

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.



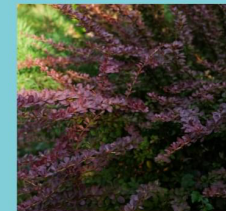
Natives VS Invasives

Replace the invasive plants with native plants
Native plants support wildlife and the ecosystem.

X INVASIVE



BRADFORD PEAR



BARBERRY



JAPANESE HONEYSUCKLE

✓ NATIVE



AMERICAN FRINGETREE



NINEBARK



TRUMPET HONEYSUCKLE

Watershed Discipleship

COMMUNITY MENNONITE
CHURCH OF LANCASTER

06.02.2024

328 W Orange Street
Lancaster, PA 17603

Worship Leader:
Susan Gascho-Cooke

Prelude
Beau Soir

by Claude Debussy

Prelude & Offertory:
Roger Lentz, Christy
Heatwole Kauffman,
Ryan Kauffman

Lighting of the Peace Candle

Welcome & Call to Worship

Scripture — Matthew 2: 1-12 CEB

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in the territory of Judea during the rule of King Herod, magi came from the east to Jerusalem. They asked, “Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We’ve seen his star in the east, and we’ve come to honor him.”

Song Leader:
Brenda Sauder

Children’s Time:
Jane Weigel

When King Herod heard this, he was troubled, and everyone in Jerusalem was troubled with him. He gathered all the chief priests and the legal experts and asked them where the Christ was to be born. They said, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for this is what the prophet wrote:

Sound:
Michael Eby-Good

Zoom Technician:

You, Bethlehem, land of Judah,
by no means are you least among the rulers of Judah,
because from you will come one who governs,
who will shepherd my people Israel.”

Greeters:
Beth Crosby
Marty Kelly

Then Herod secretly called for the magi and found out from them the time when the star had first appeared. He sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search carefully for the child. When you’ve found him, report to me so that I too may go and honor him.” When they heard the king, they went; and look, the star they had seen in the east went ahead of them until it stood over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were filled with joy. They entered the house and saw the child with Mary his mother. Falling to their knees, they honored him. Then they opened their treasure chests and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Because they were warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they went back to their own country by another route.

Ushers:
Marian Good
Luke Good

Fishbowl Volunteers:
Margaret Krumm
Adam Miller

Environment Design:
Renee King
Zita Angelo
Crescentia Volz
Pauline Zimmerman
Brenda Sauder
Gwen Reed Blankenship

Gathering Song

Touch the Earth Lightly VT 145

Children’s Time *Come and See* VT 282

Offering Prayer & Offertory

Flower Duet from *Lakme* by Leo Delibes

Poem

Earth Speaks by Leif Weigel

Silence

Song

Called by Earth and Sky VT 806

WATERSHED PRACTICE

Hiking on Monday — Pauline Zimmerman

Native Planting in My Yard — Gwen Reed Blankenship

Song

Seeds VT 777

Communion

Perhaps the World Ends Here Joy Harjo

The world begins at a kitchen table. No matter what, we must eat to live.

The gifts of earth are brought and prepared, set on the table. So it has been since creation, and it will go on.

We chase chickens or dogs away from it. Babies teethe at the corners. They scrape their knees under it.

It is here that children are given instructions on what it means to be human. We make men at it, we make women.

At this table we gossip, recall enemies and the ghosts of lovers.

Our dreams drink coffee with us as they put their arms around our children. They laugh with us at our poor falling-down selves and as we put ourselves back together once again at the table.

This table has been a house in the rain, an umbrella in the sun.

Wars have begun and ended at this table. It is a place to hide in the shadow of terror. A place to celebrate the terrible victory.

We have given birth on this table, and have prepared our parents for burial here.

At this table we sing with joy, with sorrow. We pray of suffering and remorse. We give thanks.

Perhaps the world will end at the kitchen table, while we are laughing and crying, eating of the last sweet bite.

Sharing Time & Prayer

Loving God...hear our prayers

Announcements & Introduction of Visitors

Closing Song

Seeds VT 777

Benediction

Go in love,

For love alone endures.

Go in peace,

for it is the gift of God.

Go in courage,

for we cannot go where God is not.

Cover photo: gardenthoughtfully.com

Recorded songs During Communion:

All Creatures of Our God and King, Over the Rhine (from *Hymn Time in the Land of Abandon*)

The Love of God, Over the Rhine (from *Hymn Time in the Land of Abandon*)

Seed Song, Humbird (from album *Right On*)

Poem: “Perhaps the World Ends Here” from *The Woman Who Fell From the Sky* by Joy Harjo. Copyright © 1994 by Joy Harjo.