

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.



**Mennonite
World Conference**

A Community of Anabaptist
related Churches

COMMUNITY MENNONITE
CHURCH OF LANCASTER
328 W. Orange St. Lancaster, PA 17603

**We are Family!
Participating in God's family**



Peace Sunday 2023
September 9, 2023

Worship Leader: **Prelude**
Susan Gascho-Cooke *Aquarell* by Rolf Lovland

Sermon: **Lighting of the Peace Candle**
Leslie Homer-Cattell

Song Leader: **Welcome & Opening Prayer**
Marty Kelley *These are the words of YHWH, the God of Israel says: "Let my people go so that they can hold a festival for me in the desert." (Exodus 5:1)*

Accompanists: Out of the house of slavery, through troubled waters, into the wilderness a new people is born;
Rhea Miller, You are God's own;
Roger Lentz Put your trust not in power nor in wealth

Children's Time: But in the One who is creator, sustainer and liberator on heaven and on earth, and called out to celebrate the breaking of every chain.
Jane Weigel We are here to proclaim the dawn of God's reign.

Prelude & Offertory:
Alicia Smith

Gathering Songs

Sound: *Hope of Abraham and Sarah* VT 807
Daryl Snider *In Christ There is No East or West* VT 390

Zoom Technician: **Children's Time** *Come and See* VT 282
Stock Weinstock

Greeter: **Offering & Offertory**
Jean Sensenig *Peace I Leave With You, My Friends* by Ray Repp

Ushers: **Scripture**
Jermel Laird

John 17: 20-26

I don't pray for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all may be one, as you, Abba, are in me and I in you. I pray that they may be one in us, so that the world may believe that you sent me. I have given them the glory you gave me that they may be one, as we are one—I in them, you in me—that they may be made perfect in unity. Then the world will know that you sent me, and that you loved them as you loved me. Abba, I ask that those you gave me may be here with me, so they can see this glory of mine which is your gift to me, because of the love you had for me before the foundation of the world. Righteous One, the world hasn't known you, but I have; and these people know that you sent me. To them I have revealed your Name, and I will continue to reveal it so that the love you have for me may live in them, just as I may live in them."

Fishbowl Volunteers: John Weigel,
Brenda Sauder

Environment Design:
Zita Angelo
& Renee King

Matthew 12: 46-50

While Jesus was still speaking to the crowd, his family stood outside, wanting to speak to him. Someone said to Jesus, "Your mother and kin are standing outside, and they are anxious to speak with you." Jesus replied, "Who is my mother? Who are my kin?" Pointing to the disciples, Jesus said, "This is my family. Whoever does the will of Abba God in heaven is my sister and brother and mother."

Sermon

Song of Response

Siyahamba (We Are Marching) VT 793

Sharing Time

Announcements & Introduction of Visitors

Closing Song

Christ has No Body Here but Ours VT 568

Benediction for Stepping Out Into the Empire

And now, even as you step out into the Empire,
Be not of this structure, but be:
The light that liberates
The salt that savours
The hand that heals The water that washes,
Until all have access to God's great and beautiful creation.
Amen.

Call to Worship: from Cláudio Carvalhaes, *Liturgies from Below: 462 acts of worship: Praying with People at the Ends of the World* [Nashville, TN: Abingdon Press, 2020], 35. Used with permission.

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