WELCOME TO
Lombard Mennonite Church

March 15, 2026

DWELLING IN DISSONANCE: QUESTIONS AND TRUTH
Lent 4; John 18: 28-40

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

GATHERING

SONG OF PRAISE — Lisa Rose, Song Leader
Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence ..... *Voices Together* 65

WELCOME ..... Jenae Longenecker

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We gather for worship, seeking a kingdom that is not of this world.
All: "Your Kingdom come! Your will be done on earth!"
Leader: We pray. Then we look around...
Where is it? What is truth?

We gather for worship, asking questions and staying the course.
We pray again and again,
All: "Your kingdom come!"
Leader: Looking and longing...
Where is it? Where are you?

We gather for worship and find that God is here.
All: On earth as in heaven.
Leader: God's kingdom now and not yet; here and in the world to come.
All: Let us worship our God.

OPENING PRAYER

PRAISING

You Are Salt for the Earth ..... *Voices Together* 297
View the Present ..... *Voices Together* 407

MUSIC FOR MEDITATION ..... Choir
At the Feet of My Lord (David Davenport)

**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.

OFFERING PRAYER

CONFESSING

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: Jesus, your kingdom doesn't work the way we expect.
Power, honor—everything is backward.
Are you the king? What is the truth?
People: We feel for Pilate, wondering how a prisoner can be king.
Leader: If you have power, why are you here instead of sitting on a throne in glory?
People: Why don't you call in your armies? Silence the naysayers,
free yourself, conquer the oppressors!
Leader: And you say, "My kingdom is not of this world."
People: You say, "This is how I testify to the truth."
Leader: You say, "Listen to my voice."

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

HEARING GOD'S WORD

CHILDREN'S TIME ..... Mona Richards

SCRIPTURE READING ..... Amanda Olsen

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

John 18: 28-40 (p. 1320)

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

SERMON ..... Richard Gehring

"What Is Truth?"

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

SONG OF RESPONSE

Ask the Complicated Questions ..... *Voices Together* 440

MUSIC FOR REFLECTION ..... Choir

Nothing But the Blood of Jesus (arr. Craig Courtney)

SHARING IN COMMUNITY

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
**The Kingdom of God (El Reino de Dios)*..... *Voices Together* 799

*WORDS OF BLESSING

ANNOUNCEMENT HIGHLIGHTS

LAST CHANCE: The **Leadership Nomination Form** deadline has been extended to tomorrow (Mar 16). Hard copies of the form are in your mailboxes. If you haven't submitted names yet, please take a few minutes to fill out the paper form today at church and put it in Katharine's box, or complete the form online. Your input matters!

We invite you to a **"Funeral for Jesus" Good Friday service** on Friday, April 3 at 7pm. The creator of the service writes, "We put ourselves into the shoes of Jesus' family and closest friends as they mourned his death."

***Rejoice!* and *Anabaptist World* subscription renewals** are due by March 22. See Katharine.

Please plan to attend **"Loving the Enemy ICE/CBP Response Plan for LMC" training** during Sunday school on March 29. Our ICE/Customs and Border Patrol Response Committee has developed a plan, based on MCC's template, for how to peacefully respond if law enforcement agents come to our church on a Sunday morning. This plan involves our entire congregation; the more people who are aware of the plan, the more prepared we will be in this critical situation.

Help us show our college and graduate students some love by signing up to bring items for our **student care packages**. We'll collect items in the narthex through Sunday, April 5. Thanks!

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
1 BELL: 5 min before Sunday school ends
2 BELLS: Start of Sunday school
2 BELLS: End of Sunday school

ADULT CLASSES (MAR)

Confronting Islamophobia: Sanctuary
Coffee & Conversation: Fellowship Hall

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: Office classroom

As a worshiping community rooted in God's love, Lombard Mennonite Church recognizes each person as a unique creation in the image of God. Firmly centering ourselves on following Jesus and seeking to be transformed through Christ, we welcome all, regardless of gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, economic or social circumstances, marital status, and physical or mental ability. We support and invite everyone to participate fully in the life of the church, where we respect diverse perspectives, live out Anabaptist values and celebrate radical peace and hospitality.

FOR PASTORAL CARE NEEDS, please contact one of the pastors or any member of our Pastoral Care Team: Vina Ariyaprakai, Susan Botts, Rebecca Huff, Elliot Johnson, Doug Kimball, and Kelly Wilson. To contact the entire group: *pct@lombardmennonite.org.*

LMC STAFF

Barbara Krehbiel Gehring (she/her)
Co-Lead Pastor
barbkg@lombardmennonite.org
Office hours: Tue 9-12; Wed & Fri 9-5

Richard Gehring (he/him)
Co-Lead Pastor
richardg@lombardmennonite.org
Office hours: Tue 12:30-5; Thu & Fri 9-5

Nathan Perrin (he/him)
Pastor of Christian Formation
nathanp@lombardmennonite.org
Office hours: Tue 9-5; Thu & Fri 9-12

Katharine Richert (she/her)
Office Manager
office@lombardmennonite.org

Want to reach the entire office staff at once?
Send to: *staff@lombardmennonite.org*

630.627.5310 • lombardmennonite.org

NOTES

The **Illinois Mennonite Relief Sale** is this Friday and Saturday at the Interstate Center in Bloomington. Friday evening at 6pm is trivia night; Saturday will feature a pancake and sausage breakfast (starting at 6am) and auctions of quilts and other items at 8:30am. Contact Sharon E. for more information.

Menno Haven's spring workday is next Saturday, March 28. Learn more at mennohaven.com/work-day or talk to Lyle B.

TODAY AT LMC

A/V Technicians: Elias Rose, CJ Yoder
Fellowship Host: Valerie Kropf
Greeter: Hasun Lee
NURSERY VOLUNTEERS
Worship: Arlee Blackburn, Dominick Rhodes
Sunday School: Not staffed
Church Lockup: Lyle Bohnert

THIS WEEK AT LMC

Tuesday,
7pm: Contemplative Prayer, via Zoom
7pm: Pastoral Care Team
Wednesday,
9:30am: Women of the Word (WOW) Bible Study
7pm: Ministry Team
Thursday,
9:30am: Menno Men
7pm: Worship Commission
Friday-Saturday: Illinois Mennonite Relief Sale
Saturday, 3pm: Private Event, Sanctuary and FH

NEXT SUNDAY, MARCH 22

Theme: Dwelling in Dissonance: Complicity and Innocence
Scripture: John 19: 1–16a
A/V Technicians: Gray Taylor, Dave Kuhlmann Taylor
Fellowship Host: Hilary Rhodes
Greeter: Hasun Lee
NURSERY VOLUNTEERS
Worship: TBA **Sunday School:** TBA