:**

Leslie Homer-Cattell

**Prelude***Let Every Voice with Every Breath*

by Mark A. Miller

**Prelude & Offertory:**

Rebecca Boyer

Beth Crosby

Luke Good, Deb Hall

Beth Graybill

Joanne Leatherman

Mary Alice Ressler

Emerson Sampaio

Brenda Sauder

Faith Sauder

Jonathan Sauder

Julia Schrock Rosenfeld

Ron Umble, Sarah Shirk

Diane Umble

Stock Weinstock

**Accompanists:**

Ezra Kauffman,

Roger Lentz,

Alicia Smith

**Sermon:**

Susan Gascho-Cooke

**Song Leader:**

Ron Umble

**Children's Time:**

Jonathan Sauder

**Sound:**

Cody Litwiller

**Zoom Technician:**

Drew Brubaker

**Greeters:**

David Stallings,

Ken Beam

**Ushers:**

Jeremy Laird,

Lorman Laird

**Fishbowl Volunteers:**

André Chubb,

Beth Crosby,

Eva Towers

**Environment Design**

Crescentia Volz

Brenda Sauder

Joanne Leatherman

Pauline Zimmerman

Renee King, Zita Angelo

Gwen Reed Blankenship

Susan King, Heidi Wenger

**Lighting of the Peace Candle****Welcome & Call to Worship**

Sometimes it seems like death has won.

Sometimes it seems like all is lost.

Sometimes it seems like God is nowhere to be found.

But today...?

**Today we're reminded that love wins.****Today we're reminded that hope is real.****Today we're reminded that Christ is here.**

We have reason to hope.

**We have reason to sing!**

Alleluia!

**Alleluia!**

Christ is risen today.

**Gathering Songs***Lift Your Glad Voices*

VT 340

*Christ the Lord is Risen Today*

VT 346

**Prayer of Confession**

"The stone is rolled away!"

**We assume it is a mistake.**

The angels say, "He is not here!"

**We assume the news is fake.**

The women tell the story,

**but we aren't always eager to hear it.**

Peter runs to the tomb,

**but we can't make sense of it.**

Forgive us, God, for thinking an empty tomb

can so easily be explained away.

**Forgive us for seeing evidence of discarded burial cloths****and still holding tight to death.**

Forgive us for the times we discount reasons to hope,

when you are alive in the world.

**Teach us to see what you see.**

Unravel the threads of our unbelief.

**Amen.****Words of Assurance****Children's Time***Come and See*

VT 282

**Offering Prayer****Offertory***Every Word and Every Breath*

by Mark A. Miller

*Mfurahini, hallelujah*

by Bernard Kyamanywa

*(Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia!)***Scripture — Luke 24:1-12 (CEB)**

Very early in the morning on the first day of the week, the women went to the tomb, bringing the fragrant spices they had prepared. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in, they didn't find the body of the Lord Jesus. They didn't know what to make of this.

Suddenly, two men were standing beside them in gleaming bright clothing. The women were frightened and bowed their faces toward the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He isn't here, but has been raised. Remember what he told you while he was still in Galilee, that the Human One must be handed over to sinners, be crucified, and on the third day rise again."

Then they remembered his words. When they returned from the tomb, they reported all these things to the eleven and all the others. It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told these things to the apostles. Their words struck the apostles as nonsense, and they didn't believe the women. But Peter ran to the tomb. When he bent over to look inside, he saw only the linen cloth. Then he returned home, wondering what had happened.

**Sermon****Song of Response***Come, Thou Fount*

VT 563

**Sharing Time & Prayer****Announcements & Introduction of Visitors****Closing Song***I Know that My Redeemer Lives*

VT 347

**Benediction**

Beloved wanderer,  
as you leave this place,  
may you carry your curious heart on your sleeve.  
May you look for God in every face.  
May you find the courage to get out of the boat,  
to run to the tomb,  
and to speak of your faith.  
And when the world falls apart,  
may you hear God's voice deep within,  
saying, "Take heart, it is I, be not afraid."  
You are called.  
You are blessed.  
In both your ups and down,  
you always belong to God.  
Go now in peace.  
Go trusting that good news.  
Amen.