

## COMMUNITY MENNONITE CHURCH OF LANCASTER

328 West Orange Street, Lancaster, PA 17603

September 9, 2018

Worship Leader—Ismail Yoder Salim

Sermon—Susan Gascho-Cooke

Song Leader—Louise Ranck

Sound Technician—Michael & Aaron Eby-Good

Greeter—Janet Lind; Ushers—Beth Ann Good, Andre Chubb, Phil Kreider

Child Care—Denise Cope, Carol Eby-Good; Helper—Ashton Clatterbuck

### Environment: September

The block prints lining the sanctuary were made by local artist Justin Johnson.

*Environment Committee* (Gwen Eberly, Rod Shumaker, Nancy Baum, Lynn Sommer, Dale Martin)

### SEPTEMBER WORSHIP SERVICES

#### *Theme: Seasons of Creation*

During this season, we experience God's nurturing presence and acknowledge Earth as our teacher, source, and guide; and take our place within Creation rather than over and above it. We recognize, also, the crisis that Creation faces through human exploitation. As we imagine a world where beauty is destroyed, we are encouraged to live in and toward restored and renewed heavens and Earth.

Each Sunday honors a different season of creation:

September 2: Earth Sunday—Genesis 1:1–25

September 9: Humanity Sunday—Genesis 1:26–28

September 16: Sky Sunday—Jeremiah 4:23–28; Psalm 19:1–6

September 23: Mountain Sunday—Isaiah 65:17–25

#### **CHURCH INFORMATION**

**Contact the church office staff** at (717) 392-7567 or [cmcl@communitymennonite.org](mailto:cmcl@communitymennonite.org).

**Worship service:** 9:30 a.m. **Christian Ed:** 11 a.m.

**Bulletin Announcements:** [bulletin@communitymennonite.org](mailto:bulletin@communitymennonite.org) by 4 p.m., Tuesday

**Midweek Announcements:** [bulletin@communitymennonite.org](mailto:bulletin@communitymennonite.org) by 4 p.m., Tuesday

**Lead Pastor:** Susan Gascho-Cooke

**Associate Pastor of Youth:**

Amanda Stoltzfus ([Amanda@communitymennonite.org](mailto:Amanda@communitymennonite.org)), Mon and Thu—10 a.m.–4 p.m.

**Associate Pastor of Children and Families:**

Malinda Clatterbuck ([Malinda@communitymennonite.org](mailto:Malinda@communitymennonite.org)), Mon and Thu—8:15 a.m.–5 p.m.

**Pastoral Team:** Carol Spicher, Deb Napolitan, Monte Garber, Luke Good and Naomi Paine

**Office staff:** Rod Houser ([Rod@communitymennonite.org](mailto:Rod@communitymennonite.org))

**Small groups:** Church office.

**Childcare Coordinators:** Kandace Helmuth ([Kandace@ptd.net](mailto:Kandace@ptd.net)), Michelle Meck ([meckmp@aol.com](mailto:meckmp@aol.com))

**CD recordings** of past services available upon request to the church office. Audio and text files of sermons are found on CMCL website or through your favorite podcast app.

**To join our closed Facebook Page** search for Parrot Nation and request to join.



*Love One Another. Original Art© Durga Yael Bernard/durgabernard.com. Used by permission. Wood Lake Publishing Inc., Seasons of the Spirit,™ Season of Creation Pentecost 2, 2018*

## HUMANITY SUNDAY

## Prelude

Anika Krebs

### Lighting of the Peace Lamp

#### Welcome and Call to Worship and Invocation

We are joined to every grain of sand:

**Earth does not belong to us—we belong to the earth.**

We are joined to every shining leaf:

**Earth does not belong to us—we belong to the earth.**

We are joined to every drop of rain:

**Earth does not belong to us—we belong to the earth.**

We are joined to every creature's breath:

**Earth does not belong to us—we belong to the earth.**

We are joined to every beam of light:

**Earth does not belong to us—we belong to the earth.**

We are joined to every particle of creation.

**Earth does not belong to us—we belong to the earth.**

We may know this, and yet . . .

**we confess our arrogance, ignorance, indifference, and greed in how we treat creation.**

We are joined forever to God's remarkable love which brings us to a place of healing and action. Through this love, we can live out these words:

**Earth does not belong to us - we belong to the earth.**

## Singing

### Children's Time

Blessing of the Backpacks

Malinda Clatterbuck

### Poem

“The Summer Day”

by Mary Oliver

Who made the world?

Who made the swan, and the black bear?

Who made the grasshopper?

This grasshopper, I mean-

the one who has flung herself out of the grass,

the one who is eating sugar out of my hand,

who is moving her jaws back and forth instead of up and down-

who is gazing around with her enormous and complicated eyes.

Now she lifts her pale forearms and thoroughly washes her face.

Now she snaps her wings open, and floats away.

I don't know exactly what a prayer is.

I do know how to pay attention, how to fall down

into the grass, how to kneel down in the grass,

how to be idle and blessed, how to stroll through the fields,

which is what I have been doing all day.

Tell me, what else should I have done?

Doesn't everything die at last, and too soon?

Tell me, what is it you plan to do

with your one wild and precious life?

## Offering/Offertory

Anika Krebs

### Scripture Reading

Job 12:7–12

Anika Hurst

But ask the animals, and they will teach you;  
the birds of the air, and they will tell you;  
ask the plants of the earth, and they will teach you;  
and the fish of the sea will declare to you.  
Who among all these does not know  
that the hand of God has done this?  
In God's hand is the life of every living thing  
and the breath of every human being  
Does not the ear test words  
as the palate tastes food?  
Is wisdom with the aged,  
and understanding in length of days?

### Sermon

Susan Gascho-Cooke

### Sharing and Prayer

*Where do you sense God moving among us? This is a time to respond to the scripture, music, and message of the morning, and to share joys and concerns from your lives and the greater world.*

### Singing

### Announcements/Introduction of Visitors

### Benediction

In harmony with the Tao,  
the Sky is clear and spacious,  
the earth is solid and full,  
all creatures flourish together,  
content with the way they are,  
endlessly repeating themselves,  
endlessly renewed.

When man interferes with the Tao,  
the sky becomes filthy,  
the earth becomes depleted,  
the equilibrium crumbles,  
creatures become extinct.  
The Master views the parts with compassion,  
because he understands the whole.  
His constant practice is humility.  
he doesn't glitter like a jewel  
but lets himself be shaped by the Tao,  
as rugged and common as a stone.

*Lao-tzu, Translated by Stephen Mitchell*