

# COMMUNITY MENNONITE CHURCH OF LANCASTER

328 W Orange St, Lancaster PA 17603  
March 24, 2019



HONORING SACRED  
COMMUNITY

# Lighting of the Peace Lamp

Prelude      *Cumbia A San Romero*

## Welcome & Call to Worship

Gathering Song      *Jesus Stand Among us*

HWB #25

## OUR CORE VALUES

1. **We are KNOWN AND LOVED BY GOD** – This is the center of our common faith. We speak this reality to each other and we strive to model this love in our world.

*More Beautiful than the Honey Locust Tree are the Words of the Lord,*  
by Mary Oliver, from *Thirst*, adapted

All day I watch the sky changing from blue to blue.  
For You are forever  
And I am like a single day that passes.  
All day I think thanks for this world,  
For the rocks and the tips of the waves,  
For the tupelos and the fading roses.  
For the wind.  
For You are forever  
While I am like a single day that passes.  
You are the heart of the cedars of Lebanon  
    And the fir called Douglas,  
The bristlecone, and the willow.

Lord, when I sleep I feel you near.

When I wake, and you are already wiping the stars away,  
I rise quickly, hoping to be like your wild child  
the rose, the honey-maker the honey-vine:  
a bird shouting its joy as it floats  
through the gift you have given to me: another day.

2. **We are CALLED TO FOLLOW JESUS** – The stories of Jesus orient our worship. Turning toward Jesus “God-with-us” at our center is more important than defining the outer edges. Our participation in the wider Mennonite church and stream of Anabaptist theology informs this call. We respect and learn from people of religious traditions beyond Christianity.

Jesus is our example, teacher, friend, redeemer, and Lord. He is the source of our life, the central reference point for our faith and lifestyle, for our understanding of church, and our engagement with society. We are committed to following Jesus as well as worshipping him.

C. Arnold Snyder, *Following in the Footsteps of Christ*

But the medium is Christ whom no one can truly know unless he follow him in his life, and no one may follow him unless he has first known him.  
Hans Denck, "The Contention that Scripture Says"

## Children's Time

Darrell Yoder

*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.*

3. **We are NOURISHED THROUGH WORSHIP** – We celebrate music and the arts as vital parts of our spiritual practice. We value worship that honors our wrestling, our broken places and our raw edges. Our worship brings wholeness and centeredness to fragmented lives.

**Prayer for This Church** by Nancy Shaffer, from *Instructions in Joy*

May each one among us have skin that longs to touch  
other skin: fingertips that long for other fingertips  
or whole hands and even arms; bodies that  
want to stand next to other bodies, not alone,  
while singing and bending, stirring soup.  
May ones whose skin doesn't cry out for other  
skin wish it did, and so teach it, so that no one  
stands alone and no one aches and does not say so.

May our doors be so open it is drafty inside,  
and people sometimes shout because noises without  
come also within. May those sheltered here  
sometimes cry, all at once, letting tear  
water clean what words by themselves cannot.  
In silent times, may every one present hear  
every one else breathing, and know this is not  
separate from how the world breathes all night.

May we notice each one who is new and invite her to stay.  
May our list of names for the Holy not ever  
be finished; and may we hear God chuckling  
with us as we find still more.

4. **We are NOURISHED THROUGH RELATIONSHIPS** – We are present to each other in mutual care, not for fixing or problem-solving, but for helping one another remember or discover the wholeness and holiness that God intends for us.

**Prime Puzzle** by Rabbi Lawrence Kushner

Each lifetime is the pieces of a jigsaw puzzle.  
For some there are more pieces.  
For others the puzzle is more difficult to assemble.

Some seem to be born with nearly a completed puzzle.  
And so it goes.  
Souls going this way and that  
Trying to assemble the myriad parts.

But know this. No one has within themselves  
All the pieces to their puzzle.  
Like before the days when they used to seal  
jigsaw puzzles in cellophane. Insuring that  
the pieces were there.

Everyone carries with them at least one and probably  
Many pieces to someone else's puzzle.  
Sometimes they know it.  
Sometimes they don't.

And when you present your piece  
Which is worthless to you,  
To another, whether you know it or not,  
Whether they know it or not,  
You are a messenger from the Most High.

**Offertory/Offering**    *"El sombrero azul"* (see insert for translation)

5. **We are NOURISHED THROUGH THE BIBLICAL STORY** – We are drawn to stories of Jesus reaching out to the marginal, listening and healing as he moves among them. We strive to understand together what the Bible means for our lives in this time and place.

Mark 10:46-52

They came to Jericho. As he and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside. When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, 'Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!' Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, 'Son of David, have mercy on me!' Jesus stood still and said, 'Call him here.' And they called the blind man, saying to him, 'Take heart; get up, he is calling you.' So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. Then Jesus said to him, 'What do you want me to do for you?' The blind man said to him, 'My teacher, let me see again.' Jesus said to him, 'Go; your faith has made you well.' Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way.

6. **We are OPEN TO NEW VOICES** – We strive to speak and listen across differences in and beyond our congregation. We value cross-cultural experiences and global perspective. We welcome and embrace diversity of sexual orientation at all levels of congregational participation. We recognize challenges of building a racially and economically diverse faith community and strive for reconciliation.

*From the Quran:* The reward of goodness is nothing but goodness

*From Leonard Cohen:*

Ring the bells that still can ring  
Forget your perfect offering  
There is a crack in everything  
That's how the light gets in

*From The Talmud:* Do not be daunted by the enormity of the world's grief.  
Do justly, now. Love mercy, now. Walk humbly, now. You are not  
obligated to complete the work but neither are you free to abandon it

*From The Complete Tales and Poems of Winnie the Pooh:*

"What day is it?" asked Winnie the Pooh.

"Why", said Piglet, "it is today".

"Oh, that is my favorite day!" said Pooh. "Yesterday and tomorrow – that's  
too much day".

7. **We are OPEN TO NEW DREAMS** – We encourage all in our midst to grow  
and use their gifts, regardless of age, gender or length of time in the  
congregation.

**After the Final No by Wallace Stevens**

After the final no  
there comes a yes  
And on that yes  
the future world depends.  
No was the night.  
Yes is this present sun.

**Singing**

*Help us to help each other*

HWB #362

8. **We are RESPONSIVE TO HUMAN NEED** – We want our lives to be more  
than solely for ourselves. We serve and celebrate our neighborhoods,  
especially our urban Lancaster context.

**In the midst of a world,** by Rebecca Parker

In the midst of a world  
marked by tragedy and beauty  
there must be those  
who bear witness  
against unnecessary destruction  
and who, with faith,  
rise and lead  
in freedom,  
with grace and power.

There must be those who  
speak honestly  
and do not avoid seeing  
what must be seen  
of sorrow and outrage,  
or tenderness,  
and wonder.

There must be those whose  
grief troubles the water  
while their voices sing  
and speak  
refreshed worlds.

There must be those who  
are restless for  
respectful and loving  
companionship among human beings,  
whose presence invites people  
to be themselves without fear.

There must be those  
who gather with the congregation  
of remembrance and compassion  
draw water from  
old wells,  
and walk the simple path  
of love for neighbor.

9. **We strive to RESPOND WITH JUSTICE, PEACEMAKING AND COMPASSION** – We take seriously the church’s call to address issues of social, economic and ecological justice and to challenge oppressive systems in our culture. We proclaim the building of shalom peace and right relationships as the heart of the biblical message.

**Remember** by Joy Harjo, adapted

Remember the earth whose skin you are:  
red earth, black earth, yellow earth, white earth  
brown earth, we are earth.

Remember the plants, trees, animal life who all have their  
tribes, their families, their histories, too. Talk to them,  
listen to them. They are alive poems.

Remember the wind. Remember her voice. She knows the  
origin of this universe.

Remember you are all people and all people  
are you.

Remember you are this universe and this  
universe is you.

Remember all is in motion, is growing, is you.

Remember language comes from this.

Remember the dance language is, that life is.  
Remember.

10. **We are BEING DRAWN INTO A NEW CREATION** – We believe that transformation of ourselves and our world is ultimately the work of God’s spirit.

**Simple Abundance**, by Sarah Ban Breathnach, adapted

Divine love sustains you, surrounds you, enfolds you, protects you.  
Divine substance provides abundantly.  
But you must ask  
Ask for help, supply, guidance, grace.  
Surrender expectations.  
Ask to be surprised by joy.

Never forget all you have is all you need.

All things are possible to she who believes.  
Keep on the lookout for soulful markers – they surround you:  
The soul’s awakening is gratitude  
The soul’s essence is simplicity  
The soul’s serenity is order and harmony  
The soul’s passion is beauty  
The soul’s purpose is joy  
Pray your journey be long  
Savor the steps along the way. Honor your pace

The authentic self is the soul made visible

**Singing**                      *Where charity and love prevail*  
HWB #305, v 1, 2, 3, 5

### **Ritual of Connection**

### **Time of Sharing**

*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**

**Singing Benediction**    *Go my friends in grace*

STS #57

*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.*

Worship Leader— Pastoral Team: Susan Gascho-Cooke, Leslie Homer-Cattell, Amanda Stoltzfus, Monte Garber, Naomi Paine, List Roth-Walter, Darrell Yoder, Deb Napolitan  
Sermon — Core values readings  
Song Leader— Marty Kelley  
Prelude/Offertory— Dean Clemmer, Daniel Erdman, Ryan Kauffman, Audrey Patterson, Anne Sensenig, Jean Sensenig  
Sound Technician— Steve Stayrook/Ismail Salim  
Greeter— Esther Becker  
Ushers— John Kanagy, Carolyn Weaver, Larry Groff  
Child Care—Michael Eby-Good, Mary Lou Weaver Houser  
*A special thank you to Naomi Paine for the environment of today's service*

## 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.

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