

# WELCOME TO Lombard Mennonite Church



May 18, 2025

THE COUNCIL AT JERUSALEM

Acts 15: 1-18

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

## GATHERING

SONG OF PRAISE Pam Eiten, Song Leader  
*Healing River of the Spirit* ..... *Voices Together* 642

WELCOME..... Nathan Perrin

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We are a covenant people, called to God by God.  
**People: We are a covenant people, called to Jesus by Jesus, losing life to gain our life.**  
Leader: We are a covenant people, called to church by the church,  
**People: weaving together the strong and the weak, the stranger and the friend.**  
**Renamed. Reborn. Renewed.**  
**All: We gather ourselves in the community of believers.**  
**We gather ourselves unto you.** —*Voices Together* 869, adapted

## OPENING PRAYER

PRAISING  
*The God of Sarah Praise* ..... *Voices Together* 190  
*Praise with Joy the World's Creator* ..... *Voices Together* 428

MUSIC FOR MEDITATION ..... Choir  
*Down to the River to Pray* (McDonald/Medema)

## OFFERING PRAYER

## CONFESSING

PRAYER OF CONFESSION ..... Psalm 51

*\*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.

Leader: Have mercy on us, O God, according to your steadfast love;  
according to your great compassion, blot out our transgressions.

**People: Wash us thoroughly from our iniquity, and cleanse us from our sins.  
For we know our transgressions, and our sins are ever before us.**

Leader: Create in us a pure heart, O God, and put new and steadfast spirits within us.  
Do not cast us away from your presence, and do not take your Holy Spirit from us.

**People: Restore to us the joy of our salvation, and sustain us with a willing spirit.**

## WORDS OF ASSURANCE

## HEARING GOD'S WORD

CHILDREN'S STORY ..... Ruth Goring

SCRIPTURE READING ..... Amanda Olsen

Leader: Hear the word of God.

**People: Our ears and hearts are open.**

ACTS 15: 1-18 (p. 1349)

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

**People: Blessed be God forever!**

SERMON ..... Richard Gehring

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

MUSIC FOR REFLECTION ..... Choir

*In His Hands* (Osiek)

SONG OF RESPONSE

*One Is the Body* ..... *Voices Together* 386

## SHARING IN COMMUNITY

BLESSING OF HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES ..... Nathan Perrin

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

*\*Spirit, Open My Heart* ..... *Voices Together 636*

## \*WORDS OF BLESSING

## ANNOUNCEMENT HIGHLIGHTS

Please stay for **today's congregational meeting** immediately following our fellowship potluck.

Liked the children's story? Come for the grown-up version! **Ruth Goring** will share about her book *Dearworthy: Little Meditations on the Revelations of Julian of Norwich* in the sanctuary class.

In the office wing classroom, Pastor Nathan will continue conversations on **Christian nationalism** and *Strange Worship* by Drew Strait.

Plan to join us for our annual **LMC Church Retreat** at Camp Menno Haven in Tiskilwa, IL on Sept. 6-7. Register by June 1 and save \$5!

Christian Formation is looking to **fill the roles of Nursery Scheduler** and Nursery Supply Coordinator. These roles could be filled by one person or by two separate people. If your gifts could be used to help LMC in this way, please contact Elise E.

**Menno Haven Rally Day** is May 26. The camp invites us to come enjoy the facilities and celebrate the start of the summer season. More info/rsvp at [mennohaven.com/rallyday](http://mennohaven.com/rallyday).

## 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 (MAY)

Julian of Norwich; Ruth Goring: Sanctuary  
Bible In a Year: Conference Room  
Christian Nationalism: Office Wing Classroom

## POTLUCK, 12:15 PM

## CONGREGATIONAL MEETING, 12:50 PM

Childcare provided.

## 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