

# WELCOME TO Lombard Mennonite Church

May 3, 2026

**PHILIP AND THE ETHIOPIAN EUNUCH**

*Acts 8: 26-40*

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

## GATHERING

SONG OF PRAISE

Hilary Rhodes, Song Leader

*\*Let's Walk Together* ..... *Voices Together 6*

WELCOME ..... Jenae Longenecker

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We are here because we have heard rumors of God's grace

**People: of Divine love poured out**

Leader: on people of all colors

**People: from all places**

Leader: people of all classes

**People: all abilities**

Leader: all genders

**People: all sexualities.**

Leader: We have heard stories of this Jesus,

**People: of Divine inclusion for former outcasts—**

Leader: people who were confused

**People: and unclean**

Leader: and broken

**People: and unwanted**

Leader: and powerless

**People: and searching.**

Leader: We want to hear more of these stories.

**People: We want to sing and shout and live these stories,**

Leader: so that we might help spread this scandalous rumor

**People: of Divine grace,**

**All: of boundary-less love.**

—Joanna Harader

OPENING 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.

## PRAISING

*\*Come, Let Us All Unite to Sing*.....Voices Together 7  
*\*Together*.....Voices Together 389

MUSIC FOR MEDITATION .....Joe Hayward  
*For the Beauty of the Earth* (Kocher); *In the Bulb There Is a Flower* (Sleeth)

OFFERING PRAYER

## CONFESSING

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: Lord, we pause now to confess

**People: that in our hurry,**

Leader: in our tidiness,

**People: in our stress,**

Leader: in our striving,

**People: we get caught up**

Leader: in comparison,

**People: in greed,**

Leader: in our own security.

**People: We distance ourselves from one another  
and forget the abundance of your love.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

## HEARING GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE READING .....Cynthia Kimball

Leader: Hear the word of God.

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

Acts 8: 26-40 (p. 1339)

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

**People: Blessed be God forever!**

SERMON .....Richard Gehring  
"Overcoming Barriers"

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

SONG OF RESPONSE

*Draw the Circle* .....Voices Together 802

## CELEBRATING COMMUNION

INSTRUCTIONS..... Barbara Krehbiel Gehring

INVITATION TO THE TABLE  
COMMUNION PRAYER & WORDS OF INSTITUTION

RECEIVING THE GIFTS  
*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.*

COMMUNION MUSIC..... Joe Hayward  
*Let the Hungry Come to Me; Put Peace Into Each Other's Hands; Old Hundredth (trad.)*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND LORD'S PRAYER ..... *Voices Together 989A*

## 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 Bless You and Keep You..... *Voices Together 846*

\*WORDS OF BLESSING

Please be seated for a brief congregational meeting.

### TODAY AFTER WORSHIP & THE CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

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 (MAY)

Unknown God: Sanctuary  
Reviving the Golden Rule: Conference Room  
Coffee & Conversation: 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: Office Classroom

As a worshipping 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](mailto:pct@lombardmennonite.org).

## LMC STAFF



**Barbara Krehbiel Gehring** (she/her)  
Co-Lead Pastor  
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Office hours: Tue 9-12; Wed & Fri 9-5



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**Nathan Perrin** (he/him)  
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Want to reach the entire office staff at once?  
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**630.627.5310 • [lombardmennonite.org](http://lombardmennonite.org)**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

All are welcome to stay for today's **potluck!**

For the **sanctuary class today**, Aaron L. will be talking about the Unknown God in Acts 27 and epistemology (philosophy about the human limits of knowing).

Sign up for your spot at our **church retreat at Menno Haven Camp** on September 12 and 13. You won't want to miss the fun and fellowship, not to mention the delicious meals. Early registration ends May 19, as does the \$5 discount.



## TODAY AT LMC

**A/V Technicians:** CJ Yoder, Spencer Yoder  
**Fellowship Hosts:** Dinorah & Lindy Scott  
**Greeter:** Linea Richards  
**Communion Bread & Setup:** Valerie Kropf  
**NURSERY VOLUNTEERS**  
**Worship:** Eric Nelessen, TBA  
**Church Lockup:** Lyle Bohnert

## THIS WEEK AT LMC

**Tuesday, 7pm:** Contemplative Prayer, via Zoom  
**Wednesday, 9:30am:** Women of the Word (WOW)  
Bible Study  
**Thursday,**  
**7:30am:** Breakfast with Steve S., Nazareth Trust  
**9:30am:** Menno Men  
**Saturday, 1pm:** Women's Interfaith Book Club

## NEXT SUNDAY, MAY 10

**Theme:** Saul on the Damascus Road  
**Scripture:** Acts 9: 1-20  
**A/V Technicians:** Dave Kuhlmann Taylor, CJ Yoder  
**Fellowship Host:** None (Mother's Day)  
**Greeter:** Ken G Kabira  
**NURSERY VOLUNTEERS**  
**Worship:** Arlee Blackburn, Valerie Kropf