

WELCOME TO Lombard Mennonite Church

April 19, 2026

THE ASCENSION

Acts 1: 1-12

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

GATHERING

SONG OF PRAISE
*We Praise Thee, O God..... Rebecca Kuhlmann Taylor, Song Leader
Voices Together 91

WELCOME..... Keith Eiten

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Why are we looking up to heaven?

People: Christ has come; Christ has risen; Christ will come again.

Leader: Why are we looking ahead to the future?

People: The Holy Spirit is among us now. In our baptism, we have already died and risen with Christ.

Leader: Why are we afraid of death and dying?

People: God's love casts out our fear.

Leader: Why are we afraid to follow Jesus?

People: In Christ, we have the promise of new life now, eternal life to come. In Christ, we join our hearts to worship God, who has prepared for us to enter his Kingdom.

All: Blessing, glory, wisdom, thanks, honor, power, and strength be to our God forevermore!

—Rev. Mindi Welton-Mitchell, rev-o-lution.org

OPENING PRAYER

PRAISING

*All Hail the Power of Jesus' NameVoices Together 411

*Crown Him with Many CrownsVoices Together 408

MUSIC FOR MEDITATION..... Choir
Cantate Domino (G. Pitoni)

**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

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: God of grace, we confess how small we imagine you;
People: yet you are infinite, your presence mysterious.
 Leader: We confess we pretend to understand Jesus;
People: yet he exceeds our grasp.
 Leader: We confess we want Jesus for ourselves;
People: yet he has ascended, enlarged beyond our time and place.
 Leader: We confess how small our faith is.
People: Open our hearts, God, to your infinite greatness, and your mystery.
All: We repent of our certainty. Give us faith instead. Amen.

—Steve Garnaas-Holmes, *unfoldinglight.net*

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

PASSING OF THE PEACE

HEARING GOD’S WORD

SCRIPTURE READING Joe Hayward

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

Acts 1: 1-12 (p. 1329)

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

SERMON Nathan Perrin
“The Case Against Christian Nationalism”

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

SONG OF RESPONSE
One Is the Body *Voices Together* 386

MUSIC FOR REFLECTION Choir
Hear the Sound of Joy (Viadana, arr. Hopson)

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 Lord Lift You Up.....Voices Together 832

*WORDS OF BLESSING

ANNOUNCEMENT HIGHLIGHTS

Today in our final "Confronting Islamophobia" class in the sanctuary, **Sawsan and Sanah from our Jeeran group** will be talking with Pastor Nathan on a panel about the importance of interfaith friendships during politically and socially tense times.

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

We'll hold a brief **congregational meeting** at the conclusion of the worship service on May 3. The agenda went out in the Friday e-news; contact Katharine if you need a copy.

Whether you are new to LMC or have been attending here for years, everyone is welcome to **volunteer and share their gifts with our congregation**. Please let leadership know how you might like to be involved at LMC in the upcoming year by completing a Volunteer/Gifts Discernment survey by May 1. You can submit a form with the QR code or extra forms are in the narthex.



It's a **"Crockpot Potluck!"** Plan to join us for a fellowship meal on Sunday, May 3. Households A-K, please bring a main dish in a crockpot. Households L-Z, please bring a side dish, salad, or dessert. Contact Katharine with any questions.

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 (APR)

Confronting Islamophobia: Sanctuary
Reviving the Golden Rule: Conference Room
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