



WELCOME

Together on the
Journey

TO LOMBARD
Mennonite
Church

December 15, 2024
Advent 3

Anointing for Justice: Who Belongs?

We are glad you could worship with us today!

PRELUDE

Jesse and Simon Botts, Micah Johnson

GATHERING

SONG OF PRAISE

Rebecca Kuhlmann Taylor, Song Leader

Summoned by the God Who Made Us Voices Together (VT) #1

WELCOME

Barbara Krehbiel Gehring

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Merciful One: you anoint us for justice,
you call us to you.

People: Your Spirit is poured out upon us.

Leader: Yours is the way of release and restoration.

**People: May your love flow through us to heal
the brokenhearted. May we declare your good news
to bring hope to the poor.**

Leader: You anoint us; we are yours.

People: We delight and rejoice in you. —Based on Isaiah 61: 1

OPENING PRAYER

CANDLE LIGHTING

Lantz Family

Reader 1: Like a cloth with frayed edges,
our world leaves people on the fringes;

Reader 2: those who aren't accepted, who don't belong;

Reader 1: the poor, the brokenhearted, the prisoners,
the oppressed.

Reader 2: But God's kingdom shows us another way.

Light candles

**All: Give us eyes to notice those on the fringes
and arms to extend our boundaries,
inviting all to become woven into our communities.**

PRAISING

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

VT #216

Here I Am, Lord

VT #545

MUSIC FOR MEDITATION

Choir

Let Us Rejoice Today (Sleeth); Karin and Mark Edwards,
duo-pianists; Joe and Jack Hayward, percussion

CONFESSING

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

HEARING GOD'S WORD

CHILDREN'S STORY

Rebecca Kuhlmann Taylor

SCRIPTURE READING

James Baugh

Leader: Hear the word of God.

People: Our ears and hearts are open.

Isaiah 61: 1-11; Luke 4: 16-21

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

People: Blessed be God forever!

SERMON

"What Do You Expect?"

Richard Gehring

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

HYMN OF RESPONSE

There Are Many Gifts

VT #374

MUSIC FOR REFLECTION
Lift Up Your Heads (Shackley)

Choir

SHARING IN COMMUNITY

ADVENT GIVING PROJECT

Katrina Baugh

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, v. 2-3

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

- Sherri Bevel (sanctuary)

A/V Technicians: Kristin Crawford,
Dave Kuhlmann Taylor

Fellowship Host: Valerie Kropf

Greeters: Botts Family

Church Lockup: Lyle Bohnert

Nursery: Noah Rhodes, TBA; TBA


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
Worship Commission, 7 PM

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Today's **adult Christian Formation class** features Sherri Bevel discussing the work of her organization the Addie Wyatt Center for Nonviolence.
- Our **Advent Giving project** offers 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! 
- Join us for a **Christmas Eve service** on Tuesday, December 24 at 6:30 PM. After the service, we'll enjoy a lovely time of wishing each other merry Christmas and feasting on delicious holiday snacks. Please bring cookies and/or hors d'oeuvres to share.
- Mennonite Action Chicago will co-host a **Holy Innocents Vigil for Gaza** on Saturday, Dec 28, at 4 PM at the John Hancock Center. Contact Dave M. to learn more.