

## 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.*



328 WEST ORANGE ST.  
LANCASTER, PA 17603

August 17, 2025

COMMUNITY MENNONITE  
CHURCH OF LANCASTER

<b>Worship Leader:</b> Christy Kauffman	<b>Prelude</b> <i>Let there be light</i>	by H.C. Zeuner
<b>Prelude &amp; Offertory:</b> Ron Umble Leon Miller Dan Laubach Daryl Snider	<b>Lighting of the Peace Candle</b> <i>Psalms 23</i>	VT 1042
<b>Sermon:</b> Melanie Yoder Salim	<b>Welcome &amp; Call to Worship</b>	VT 853
<b>Song Leader:</b> Kate Umble Smucker	<b>Gathering Songs</b> <i>My Soul Cries Out</i> <i>For Everyone Born</i>	VT 412 <i>See insert</i>
<b>Children’s Time:</b> Meredith Fisher	<b>Children’s Time</b> <i>Come and See</i>	VT 282
<b>Sound:</b> Monte Garber	<b>Offering Prayer</b> <i>We Give These Gifts with Hope</i>	
<b>Zoom Technician:</b> Steve Walter	<b>Offertory</b> <i>Be Thou My Vision</i>	Irish Melody
<b>Greeters:</b> Esther Becker Larry Groff	<b>Scripture</b> — Isaiah 5:1-7, Luke 12:49-56 CEB Let me sing for my loved one a love song for his vineyard. My loved one had a vineyard on a fertile hillside. He dug it, cleared away its stones, planted it with excellent vines, built a tower inside it, and dug out a wine vat in it. He expected it to grow good grapes— but it grew rotten grapes. So now, you who live in Jerusalem, you people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard: What more was there to do for my vineyard that I haven’t done for it? When I expected it to grow good grapes, why did it grow rotten grapes? Now let me tell you what I’m doing to my vineyard. I’m removing its hedge, so it will be destroyed. I’m breaking down its walls, so it will be trampled. I’ll turn it into a ruin; it won’t be pruned or hoed, and thorns and thistles will grow up. I will command the clouds not to rain on it. The vineyard of the Lord of heavenly forces is the house of Israel, and the people of Judah are the plantings in which God delighted. God expected justice, but there was bloodshed; righteousness, but there was a cry of distress!	
<b>Ushers:</b> Sherry Groff Carolyn Weaver		
<b>Foyer Monitor:</b> Joseph Gascho		
<b>Fishbowl Volunteers:</b> Kim Van Donk Denise Cope		
<b>Worship Environment:</b> Crescentia Volz Alicia Smith		
<i>The blanket in the front of the sanctuary was presented to CMCL by Circle Legacy this spring. We display it in celebration &amp; gratitude for Circle Legacy, and for the beauty of Native American cultural traditions and wisdom.</i>		

on, a household of five will be divided—three against two and two against three. Father will square off against son and son against father; mother against daughter and daughter against mother; and mother-in-law against daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.” Jesus also said to the crowds, “When you see a cloud forming in the west, you immediately say, ‘It’s going to rain.’ And indeed it does. And when a south wind blows, you say, ‘A heat wave is coming.’ And it does. Hypocrites! You know how to interpret conditions on earth and in the sky. How is it that you don’t know how to interpret the present time?

**Sermon**

**Song of Response**  
*Oh Healing River* VT 706

**Sharing Time Prayer** — *Loving God...hear our prayers*  
Creator and creating God,  
**You have known us from before our birth,**  
**You walk with us along our paths,**  
**you are compass and companion.**  
**We lift up to you the prayers of your people.**  
We pray for this earth and all who live in it, for its mountains and rivers, oceans and forests.  
You who made earth and sky and called it good,  
**Teach us to care for your creation.**  
We pray for all people of faith, for all members of this human family, who share this lifelong journey.  
You who loves us without end,  
**Remind us to love one another.**  
We pray for all places where there is war, conflict and oppression, violence, injustice and prejudice.  
You whose still, small voice calls to us,  
**speak peace through us in this world.**  
We pray for all who are ill, those who are grieving, for the estranged and the lonely, for prisoners and for refugees.  
You whose grace is comfort and healing,  
**Show us where we can care for others.**  
We pray for travelers and teachers, artists and children, those who create and those who sing, for writers and students and parents and leaders.  
You who fed us with bread and Word,  
**Inspire joy and community through this work.**  
In the name of Christ,  
**Amen.**

**Announcements & Introduction of Visitors**

**Closing Song**  
*Lord, Listen to your Children Praying* VT 682

**Benediction** VT 1060