



WELCOME

Together on the
Journey

TO LOMBARD
MENNONITE
CHURCH

December 1, 2024
Advent 1

Between a Rock and a Hard Place: How Do We Continue On?

We are glad you could worship with us today!

PRELUDE

O Come O Come, Emmanuel

Jack Hayward, Joe Hayward

GATHERING

SONG OF PRAISE

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Jeremy Botts, Song Leader
Voices Together (VT) #218

WELCOME

Adrien Keables Hayward

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Responding to the call of the living God,

People: our rescuer and Savior,

Leader: we welcome the Holy Spirit's presence,

People: among and within us.

Leader: In the name of Jesus, our risen Lord,

All: we offer ourselves in worship.

OPENING PRAYER

CANDLE LIGHTING

Zapata Family

Reader 1: When we find ourselves between a rock
and a hard place, we may ask how to continue on.

Reader 2: When Daniel's persistent prayers brought him
between opposing laws of the land

and the mouths of hungry lions
in a stone-covered den, despite the risk,
he chose to trust God.

Reader 1: When Jesus found himself faced with persecution
and false accusations, he chose forgiveness
over self-defense.

Light candle

**All: Our path may meander through rocky situations,
but we will hold Christ as our center
as we journey together.**

PRAISING

Praise to the Living God
Unless a Grain of Wheat

VT #204
VT #302

MUSIC FOR MEDITATION

Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Joe Hayward

CONFESSING

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

HEARING GOD'S WORD

CHILDREN'S STORY

Rebecca Kuhlmann Taylor

SCRIPTURE READING

Susan Botts

Leader: Hear the word of God.

People: Our ears and hearts are open.

Daniel 6: 6-27; Luke 23: 1-5

Leader: Give thanks to the One whose word is life.

People: Blessed be God forever!

SERMON

Richard Gehring

"Already but Not Yet"

LISTENING FOR THE SPIRIT (*silent time of reflection*)

HYMN OF RESPONSE

God, Be With Us

VT #613

MUSIC FOR REFLECTION

Variation on Comfort, Comfort, O My People

Joe Hayward

SHARING IN COMMUNITY

ADVENT GIVING PROJECT

Jamie Huff

OFFERING PRAYER

CONGREGATIONAL SHARING AND PRAYER

Leader: Lord, in your mercy/goodness,

People: hear our prayer.

WORK OF THE CHURCH

SENDING

SENDING HYMN

How Many Times We Start Again

VT #553

SENDING BLESSING

Please join us for coffee, tea, and conversation down in the Fellowship Hall. Children ages 2 – 5th grade go directly to Gathering Time before Sunday school (located downstairs in the back library).

TODAY at LMC

Adult Sunday School | 11:30 AM

- Jeeran for Palestine: Tatreez Embroidery Workshop (Fellowship Hall)

A/V Technicians: Gray Taylor, Dave Kuhlmann Taylor

Fellowship Host: Hilary Rhodes

Greeters: Doug & Cynthia Kimball

Church Lockup: Lyle Bohnert

Nursery: Laura Larson, Arlee Blackburn; Ken G Kabira, Paul Reimer

THIS WEEK at LMC

Tue—Contemplative Prayer via Zoom, 7 PM

Wed—Women of the Word Bible Study, 9:30 AM

Thu—Menno Men, 9:30 AM

Sat—MYF Lock In, 7 PM

Next Sun—Congregational Meeting and Potluck

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- If you'd like to participate in **today's Tatreez embroidery workshop** but didn't sign up, check with Jamie Huff. Spots may still be available.
- Be sure to pick up your **LMC Advent 2024 Table Tents!** If you didn't get one leaving the sanctuary, extras are on the round table downstairs.
- Today we kick off our **Advent Giving project**, offering two ways to support emergency relief and peacebuilding work in Palestine. Use the QR code to learn more about the efforts and ways to donate. Thanks for your generosity!
- Next Sunday (Dec 8), we'll hold a **congregational meeting** to approve our 2025 budget during the Christian Formation hour.
- We'll enjoy a **potluck feast** of our favorite traditional Christmas foods next Sunday after the congregational meeting. Families A-K should bring a side dish, salad, or dessert. Families L-Z should bring a main course that feeds 8-10. Crockpots are always welcome. More info in the e-news.

