

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.



Celebration of Community Sunday

COMMUNITY MENNONITE
CHURCH OF LANCASTER

10.12
2025

328 WEST ORANGE ST.
LANCASTER, PA 17603

Worship Leader:
Pastoral Team

Prelude & Offertory:
Larnie Myer, *piano*
Kate Umble-Smucker,
trumpet

Song Leader:
Christy Kauffman

Children’s Time:
Susan Gascho-Cooke

Sound:
Daryl Snider

Zoom Technician:
Drew Brubaker

Greeters:
Esther Becker
Mary Lou Weaver Houser

Ushers:
Jean Sensenig
Pauline Zimmerman

Fishbowl Volunteers:
Sherry Groff
Gwen Eberly

Worship Environment:
Crescentia Volz
Symphony Volz
Maren Morgan

*The banner up front
was originally created
for the 1987
dedication service of
this building, upon
completion of the
lower level which
served as our first
worship space.
Designed by Mary Lou
Weaver Houser, it
honors the diversity of
individuals joining our
community circle in
those first two years:
1985-1987. Note years
and our newly-chosen
name embroidered
across the lower edge.*

Prelude
Hai Luli by Pauline Viardot Garcia, arr. John M. Laverty

Lighting of the Peace Candle by Verna Miller

Welcome & Call to Worship by Diane Umble

We are healers and helpers,
Teachers and counselors,
Builders and renovators,
Planters and reapers.
We are Known and Loved by God
We are singers and dancers and musicians,
Painters and potters and poets,
Knitters and quilters,
Bakers and soup makers.
We are Known and Loved by God
We are diverse and inclusive,
Supportive and welcoming,
Innovative and traditional,
Questioning and creative.
We are Known and Loved by God
We are peace lovers and justice seekers,
Volunteers and advocates,
Breakfast makers and refugee re-settlers,
Anti-war demonstrators and climate protectors,
Reparations sponsors and fair funding campaigners.

We are Known and Loved by God
We are infants and elders,
Grievors and survivors,
Dreamers and doers,
Thinkers and Seekers.
We are a community of believers, called to follow Jesus.
We are Known and Loved by God and this Community.

Gathering Songs
For the Beauty of the Earth VT 120
What is This Place VT 22

Children’s Time *Come and See* VT 282

Offering Prayer & Offertory
Hymn to Hope by Rolf Lovland

Scripture — Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 CEB
There’s a season for everything
and a time for every matter under the heavens:
a time for giving birth and a time for dying,
a time for planting and a time for uprooting what was planted,
a time for killing and a time for healing,
a time for tearing down and a time for building up,
a time for crying and a time for laughing,

a time for mourning and a time for dancing,
a time for throwing stones and a time for gathering stones,
a time for embracing and a time for avoiding embraces,
a time for searching and a time for losing,
a time for keeping and a time for throwing away,
a time for tearing and a time for repairing,
a time for keeping silent and a time for speaking,
a time for loving and a time for hating,
a time for war and a time for peace.

Reflections interspersed with *Will You Let Me Be Your Servant* VT 778

Celebration of Community Ritual
All are invited to come forward and drop a stone into the bowl of water

Song
Heart with Loving Heart United VT 813

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

Announcements & Introduction of Visitors

Benediction
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.