

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.



328 WEST ORANGE ST.
LANCASTER, PA 17603

COMMUNITY MENNONITE
CHURCH OF LANCASTER

04.27
2025

Worship Leader:
Marcia Towers

Prelude
Wildflowers

composer: Dolly Parton

Prelude & Offertory:
Melissa Stock
Dean Clemmer

Lighting of the Peace Candle

Sermon:
Frank Muse

Welcome & Call to Worship

Be with Us in Our Unfolding,
adapt. by Ted Loder

It is spring, Lord.
And the land is coming up green again,
Unfolding
Outside our well-drawn boundaries
And urgent schedules.
And there is the mystery
And the smile of it.

Song Leader:
Ron Umble

Children's Time:
Darrell Yoder
Diane Umble

The willows are dripping honey color into the rivers,
And the mother birds are busy in manger nests,
It is spring, Lord,
And something stirs in us,
Reaching, stretching
Groping for words.

Sound:
Ezra Kauffman

Zoom Technician:
Stock Weinstock

Be with us in our reaching
So we will touch or be touched,
This time,

Greeters:
Mary Lou Weaver Houser
Fern Clemmer

By a grace, a warmth, a light,
To unfold our lives to a new beginning,
A fresh budding,
A spring within as well as around us.

Ushers:
Pauline Zimmerman
Phil Kreider

O Lord, you have sketched the lines of spring.
Be with us in our reaching.

Gathering Songs

Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain

VT 348

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

VT 182

Children's Time

VT 282

Worship Environment:
Crescentia Volz
Alicia Smith

•*Blessing of Prayer Shawls for Sarah and Herb Myers*

see insert

Offering Prayer

Sermons and Prayers of Walter Brueggemann

Sink your generosity deep into our lives
that your muchness may expose our false lack
that endlessly receiving we may endlessly give
so that the world may be made Easter new,
without greedy lack, but only wonder,
without coercive need but only love,
without destructive greed but only praise
without aggression and invasiveness....
all things Easter new.....
all around us, toward us and by us
all things Easter new.
Finish your creation, in wonder, love and praise. Amen.

Offertory

Common Thread

composer: Pat Humphries

Scripture — Exodus 3: 7-10

Then the LORD said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey...The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt."

Sermon — *Can I Get a Witness?*

Song of Response

Could it be that God is Singing

VT 42, vs. 1 & 3

Sharing Time & Prayer

Loving God...hear our prayers

In the stillness of the quiet, if we listen,

Howard Thurman

We can hear the whisper in the heart

Giving strength to weakness, courage to fear, hope to despair.

Announcements & Introduction of Visitors

Closing Song

The Church's One Foundation

VT 397 vs. 1-2

Benediction — *Common Prayer: A Liturgy for Ordinary Radicals*, adapt.

God, grant us courage: **that we may plant seeds of peace.**

Show us your way O Lord, **and we will walk it in the end.**