

WELCOME TO Lombard Mennonite Church

March 23, 2025

CHRIST COLLIDES WITH OUR PRIORITIES

Lent 3; Luke 15: 11-32

A worshipping community rooted in God's love: Following Jesus • Seeking peace and justice • Serving others

GATHERING

SONG OF PRAISE

Hilary Rhodes, Song Leader

**God Is Here Among Us*..... *Voices Together 62*

WELCOME..... Deborah Wetherill

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: As we worship, Christ collides with our priorities.

People: We gather and pause from the important busyness of our lives.

Leader: Jesus reveals the depth of God's purposes.

People: Help us come to our senses by your Spirit.

All: For your reign, O God, help us celebrate being found as we worship you.

OPENING PRAYER

PRAISING

**Gentle Shepherd, Come and Lead Us* *Voices Together 718*

**Far, Far Way / I Will Arise* *Voices Together 300*

OFFERING PRAYER

CONFESSING

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: Loving and merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you.

Right: We have not loved you with all our thoughts, words, and actions.

**Left: We have sinned through what we have chosen to do
and what we have chosen to neglect.**

**Please rise in body or spirit.*

Hearing assistive devices and a larger print hymnal and Bible are available outside the doors to the sanctuary. Childcare (birth-age 2) is provided in the nursery at the back of the hall on this level.

Right: We have not fully accepted your love for us.
We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
Left: We prioritize the wrong things and the wrong people.
All: We repent before each other and before you, our loving God.
Please help us open our hearts to your love. Help us bring our priorities
in line with yours so we may better share your peace in your world,
rejoicing in your name. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

MUSIC FOR MEDITATION Isaac Burk, Kristen Burk, Karin Redekopp Edwards
Concerto for Two Violins, Mvt. 1 (J. S. Bach)

HEARING GOD'S WORD

CHILDREN'S STORY Kelly Wilson

SCRIPTURE READING Esther Wetherill

Leader: Hear the word of God.

People: Our ears and hearts are open.

Luke 15: 11-32 (p. 1276)

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

People: Blessed be God forever!

SERMON Barbara Krehbiel Gehring
"Prodigal Priorities"

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

SONG OF RESPONSE

**What Is the World Like* *Voices Together 298*

MUSIC FOR REFLECTION Micah Yoder, Karin Redekopp Edwards
Bagatelle No. 1 (Finzi)

SHARING IN COMMUNITY

INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS

CONGREGATIONAL SHARING AND PRAYER

Leader: Lord, in your mercy/goodness,

People: hear our prayer.

WORK OF THE CHURCH

Please come to the front row and use the microphone to make your announcement.

SENDING

SENDING SONG

**Christ Has No Body Here But Ours.....Voices Together 568*

*WORDS OF BLESSING

ANNOUNCEMENT HIGHLIGHTS

For Sunday school today, we **welcome Annabeth Roeschley** from the Brethren Mennonite Council for LGBT Interests. She will talk about welcoming in the Queer community, as well as share how Mennonites can foster deeper understanding of our LGBTQ+ friends.

Thank you so much to all those who have signed up to bring items for the **student care packages!** Reminder to drop off your donations in the narthex by next Sunday (Mar 30), unless you are bringing cookies. Please bring those (each dozen in an individual ziplock bag) on April 6 when the Pastoral Care Team will pack the boxes.

The deadline to apply for a 2025 **mission matching grant** is just two weeks away (April 6)!



The **Pastor Congregation Relations Committee** will meet with our pastors this coming Saturday (Mar 29). PCRC exists to support our pastors and to keep lines of communication open between them and the congregation. If you have kudos, concerns, or questions, please contact a member of the PCRC or use our email address: sharingwithpcrc@lombardmennonite.org. Committee members are: Melodie G., Ken G K., Carlen S. (Chair), and Jonah W.

This coming Saturday is Camp Menno Haven's **Spring Work Day** from 8-4. Volunteers will do both indoor and outdoor projects to get the camp ready for the upcoming spring and summer programs. Please sign up at mennohaven.com/work-day.

TODAY AFTER WORSHIP

Directly after the service, join us for coffee, tea, and conversation down in the Fellowship Hall.

Children ages 3 – 5th grade go directly to Gathering Time before Sunday school (*located downstairs in the back library*).

Sunday School Classes for all ages from 11:30–12:15 (or beginning 15 min. after the service ends).

1 BELL: 5 min before Sunday School starts

2 BELLS: Start of Sunday School

1 BELL: 5 min before Sunday School ends

2 BELLS: End of Sunday School

ADULT CLASSES (MAR)

Becoming a Fully Welcoming Church: Sanctuary
Bible In a Year: Conference Room
Coffee & Conversation: Fellowship Hall

CHILDREN + YOUTH CLASSES

Ages 0-2 years: Nursery, upstairs
Ages 3-6 years: Room 301, upstairs
Grades 1-3: Room 102, downstairs
Grades 4-5: Room 103, downstairs
Grades 6-8: Room 101, downstairs
Grades 9-12: Fireplace room, downstairs