

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.



328 WEST ORANGE ST.
LANCASTER, PA 17603

COMMUNITY MENNONITE
CHURCH OF LANCASTER

Worship Leader: Prelude

Verna Miller
August

by Ryan Kauffman

Sermon: Welcome & Call to Worship

Susan Gascho-Cooke

Peace Candle

Prelude & Offertory:

Ryan Kauffman
Larry Penner

Gathering Songs

Summoned by the God Who Made Us VT 1
In Thy Holy Place We Bow VT 40, vs. 1-2

Song Leader:

Jay Martin

Children's Time *Come and See* VT 282

Children's Time:

Jane Weigel

Offering Prayer & Offertory

Lullaby for Theo by Ryan Kauffman

Sound:

Ezra Kauffman

Scripture

Matthew 5: 38-41 CEB

You have heard that it was said, *An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth*. But I say to you that you must not oppose those who want to hurt you. If people slap you on your right cheek, you must turn the left cheek to them as well. When they wish to haul you to court and take your shirt, let them have your coat too. When they force you to go one mile, go with them two.

Romans 12: 2 CEB

Don't be conformed to the patterns of this world but be transformed by the renewing of your minds so that you can figure out what God's will is--- what is good and pleasing and mature.

Isaiah 43:16-19 CEB

The LORD says—who makes a way in the sea and a path in the mighty waters, who brings out chariot and horse, army and battalion; they will lie down together and will not rise; they will be extinguished, extinguished like a wick. Don't remember the prior things; don't ponder ancient history. Look! I'm doing a new thing; now it sprouts up; don't you recognize it? I'm making a way in the desert, paths in the wilderness.

Sermon

Song of Response

Sing a New World into Being VT 809

Living the Third Way

Leader: Today's Scriptures challenged us
To not retaliate in like manner when people or systems harm us or others.

All:

We choose to be proactive in love.

To honor the life, dignity, and value of others.

To confront the systems and conflicts with bold, creative offers of peace.

To be rooted in Jesus' Third Way: affirming nonconformity at its best and believing there are always options and paths that need to be explored.

Sharing Time & Prayer

Loving God...hear our prayers

Announcements & Introduction of Visitors

Closing Song

Sent Forth by God's Blessing VT 812, v. 1

Benediction

by William Sloane Coffin

May God bless you and keep you.

May God's face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

May God give you the grace to never sell yourself short.

Grace to risk something big for something good.

Grace to remember that the world is now too dangerous for anything but truth and too small for anything but love.

So may God take your minds and think through them.

May God take your lips and speak through them.

May God take your hearts and set them on fire,

Through the power of God who created us, who is redeeming us, and whose holy presence refuses to leave us unchanged.



Today's Adult Christian Ed: Jonathan (Jon) Rudy, an international peace educator, will reinforce the topics covered at our Fall Retreat and cover additional topics related to peacemaking and conflict. With more than thirty-five years of work in 30 countries in Asia and Africa, Jon is a global educator on the topics of peace-building, conflict transformation and nonviolence. Don't miss this relevant topic for these conflictual times!