

## 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

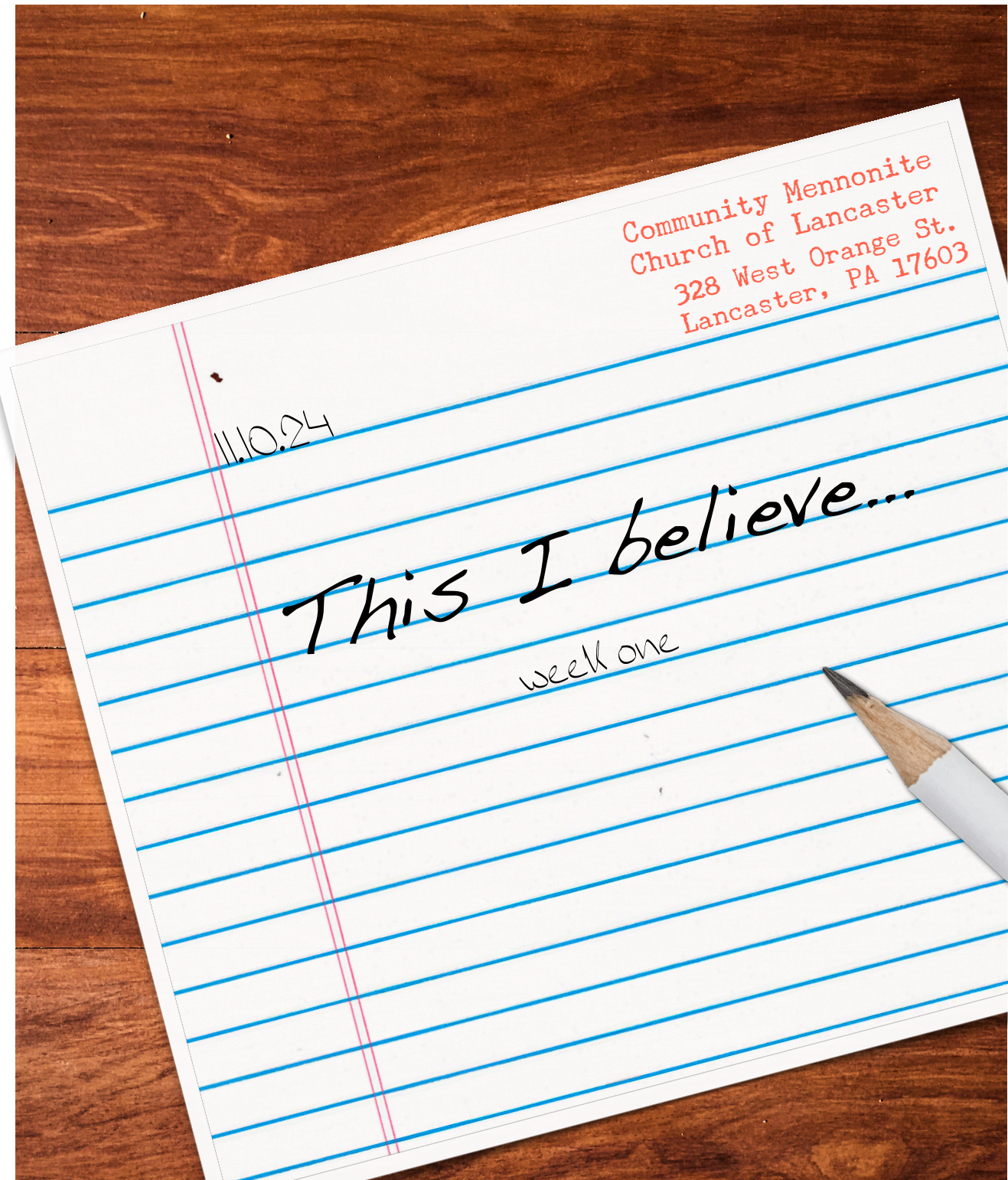
*Through your grace, O God, form us into a community called to follow Jesus, known and loved by you, nourished throughout our lives by worship, relationships and the biblical story, open to new voices and new dreams, committed to one another in times of celebration and difficulty, responsive to human 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.*



**Worship Leader:** **Prelude**  
Sherry Groff *Big Sciota*

Traditional

**Prelude & Offertory:**  
Dean Clemmer  
Larry Penner  
David Stallings

**Lighting of the Peace Candle**

VT 828

There's a wild hope in the wind.  
O God, in the wind, come gather us in,  
be our courage and promise.  
The future is dim,  
but we want to live into a wild, wild hope.

**Song Leader:**  
Beth Graybill

**Children's Time:**  
Ed Kane

**Welcome & Call to Worship**

VT 3

Spirit draw near.  
We are gathered here in the mystery of this hour,  
We are gathered here in one strong body,  
We are gathered here in the struggle and the power,  
Spirit draw near.

**Sound:**  
Daryl Snider

**Zoom Technician:**

**Gathering Songs**

**Greeters:**  
Deb Hall  
John Kanagy

**Children's Time**

*Come and See*

VT 282

**Offering Prayer**

**Ushers:**  
Linford Good  
Marian Good

**Offertory**

*Crystal Silence*

by Chick Corea

**Fishbowl Volunteers:**  
Lindsey Deininger  
Carolyn Dries

**Scripture — Psalm 23**

The Lord is my shepherd.  
I lack nothing.  
He lets me rest in grassy meadows;  
he leads me to restful waters;  
he keeps me alive.  
He guides me in proper paths  
for the sake of his good name.  
Even when I walk through the darkest valley,  
I fear no danger because you are with me.  
Your rod and your staff—  
they protect me.  
You set a table for me  
right in front of my enemies.  
You bathe my head in oil;  
my cup is so full it spills over!  
Yes, goodness and faithful love  
will pursue me all the days of my life,  
and I will live in the Lord's house  
as long as I live.

**Environment Design:**  
Alicia Smith  
Crescentia Volz  
*Fall 2024 environment  
includes congregation  
participation and  
sharing of root beliefs*

***This I Believe* Reflections**

- Beth Oberholtzer
- Judy Zook

**Song of Response**

**Communion**

Holy One  
God of justice and love  
Heaven and earth are full of your wonder  
Hosanna, among us  
\*\*\*

Christ was birthed among us.  
Christ was executed among us.  
Christ rises again among us.

**Communion Closing Prayer**

Beloved One, if we grow weary in love, may this meal live on as a reminder of what sustains us. In seeking the flourishing you intend for us, our neighbors, and this planet, keep our hearts tender, our spirits alive, and our senses attuned to the beauty that surrounds. With gratitude for your abiding presence, we pray. Amen.

**Sharing Time & Prayer**

*Loving God...hear our prayers*

**Announcements & Introduction of Visitors**

**Closing Song**

**Benediction**

❖ **Today's Adult Christian Ed:** In Adult Christian Ed this morning we will hear from Daniel Erdman, Ron & Judy Zook, and Heidi Wenger regarding their summer pilgrimages to Mexico, Spain and SE Asia.

**Liturgy:** Communion liturgy "God does not abandon us," from enflashed.com, M Jade Kaiser

**Cover images:**

1. desk background: <a href="https://www.vecteezy.com/free-photos/wood-background">Wood Background Stock photos by Vecteezy</a>  
2. pencil: https://unsplash.com/photos/white-lead-pencil-on-surface-dyaxQ-aoGWY?  
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