

## 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

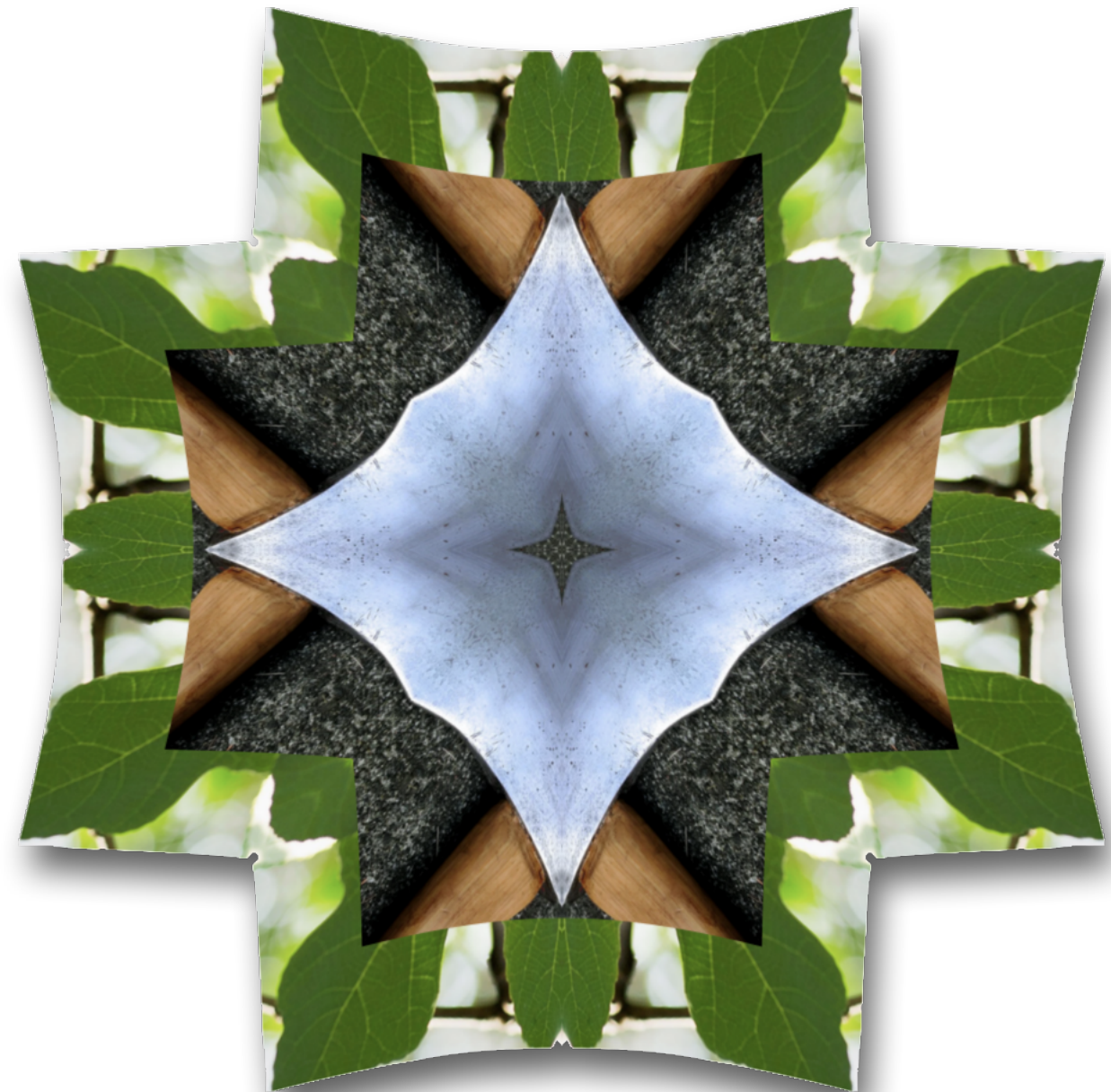
*Through your grace, O God, form us into a community  
called to follow Jesus,  
known and loved by you,  
nourished throughout our lives by  
worship, relationships and the biblical story,  
open to new voices and new dreams,  
committed to one another in times of celebration and difficulty,  
responsive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



COMMUNITY MENNONITE  
CHURCH OF LANCASTER

328 WEST ORANGE ST.  
LANCASTER, PA 17603



03.16  
2025

<b>Worship Leader:</b> Susan Gascho-Cooke	<b>Prelude</b> <i>Santo, Santo, Santo</i>	by G. Cuellar, Arr. R. Umble
<b>Prelude &amp; Offertory:</b> Rhea Miller, Jean Sensenig, Ron Umble	<b>Lighting of the Peace Candle</b>	
<b>Sermon:</b> John-Michael Cotignola-Pickens	<b>Welcome &amp; Call to Worship</b> One: Christ collides with our thoughts to condemn others. <b>Many: Put them in their place.</b> One: Who is more guilty of wrongdoing? <b>Many: Do you condemn? Should I condemn?</b> One: God be with us in our seeking today.	
<b>Song Leader:</b> Rod Houser	<b>Gathering Song</b> <i>Sing Praise to God Who Reigns</i>	
<b>Children’s Time:</b> Jane Weigel		VT 101
<b>Sound:</b> Monte Garber	<b>Children’s Time</b> <i>Come and See</i>	VT 282
<b>Zoom Technician:</b>	<b>My Coins Count</b> CMCL children will come through the sanctuary with cups to collect change for Mennonite Central Committee	
<b>Greeters:</b> Mary Lou Weaver Houser, Sherry Groff	<b>Offering Prayer</b>	
<b>Ushers:</b> Marian Good Luke Good	<b>Offertory</b> <i>Never Grow Old</i>	by J.C. Moore, Arr. R. Umble
<b>Fishbowl Volunteers:</b> Sherry Groff Carol Spicher	<b>Prayer of Confession and Reassurance</b>	
<b>Worship Environment:</b> Crescentia Volz Alicia Smith	<b>Song</b> <i>Create in Me a Clean Heart</i>	VT 141
	<b>Scripture</b> — Luke 13:1–9, 31–35 At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, ‘Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.’ Then he told this parable: ‘A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, “See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?” He replied, “Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig round it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.” ’	

\*Cover photos edited with *lunapic.com*, kaleidoscope effect

At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him, ‘Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.’ He said to them, ‘Go and tell that fox for me, “Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed away from Jerusalem.” Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, “Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.” ’

### Sermon

**Song of Response**  
*Take My Life and Let it Be* VT 759

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

### Announcements & Introduction of Visitors

**Closing Song**  
*Christ Has No Body Here but Ours* VT 568

**Benediction** HWB 764, adapt.  
Go in love,  
**for love alone endures.**  
Go in peace,  
**for it is the gift of God.**  
Go in courage,  
**for we cannot go where God is not.**