

## 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/](http://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.*



# STORIES THAT FORM US



328 WEST ORANGE ST.  
LANCASTER, PA 17603

08.18  
2024

COMMUNITY  
MENNONITE  
CHURCH OF  
LANCASTER

**Worship Leader:** **Prelude**  
Sherry Groff

**Sermon:**  
Leslie Homer-Cattell

**Lighting of the Peace Candle** Luke 1:78-79  
'By the tender mercy of our God,  
the dawn from on high will break upon us, to give light  
to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death,  
to guide our feet into the way of peace.'

**Prelude & Offertory:**  
Emerson Sampaio

**Song Leader:** **Welcome & Call to Worship**  
Marty Kelley

**Accompanist:**  
Roger Lentz

**Children's Time:**  
Sue Stoesz

**Sound:**  
Monte Garber

**Zoom Technician:**  
Steve Walter

**ALL: Merciful God,**  
**we come together to worship, longing for tenderness**  
**because this world can be hard.**  
**We come longing for light**  
**because our lives are crowded with shadows.**  
**We come seeking direction**  
**because we don't always know which way to go.**  
**Fill us this morning with your peace:**  
**your Spirit is our peace and our path.**  
**Amen.**

**Greeters:**  
Larry Groff  
Fern Clemmer

**Gathering Songs**  
*God, Be the Love* VT 43  
*Holy Spirit, Come With Power* VT 57

**Ushers:**  
Laurel Martin  
Linford Good

**Children's Time** *Come and See* VT 282  
*How Full Is Your Bucket? for Kids*  
by Tom Rath & Mary Reckmeyer  
illustrated by Maurie J. Manning

**Fishbowl Volunteers:**  
Carolyn Dries  
Carol Spicher

**Offering Prayer**

**Environment Design:**  
Renee King  
Zita Angelo  
Crescentia Volz  
Pauline Zimmerman  
Brenda Sauder  
Gwen Reed Blankenship

**Offertory**

**Scripture — Ephesians 4:1-6 CEB**  
Therefore, as a prisoner for the Lord, I encourage you to live as people worthy of the call you received from God. Conduct yourselves with all humility, gentleness, and patience. Accept each other with love, and make an effort to preserve the unity of the Spirit with the peace that ties you together. You are one body and one spirit, just as God also called you in one hope. There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God and Parent of all, who is over all, through all, and in all.

**Sermon**

**Song of Response**  
*Jesus, Help Us Live in Peace*

VT 719

**Blessing of the Backpacks**  
Meredith Fisher

**Sharing Time & Prayer**  
*Loving God...hear our prayers*

**Announcements & Introduction of Visitors**

**Closing Song**  
*Christ Has No Body Here but Ours*

VT 568

**Benediction**