

Worship Leader— Christy Heatwole-Kauffman  
Sermon — Susan Gascho-Cooke  
Song Leader— Ron Umble  
Prelude/Offertory— Luke Good, Ken Nissley, Dale Umble, Ron Umble  
Sound Technician— Michael & Aaron Eby-Good  
Greeter— Carol Spicher  
Ushers— Marian Good, Jim Spicher, Margaret Krumm  
Child Care—Sherry Groff, John Thomas; Helper— Anika Hurst

# COMMUNITY MENNONITE CHURCH OF LANCASTER

328 W Orange St, Lancaster PA 17603  
March 10, 2019

## LENT 1

### Environment: Lent

For those who have been on sometimes decades-long Lenten journeys of picking out the chaff we have been handed in faith and community, we turn this Lent to the wheat. We focus on what we hold on to, rather than what we lay aside. What is the faith we long to say yes to? Who is the God we follow?" The wheat and chaff have been added to the environment below the musical fraktur banner to symbolize this pondering.

**A heartfelt thanks to the congregants who responded to the invitation below to add to our Lent environment:**  
Jim L. Bowman, Tina Glanzer, Susan E. King, R.A. Myers Kulp, Margaret Krumm, Audrey Patterson, Brenda Sauder, Priscilla Sauder, Anne Sensenig, Lynn Sommer, Bonnie Weaver, & Beky Weidner.

*"Lent is a season of unfolding honesty and truth-telling about our lives and our world. ... In boldly acknowledging our humanity while embracing God's love, we become immune to the virus of fear on which systems of domination continue to depend in order to maintain power and control. We live in a time when truth is questioned, yet the need for the truth-telling of Lent remains greater than ever. The journey of Lent begins by engaging us with the theological and interpretive question: Which God of scripture will we follow?" from Seasons of the Spirit*

The Environment Committee: *Gwen Eberly, Rod Shumaker, Dale Martin, Nancy Baum and Lynn Sommer*

### 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:** 11:00 a.m.

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

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

#### Administrative Pastor:

Leslie Homer-Cattell, ([leslie@communitymennonite.org](mailto:leslie@communitymennonite.org)), Tues-Fri

#### Congregational Care Pastor:

Susan Gascho-Cooke ([susan@communitymennonite.org](mailto:susan@communitymennonite.org)), Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri

#### Associate Pastor of Youth:

Amanda Stoltzfus ([Amanda@communitymennonite.org](mailto:Amanda@communitymennonite.org)), Tues and Thu

#### Associate Pastor of Children and Families:

Malinda Clatterbuck ([Malinda@communitymennonite.org](mailto:Malinda@communitymennonite.org)), Mon and Thu

#### Pastoral Team:

Deb Napolitan, Monte Garber, Darrell Yoder, Lisa Roth-Walter and Naomi Paine

**Office staff:** Sallie McCann Tupper ([Sallie@communitymennonite.org](mailto:Sallie@communitymennonite.org)), Mon- Fri

**Small groups:** Church office.

**Childcare Coordinators:** Julie Bushong ([jul.and.tyler@gmail.com](mailto:jul.and.tyler@gmail.com)), Lindsey Deininger ([lindsey.garber@gmail.com](mailto:lindsey.garber@gmail.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.



*A Time to Receive, A Time to Let Go.* Mixed media on board. Copyright © Julie Elliot. Used by permission. Wood Lake Publishing Inc., *Seasons of the Spirit™* Lent, Easter, 2019.

For those who have been on sometimes decades-long Lenten journeys of picking out the chaff we have been handed in faith and community, we turn this Lent to the wheat. We focus on what we hold on to, rather than what we lay aside.

What is the faith we long to say yes to?

Which God of scripture will we follow?

**Prelude** *Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

**Lighting of the Peace Lamp**

Leader: May the deep blessings of earth be with us.  
May the fathomless soundings of seas surge in our soul.  
May boundless stretches of the universe echo in our depths.

**People:** *To open us to wonder.  
To strengthen us for love  
To humble us with gratitude  
That we may find ourselves in one another  
That we may lose ourselves in gladness  
That we may give ourselves to peace.*

From Praying with the Earth: A Prayerbook for Peace, by J. Philip Newell

**Welcome & Call to Worship**

Leader: Today, we begin our journey of Lent – a journey of following the Christ into the desert, and then into Jerusalem.

*Right: We join in remembering the struggle and the strife of Jesus, who stood up for love, even when it meant persecution and death.*

**Left: We join in remembering the challenges of the Israelites as they journeyed away from slavery, through the desert, toward a new beginning.**

Leader: We join in remembering and honoring all who would teach us what it means to bear witness to God's love, through action and deed, and to reject the ways of empire.

**Right and Left: We join in a journey together toward justice, wholeness, and peace.**

Leader: Come, friends and loved ones, let us welcome this season and this journey as we take our first steps together in this Lenten worship.

**Hymn** *Praise to the Lord, the almighty* HWB #37

**Introduction to the Lenten theme**

**Children's Time** Malinda Clatterbuck  
*Come and see* HWB #20

*We value children's participation in worship. This is a sacred time for children and adults alike. Let us listen and see with the eyes and ears of a child.*

**Offertory/Offering** *My Anchor Holds*

**Hymn** *Nothing is lost on the breath of God* STS #21

**Scripture** Deuteronomy 26:1-11

When you come into the land which the Lord your God gives you for an inheritance, and have taken possession of it, and live in it, you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from your land that the Lord your God gives you, and you shall put it in a basket, and you shall go to the place which the Lord your God will choose, to make God's name dwell there. And you shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say, "I declare this day to the Lord your God that I have come into the land which the Lord swore to our ancestors to give us." Then the priest shall take the basket from your hand, and set it down before the altar of the Lord your God.

And you shall make response before the Lord your God, "A wandering Aramean was my father, who went down into Egypt and sojourned there, few in number; and there he became a nation, great, mighty, and populous. And the Egyptians treated us harshly, and afflicted us, and laid upon us hard bondage. Then we cried to the Lord the God of our ancestors, and God heard our voice, and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression; and the Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with great terror, with signs and wonders, and brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. And now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground, which you, O God, have given me." And you shall set it down before the Lord your God, and worship before the Lord your God; and you shall rejoice in all the good which the Lord your God has given to you and to your house, you, and the Levite, and the resident alien who is among you.

**Sermon** Susan Gascho-Cooke

**Hymn of response** *I know not why God's wondrous* HWB #338

**Time of Sharing & 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.*

**Announcements and Introduction of Visitors**

**Sending Hymn** *Guide me, O thou great Jehovah* HWB #582

**Benediction**

*ALL are welcome for hot drinks and fellowship in the Parrot Gallery downstairs following the worship service.  
Christian Education for all ages begins at 11 am.  
Visitors and new attenders, we invite you to fill out the visitor forms in the back of the blue hymnal. Feel free to drop them in the offering basket, or hand them to an usher as you leave the service this morning.*