

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.



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

**04.07
2024**

Worship Leader: **Prelude**
Faith Cowell *Leaning on the Everlasting Arms* by E.A. Hoffman

Prelude & Offertory: **Lighting of the Peace Candle**
Ron Umble
Rhea Miller

Sermon:
Susan Schultz Huxman,
EMU President

Song Leader:
Beth Graybill

Children's Time:
Jane Weigel

Sound:
Michael Eby-Good

Zoom Technician:
Stock Weinstock

Greeters:
Nancy Borremans
Mary Lou Weaver Houser

Ushers:
Jack Shope
Marian Good

Fishbowl Volunteers:
Lori Bergey
Jean Sensenig

Environment Design
Renee King
Zita Angelo
Susan King
Heidi Wenger
Brenda Sauder
Crescentia Volz
Joanne Leatherman
Pauline Zimmerman
Gwen Reed Blankenship

Welcome & Call to Worship VT 922
We are not alone;
we live in God's world.
We believe in God:
who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus,
the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others
by the spirit.
We trust in God.
We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.
In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.
We are not alone.
Thanks be to God.

Gathering Songs
Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing VT 359
Lord, You've Searched Me VT 609

Children's Time *Come and See* VT 282

ACC Sharing

Offering Prayer & Offertory
Near the Cross by Fanny J. Crosby

Scripture — Acts 10*

CORNELIUS' VISION (10:1-8):
Cornelius was a centurion of the Italian Cohort who lived in Caesarea. An angel appeared to him in a vision and told him to find a man named Peter who was lodging in the city of Joppa. Cornelius obeyed and sent two servants and a soldier to Joppa.

PETER'S VISION (10:9-20):

The next day, as he was praying, Peter fell into a trance. He saw something like a sheet descending from heaven, lowered by its four corners, and it was full of "animals and reptiles and birds." Peter heard a voice saying, "Rise, Peter; kill and eat." But Peter refused because some of the animals were ceremonially "unclean" under the Jewish law. The same thing happened three times and then the trance ended. As Peter was pondering the meaning of the vision, the 3 men from Cornelius approached. The Holy Spirit told Peter to accompany the men to Caesarea.

PETER MEETS CORNELIUS IN CAESAREA (10:21-33):

After spending the night in Joppa, Peter traveled to Caesarea. Cornelius' whole household was gathered, and they greeted Peter upon his arrival. Jews didn't typically go into Gentiles' homes, but Peter concluded God wanted him to visit with Cornelius. Cornelius recounted his vision to Peter.

PETER TELLS CORNELIUS ABOUT JESUS (10:34-43):

Up to this point, the gospel message had only been preached to the Jews, but Peter realized God wanted to include the Gentiles in the Church as well. Peter told Cornelius about Jesus' anointing by the Holy Spirit, His ministry, His death, and His resurrection from the dead. He told him Jesus had been appointed Judge of the living and the dead, and that anyone who believed in Him received forgiveness of sins.

THE HOLY SPIRIT ARRIVES AND CORNELIUS IS BAPTIZED (10:44-48):

While Peter was speaking, the Holy Spirit "fell on all who heard." They spoke in tongues and extolled God. Peter baptized Cornelius' household and they became the first Gentile believers.

Sermon

Song of Response

Summoned by the God Who Made Us

VT 1

Sharing Time & Prayer

Announcements & Introduction of Visitors

Closing Song

Go Now in Peace

VT 835

Benediction — Psalm 67: 6-7

Abandoning ourselves into the
Heart of Love,
we need not worry or fret; for
Love's grace abides wherever we are.
In Love let us make our home.

ad. Nan Merrill,
Psalms for Praying