

WELCOME TO Lombard Mennonite Church

September 13, 2026

CHURCH RETREAT: PARABLES OF JESUS

Luke 14-17

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

GATHERING

SONG OF PRAISE

Hilary Rhodes, Song Leader

**For the Beauty of the Earth* *Voices Together* 120

WELCOME Keith Eiten

CALL TO WORSHIP

All: This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Leader: The heavens declare the glory of God, not in words but in a light show of sun, moon, and stars.

People: Every day shouts in wordless language that God, the almighty God, made it all.

Leader: The Psalmist lies down in green pastures beside still waters and he finds peace. He imagines God dressed up in sunshine with all heaven stretched out for his tent.

People: When Jesus walked the earth, his feet were dirty with the dust of the earth. His sermon illustrations were about flowers and trees and seeds and vineyards and birds and fish and sheep and goats and pigs.

Leader: Today we join with all the earth and heavens in a chorus of praise that rings through eternity.

People: We remember our oneness with all that exists and all that has life, and that it is a joyful thing to be in God's presence with each other, with this land, and with all creation.

All: The Lord is in his holy temple, let all the earth keep silence before him.

OPENING PRAYER

PRAISING

**I Saw a Tree by the Riverside* *Voices Together* 514

**Please rise in body or spirit.*

Hearing assistive devices and a larger print hymnal and Bible are available outside the doors to the sanctuary. Our nursery downstairs in the Fireplace Room is "self-serve" today.

**All Things Bright and Beautiful.....Voices Together 177*

MUSIC FOR MEDITATION.....The Madison Street String Band
John Short's Tune/John Riley's Polka (Traditional)

OFFERING PRAYER

CONFESSING

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: For failing to love others as you have loved us...
People: God of grace, forgive us.
Leader: For wasting your gifts and hoarding our goods...
People: God of grace, forgive us.
Leader: For plundering the earth and abusing the planet...
People: God of grace, forgive us.
Leader: For fearing those who are strange to us and ignoring those in need...
People: God of grace, forgive us.
Leader: For losing heart and abandoning hope...
People: God of grace, forgive us.
Leader: For all the ways we turn from you...
People: God of grace, forgive us.
Leader: We offer our prayers in the name of the one who saves us, Jesus Christ.
All: Amen

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

HEARING GOD’S WORD

INTRODUCTION.....Joe Hayward

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

READERS THEATER: THE PARABLES OF JESUS

Selections from Luke 14-17
Jack Hayward, Jeremy Botts, Maggie Bergevin, Pam Eiten, Rebecca Kuhlmann Taylor

CLOSING

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

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

SONG OF RESPONSE

Seek Ye First *Voices Together* 417

MUSIC FOR REFLECTION..... The Madison Street String Band
Swannanoa Waltz (Traditional)

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

**This Is God's Wondrous World*..... *Voices Together* 180

*WORDS OF BLESSING

Special thanks to The Madison Street String Band: Joe Hayward, Dave Kuhlmann Taylor, Vince Kurtz, and Gray Taylor.

ANNOUNCEMENT HIGHLIGHTS

Sunday school classes for all ages will start next week. Stay tuned for locations, as these will be changing during construction. We still don't have any teachers for our preschool class. Please contact Melissa Miller if you can assist with this class in any way (even once or twice a month). Thank you for considering this way to serve our preschoolers and their families.

In the Sanctuary, we will kick off our **climate change series** next Sunday with guest speaker Margaret Klein Salamon zooming in. Margaret is a clinical psychologist turned climate activist and thought leader. Her work helps people face the frightening, painful truths of the climate emergency and empowers all of us to transform despair into

effective action. We also have free copies of her book, *Facing the Climate Emergency*, to give out for the class.

We **won't hold any fellowship time today** after the worship service, due to the church retreat.

Pronoun stickers will be available to put on your nametag starting next Sunday, September 20. You will find them in a basket next to the bulletin racks in the narthex. Pronoun stickers provide a clear visual reference to address a person's gender identity correctly. The stickers are optional and available to everyone at LMC.

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 Pastor Nathan or any member of our Pastoral Care Team: Rebecca Huff (chair), Vina Ariyaparakai, Pam Eiten, Elliot Johnson, Doug Kimball, Hasun Lee, and Hilary Rhodes. To contact the entire group: pct@lombardmennonite.org.

LMC STAFF



Nathan Perrin (he/him)

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Barbara Krehbiel Gehring (she/her)

Co-Lead Pastor
On sabbatical



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SMALL GROUP SURVEY

Small groups are a vital way for us to connect and support each other as we seek to follow Jesus. Whether you're already part of a small group at LMC or would like to join one, you're invited to complete a small group questionnaire by Saturday, September 19.



TODAY AT LMC

A/V Technicians: Dave Kuhlmann Taylor @ Menno Haven; CJ Yoder @ LMC

Greeters: Jeremy & Caroline Steelberg

The nursery is self-serve today.

Church Lockup: Lyle Bohnert

Lawn Mower: Davis Richards

THIS WEEK AT LMC

Tuesday, 7pm: Contemplative Prayer via Zoom

Thursday,

9:30am: Menno Men

7:15pm: Worship Commission

Saturday: Love Your Neighbor Day

NEXT SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

Theme: Keep the Sabbath Holy

Scripture: Luke 6: 1-11

A/V Technicians: CJ Yoder, Spencer Yoder

Fellowship Hosts: Danilo & Adriana Alvarez

Greeters: Jeremy & Caroline Steelberg

NURSERY VOLUNTEERS

Worship: Dave Lantz, Eric Nelessen

Sunday School: Valerie Kropf, Katharine Richert