## 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.



ST. LANCASTER, PA 17603 328 WEST ORANGE COMMUNITY MENNONITE CHURCH OF LANCASTER

Worship Leader: Prelude

Marcia Towers All Night, All Day

**Reflection: Lighting of the Peace Candle** 

Daryl Snider **Welcome & Call to Worship** 

**Prelude & Offertory:** 

God at dawn,

Maren Morgan Roger Lentz You have carried us through the long passage of

night and into another morning.

Awaken us now to today's sacred potential.

Accompaniment: Roger Lentz Grant us imagination for community, wonder, and the kind of work that honors and doesn't degrade us. Place a soothing hand over all who are anxious, that

even in the unknown,

Song Leader: Darlis Myer

they would journey into the day grounded and at

peace in the arms of the divine.

And as we depart from this place, protect each of us as

Children's Time: we risk ourselves again on living.

Glory to the one who resurrects us daily. Ed Kane

Amen

Sound:

**Gathering Song** 

Move in Our Midst

VT 827

Michael Eby-Good

Zoom Technician: Children's Time

Come and See

VT 282

## Offering Prayer

**Greeters:** 

Mary Lou Weaver Houser Marty Kelley

**Ushers:** 

Esther Becker Linford Good

**Fishbowl Volunteers:** 

Christy Heatwole-Kauffman, Denise Cope. Eva Towers

Offertory

**Environment Design:** 

Crescentia Volz Fall 2024 environment includes congregation participation and sharing of root beliefs

God of every beautiful thing, make us people of wonder. Show us how to hold on to nuance and vision when our souls become addicted to pain, to the unlovely. It is far easier to see the gloom and decay; so often it sings a louder song. Attune our hearts to the good still stirring in our midst, not that we would give ourselves to toxic positivity or neglect the pain of the world, but that we would be people capable of existing in the tension. Grant us habits of sacred pause. Let us marvel not just at the grand or majestic, but beauty's name etched into every ordinary moment. Let the mundane swell with a mystery that makes us breathe deeper still. And by this, may we be sustained and kept from despair. Amen.

Go Tell It on the Mountain

Alicia Smith Scripture — Micah 4:2-4, 6:8 CEB with inclusive language and many nations shall come and say: "Come, let's go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of Jacob's God. so that God may teach us God's ways and we may walk in God's paths!" Instruction will come from Zion and the Lord's word from Jerusalem.

God will judge between the nations and settle disputes of mighty nations, which are far away. They will beat their swords into iron plows and their spears into pruning tools. Nation will not take up sword against nation: they will no longer learn how to make war.

All will sit underneath their own grapevines.

under their own fig trees.

There will be no one to terrify them:

for the mouth of the Lord of heavenly forces has spoken.

God has told you, human one, what is good and

what the Lord requires from you:

to do justice, embrace faithful love, and walk humbly with your God.

#### Reflection

Could It Be That God Is Singing

VT 42

# **Song of Response**

Be Still and Know

VT 37

## **Sharing Time & Prayer**

Loving God...hear our prayers

#### **Announcements & Introduction of Visitors**

## Closing Song

Seek Ye First

VT 417

### **Benediction**

God our maker,

We honor the sacred multitude that resides in you.

May the guardian in you protect us.

May the child in you delight in us.

May the friend in you challenge us. May your ashes resurrect us.

May your sky shelter us.

May the mystery of you liberate us.

Provide abundance and healing in all forms to those who need it today.

And deliver us from shame, hatred, and the chains that bind us.

For you have made us - glory - and we are still being made.

Amen

Call to Worship, Offering Prayer & Benediction by: Cole Arthur Riley, Black Liturgies Cover Image: Christ: Swords into Plowshares. Icon by Kelly Latimore