

WELCOME TO Lombard Mennonite Church



July 6, 2025
PEACE SUNDAY
Luke 6: 17-31

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

GATHERING

SONG OF PRAISE	Hilary Rhodes, Song Leader
<i>*Come Away from Rush and Hurry</i>	<i>Voices Together 9</i>
WELCOME.....	Richard Gehring
CALL TO WORSHIP AND OPENING PRAYER.....	<i>Voices Together 1043</i>
PRAISING	
<i>*Sword into a Plowshare</i>	<i>Voices Together 798</i>
<i>*Beauty for Brokenness</i>	<i>Voices Together 712</i>
OFFERING PRAYER	

CONFESSING

PRAYER OF CONFESSION	
Lord, we come burdened with our unhappy business, all the deeds done under the sun that we would rather not remember: the explosions caused by bombs made in our own factories; the hungry who are not fed in our own communities; our own racist thoughts and actions; hurtful deeds done to members of our own family. Too often we try to get you on our side, we tell you our stories as if we are the ones who deserve your love. Not those people. God of our side and their side, God who crossed heaven and earth to show that with you there are no sides at all, forgive us our trespasses! Tune our ears to hear your melodies, and give us the wisdom and skill to sing your song of peace. Amen.	
	—Copyright Carol Penner; leadinginworship.com

**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.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

MUSIC FOR MEDITATION Simon Botts, horn; Jeremy Botts, piano
Romanze from Horn Concerto No 3 (Mozart)

HEARING GOD’S WORD

SCRIPTURE READING Rebecca Kuhlmann Taylor

Leader: Hear the word of God.
People: Our ears and hearts are open.

Luke 6: 17-31 (p. 1258)

Leader: Give thanks to the One whose word is life.
People: Blessed be God forever!

SERMON Barbara Krehbiel Gehring
"Counter Cultural Christians"

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

LITANY OF RESPONSE

Leader: God of love, who calls us to be peacemakers in a world of conflict,
we come to you with heavy hearts as tensions continue to rise between nations.
People: Make us instruments of your peace.
Leader: We ask that you guide our leaders to seek wisdom, restraints, and diplomacy
as we move forward.
People: Make us instruments of your peace.
Leader: For those who are living in fear of escalating violence, we pray for safety
and the right to live in a world where there is no war.
People: Make us instruments of your peace.
Leader: For those calling for peace, for justice, for dialogue,
give each one courage and strength to speak truth to power.
People: Make us instruments of your peace.
Leader: May our church rise as a witness to peace and justice,
rejecting war and proclaiming God’s love for all.
People: Make us instruments of your peace.

—Lorraine Stutzman Amstutz, MC USA Denominational Minister for Peace and Justice

SONG OF RESPONSE

**Make Me a Channel of Your Peace* *Sing the Journey* 56

MUSIC FOR REFLECTION Simon Botts, Jeremy Botts
Opening (Glass, arr. J. Botts)

CELEBRATING COMMUNION

INSTRUCTIONS AND INVITATION.....Barbara Krehbiel Gehring
WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING THE ELEMENTS

Please come to the front to receive the gifts of God. All are welcome. We offer a blessing for anyone not prepared to receive communion. Our bread is gluten-free.

Let Us Break Bread Together..... Voices Together 482
Longing for Light.....Voices Together 715

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND LORD’S PRAYER Voices Together 989A

SHARING IN COMMUNITY

BLESSING FOR OUR YOUTH AND SPONSORS GOING TO CONVENTION..... Richard Gehring

INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS AND
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

**Be a Sower* Voices Together 789

*WORDS OF BLESSING

TODAY AFTER WORSHIP
Directly after the service, join us for coffee, tea, and conversation down in the Fellowship Hall.
Sunday school classes are on break for the summer.