

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

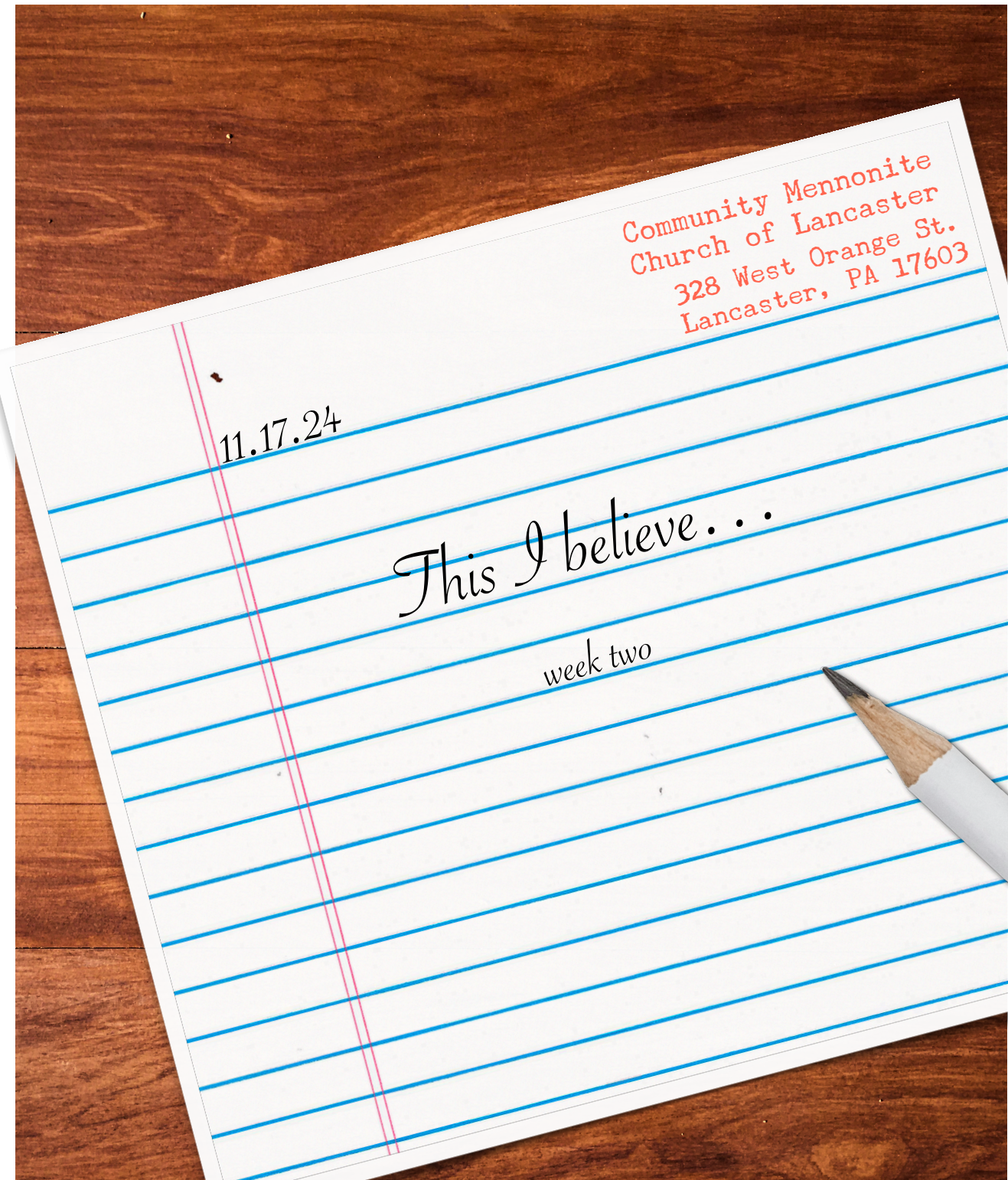
Through your grace, O God, form us into a community called to follow Jesus, known and loved by you, nourished throughout our lives by worship, relationships and the biblical story, open to new voices and new dreams, committed to one another in times of celebration and difficulty, responsive to human 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.



Worship Leader: Faith Cowell	Prelude <i>Angel Band</i>	
Prelude & Offertory: Rhea Miller Jean Sensenig Ron Umble	Lighting of the Peace Candle God, grant me the serenity to accept what I cannot change, The courage to change the things I can. And the wisdom to know the difference. Your will, not mine, be done.	<i>Serenity Prayer</i>
Song Leader: Marty Kelley	Welcome & Call to Worship Lord, make me an instrument of Thy peace that where there is hatred,	<i>Prayer of St. Francis</i>
Children's Time: Darrell Yoder	I may bring love — that where there is wrong, I may bring the spirit of forgiveness — that where there is discord, I may bring harmony — that where there is error, I may bring truth — That where there is doubt, I may bring faith — that where there is despair, I may bring hope — that where there are shadows, I may bring light — That where there is sadness,	
Sound: Monte Garber	I may bring joy. Lord, grant that I may seek rather to comfort, than to be comforted — to understand, than to be understood — to love, than to be loved. For it is by self forgetting that one finds. It is by forgiving that one is forgiven. It is by dying that one awakens to Eternal Life.	
Zoom Technician: Steve Walter		
Greeters: Joanne Leatherman Laurel Martin		
Ushers: Fern Clemmer Pauline Zimmerman		
Fishbowl Volunteers: Beth Crosby Laura Boll		
Environment Design: Alicia Smith Crescentia Volz <i>Fall 2024 environment includes congregation participation and sharing of root beliefs</i>		
	Gathering Songs	
	<i>Spirit of Life</i>	VT 368
	<i>Let Us Build a House</i>	VT 36
	Children's Time	<i>Come and See</i> VT 282
	Offering Prayer	
	Offertory	
	<i>Precious Jewels</i>	
	Scripture — Romans 12:9-18 CEB	
	Love should be shown without pretending. Hate evil, and hold on	

to what is good. Love each other like the members of your family. Be the best at showing honor to each other. Don't hesitate to be enthusiastic—be on fire in the Spirit as you serve the Lord! Be happy in your hope, stand your ground when you're in trouble, and devote yourselves to prayer. Contribute to the needs of God's people, and welcome strangers into your home. Bless people who harass you—bless and don't curse them. Be happy with those who are happy, and cry with those who are crying. Consider everyone as equal, and don't think that you're better than anyone else. Instead, associate with people who have no status. Don't think that you're so smart. Don't pay back anyone for their evil actions with evil actions, but show respect for what everyone else believes is good. If possible, to the best of your ability, live at peace with all people.

This I Believe Reflection — Sarah Shirk

Song of Response

Sing a New World into Being

VT 809

Reading

"... God [is] regarded as the ongoing creativity in this world. This mystery of creativity—God—manifest throughout the universe is quite awe-inspiring, calling forth emotions of gratitude, love, peace, fear, and hope, and a sense of the profound meaningfulness of human existence in the world—issues with which faith in God usually has been associated. It is appropriate, therefore, to think of God today as precisely this magnificent panorama of creativity with which our universe and our lives confront us." This belief prompted Kaufman to paraphrase "... the opening verses of the Gospel of John: In the beginning was creativity, and the creativity was with God, and the creativity was God. All things came into being through the mystery of creativity; apart from creativity nothing would have come into being."

*excerpt from the abstract for *A Religious Interpretation of Emergence: Creativity as God* by Gordon D. Kaufman

This I Believe Reflection — Jay Martin

Song of Response

What is This Place?

VT 22

Sharing Time & Prayer

Loving God...hear our prayers

Announcements & Introduction of Visitors

Closing Song

Rain Down

VT 703

Benediction

Guide us, oh Lord,

by your word and Holy Spirit,
that in your light we may see light,
and in your truth find freedom,
and in your will discover peace. Amen

HWB 769

❖ **Today's Adult Christian Ed: *Voices Together* in Lament, Longing, and Hope.**

Join Beth Graybill as we experience songs in the purple hymnal that speak to our present moment. Remember, it was compiled during the first Trump years; there is a lot of good material to meet us where we are, as we continue familiarizing ourselves with the hymnal through song and stories.

Cover images:

1. desk background: <https://www.vecteezy.com/free-photos/wood-background>>Wood Background Stock photos by Vecteezy
2. pencil: https://unsplash.com/photos/white-lead-pencil-on-surface-dyaxQ-aoGWY?utm_content=creditShareLink&utm_medium=referral&utm_source=unsplash