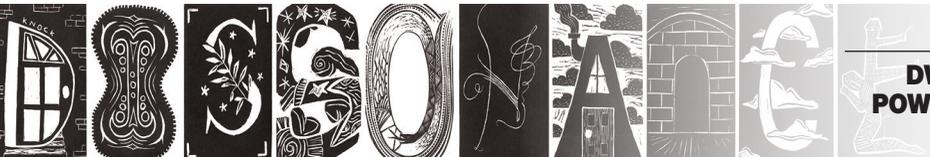


WELCOME TO Lombard Mennonite Church



March 22, 2026

**DWELLING IN DISSONANCE:
POWER AND POWERLESSNESS**

Lent 5; John 19: 1-16a

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

GATHERING

SONG OF PRAISE

Jeremy Kropf, Song Leader

**Come Away from Rush and Hurry*..... *Voices Together 9*

WELCOME..... Eric Larson

CALL TO WORSHIP

All: Welcome Lent—

Leader: terrible dissonance, as we condemn the Human One.

All: Welcome lament and confession

Leader: as the story comes undone.

All: Welcome holy mystery

Leader: that even this can find a place in the tale of God's salvation.

All: Welcome suffering love and grace.

OPENING PRAYER

PRAISING

**The Glory of These Forty Days*..... *Voices Together 305*

**Let There Be Light*..... *Voices Together 714*

MUSIC FOR MEDITATION..... Pam Eiten

'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus (arr. Richard Kingsmore)

OFFERING PRAYER

CONFESSING

**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.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

People: **Jesus, things don't always turn out the way we expect. Or want.**

Leader: And sometimes your choices (or the choices of our neighbors or family members or politicians) really don't agree with us.

People: **We hate to admit it, but we feel for the angry crowd.**

Leader: In our fury, we too can become so consumed, so focused on who or what we are opposing, that we turn away from the things that matter most.

People: **"We have no king but the emperor!" we find ourselves saying.**

Leader: And only after we hear our voice do we realize how distorted our allegiance has become.

People: **God, have mercy.**

Leader: Christ, have mercy.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

HEARING GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE READING Carlen Sellers

Leader: Hear the word of God.

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

John 19: 1-16a (p. 1322)

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

People: **Blessed be God forever!**

SERMON Richard Gehring

"Who's in Charge?"

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

SONG OF RESPONSE

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded *Voices Together* 325

MUSIC FOR REFLECTION Pam Eiten

Were You There (arr. Thomas Keesecker)

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

**We, Your People, Sing Your Praises* *Voices Together 849*

*SENDING BLESSING

ANNOUNCEMENT HIGHLIGHTS

Rejoice! and Anabaptist World subscription renewals are due today. Please sign up with the QR code.



Please plan to attend **"Loving the Enemy ICE/CBP Response Plan for LMC" training** next Sunday (March 29) during the Christian Formation hour. 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.

All are welcome to our **monthly Taizé service** this Friday at 7pm in the sanctuary.

We have rescheduled our **Easter egg hunt** for the kids to Easter Sunday, April 5.

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."

Rise and shine, it's breakfast time! Celebrate the Resurrection at our **annual Easter Potluck Breakfast** on Easter Sunday, April 5, at 9:00am. Join us for a time of fellowship and delicious food after the early service. Bring a dish that is easy to eat; muffins, deviled eggs, donuts, fruit, rolls, any food you would like to share. Drop off your dish on the serving tables in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome to share in this joyous community celebration! If you have any questions, contact Mona R.

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)

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