

WELCOME TO Lombard Mennonite Church



February 22, 2026

DWELLING IN DISSONANCE: LOVE AND GRIEF

Lent 1; John 11: 1-44

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

GATHERING

SONG OF PRAISE

Hilary Rhodes, Song Leader

**Come, Ye Disconsolate* *Voices Together 643*

WELCOME Adrien Keables Hayward

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Welcome Lent.

All: Welcome mystery.

Leader: Welcome dissonance.

All: Welcome grief.

Leader: Welcome glory and uncertainty.

All: Welcome doubt. Welcome belief.

Leader: Welcome questions without answers.

All: Welcome fullness from above.

Leader: Welcome death and resurrection.

All: Welcome Jesus' fiercest love.

OPENING PRAYER

PRAISING

**In the Bulb There Is a Flower* *Voices Together 670*

**Restless* *Voices Together 741*

MUSIC FOR MEDITATION Dave Kuhlmann Taylor

OFFERING PRAYER

**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.

CONFESSING

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: Jesus, you don't always show up when we expect or in the way we expect.

People: We feel for Martha and Mary.

Leader: In our grief we too may say, "Lord, if you had been here..."

In our bitter confusion we may say, "God healed others. Couldn't God have..."

People: We hoped you would prevent this pain.

We hoped you would fix this hurt.

Leader: Instead, you weep with us.

**People: Instead, you go to the tomb and sit with us
in the horrid emptiness of loss.**

Leader: Though you will surprise us again—and this time with life—
for now, your love is shown in tears.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

HEARING GOD'S WORD

CHILDREN'S STORY Rebecca Kuhlmann Taylor

SCRIPTURE READING Cynthia Kimball

Leader: Hear the word of God.

People: Our ears and hearts are open.

John 11: 1-44 (p. 1310)

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*)

SONG OF RESPONSE

Healer of Our Every Ill *Voices Together* 644

MUSIC FOR REFLECTION Dave Kuhlmann Taylor

SHARING IN COMMUNITY

RECOGNITION OF NEW COVENANT MEMBERS *Voices Together* 961

INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS & CONGREGATIONAL SHARING AND PRAYER

Leader: Lord, in your mercy/goodness,

People: hear our prayer.

*We mute the livestream during this
sharing time; prayers are written for
distribution for the congregation.*

WORK OF THE CHURCH

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

SENDING

SENDING SONG

**There's a Wild Hope in the Wind.....Voices Together 828*

*SENDING BLESSING

ANNOUNCEMENT HIGHLIGHTS

Please join us in the Fellowship Hall immediately following worship for our third World Cafe session. This week's specific focus is "**Looking to the Future.**"

All are welcome to stay for today's **Fill Your Bowl fellowship potluck!**

We'll hold our monthly **Taizé service this Friday** at 7pm in the sanctuary. All are welcome to this simple form of worship that invites worshipers to sit in the presence of God through quiet repeated music with simple lyrics, silence, and prayer.

The Brethren Mennonite Council for LGBT Interests will hold a 50th anniversary celebration—called **Rooting our Stories: Reveling in 50 years of Queer and Trans Anabaptist Resilience**—on May 29-31 in Minneapolis. This festive weekend will include storytelling, singing, ritual/worship, workshops, artmaking, games, shared meals, and honoring the incredible 50-year legacy of LGBTQIA+ Anabaptist resistance and resilience. Find event details, safety/ accessibility info, and registration at bmclgbt.org/50th

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 (FEB)

World Cafe: Fellowship Hall

POTLUCK, 12:15 PM

CHILDREN + YOUTH CLASSES

Ages 3-5 years: Room 301, upstairs

Grades K-2: Room 102, downstairs

Grades 3-5: Room 103, downstairs

Grades 6-8: Room 101, downstairs

Grades 9-12: Fireplace room, downstairs