

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.



Watershed Discipleship

COMMUNITY MENNONITE
CHURCH OF LANCASTER

05.26.2024

328 W Orange Street
Lancaster, PA 17603

Worship Leader: **Prelude**
Leslie Homer-Cattell *Aquarell* by Rolf Lovland

Prelude & Offertory: **Lighting of the Peace Candle**
Alicia Smith & Diane Toigo *I Need the Ocean* by Jeannie Graham

Welcome & Call to Worship

God's Spirit calls out to us through the beauty of creation.

We praise God for the Chesapeake Bay watershed.

The Creator calls us to be caretakers of creation.

We want to honor this sacred trust.

Thanks be to God!

Gathering Songs

How Great Thou Art VT 436, stanzas 1-2

What Is This Place VT 22

Song Leader:

Jay Martin

Children's Time *Come and See* VT 282

I Sing the Mighty Power of God VT 182

Children's Time:

Leslie Homer-Cattell

BRINGING OUR GIFTS AND LIVES BEFORE GOD

Offering Prayer & Offertory

Ezra Kauffman *Lavender Hills* by Brian Crain

REFLECTING TOGETHER

Zoom Technician:

Steve Walter

Traveling From River to River — by Urbane Peachey

By a Different Road — by Chris Longenecker (past Poet Laureate of Lancaster)

Day Trip to the Shore — by Debra Gingerich

Psalms 104, A Poetic Interpretation — by Mitch Nugent

Greeters:

Deb Hall

Laurel Martin

What wraps the universe in beauty?

The answer is love.

This world, draped in beauty and love, wears its wonder proudly across the skies.

Winds whisper softly:

“Love is all around.”

From Love's hand,
God's hand,
Life flows, grass grows,
Plants spring up.

From infinite space
To drifting clouds,
Stars light the night,
Earth stands steady,
Rivers carve paths,
Trees shelter birds,
Life keeps humming.

Fishbowl Volunteers:

Denise Cope

Ashley Miller

Environment Design:

Renee King

Zita Angelo

Crescentia Volz

Pauline Zimmerman

Brenda Sauder

Gwen Reed Blankenship

And then there's us,
Us humans.
Fed by earth's fruits,
With wine and bubbly water to make us smile,
And sweet bread to raise our spirits.

All life reaches skyward,
Seeking the Source of Life.

As the sun rises,
Shadows flee,
Humanity begins its toil.
From dawn to dusk,
The cycle is unbroken.

The breath of life renews,
Every day brings new possibilities,
Just as the earth is reborn.

As long as breath fills my lungs,
I'll seek out every good thing.

I'll fill my mind with wonders,
And share them with others.
My heart will sing with creation's song.

If love is blocked or turned away,
I'll stand against the harm, and say:
Love will win.

So today, let's celebrate this world's good design,
And embrace its boundless love.

Our One Blue Bowl — by Yvonne Blomer (past Poet Laureate of Victoria, B.C.)

The Peace of Wild Things — by Wendell Berry

Reading from *Jayber Crow* — by Wendell Berry

Songs of Response

The Garden Needs Our Tending Now VT 788

We Plow the Fields and Scatter VT 747

CARING FOR ONE ANOTHER AND THE WORLD

Sharing Time & Prayer

Loving God...hear our prayers

Announcements & Introduction of Visitors

GIVING AND RECEIVING A SENDING BLESSING

Closing Song

Touch the Earth Lightly - VT 145

Benediction