WELCOME TO
Lombard Mennonite Church

November 15, 2026

COVENANT SUNDAY
Revelation 2: 1-7

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

GATHERING

SONG OF PRAISE — Lisa Rose, Song Leader
**All People That on Earth Do Dwell* ..... *Voices Together* 5

WELCOME ..... Keith Eiten

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The God of creation makes us one in body!
People: Let us join hearts and voices in praise of the Lord!
Leader: The God of Christ makes us one in the Spirit!
People: Let us join hearts and voices in praise of the Lord!
Leader: How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity!
People: It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion.
Leader: Come, let us all worship and bow down together,
ALL: Let us kneel together before the Lord, our maker.
For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture,
and the sheep of his hand.

OPENING PRAYER

PRAISING

**O Worship Our God* ..... *Voices Together* 129
**My Soul Cries Out* ..... *Voices Together* 412

MUSIC FOR MEDITATION ..... Jeremy Botts, Joe Hayward, Dave Kuhlmann Taylor

OFFERING 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 downstairs in the Fireplace Room (the nursery is under construction).

CONFESSING

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of grace, we grieve that the church,
which shares one Spirit, one faith, one hope, and one calling,
has become a broken communion in a broken world.
The one body spans all time, place, race, and language,
but in our fear we have fled from and fought one another,
and in our pride we have mistaken our part for the whole.
Yet we marvel that you gather the pieces to do your work,
that you bless us with joy, with growth, and with signs of unity.
Forgive our sins and help us to commit ourselves
to seeking and showing the unity of the body of Christ.
In his name, Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

HEARING GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE READING ..... James Hayward

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

Revelation 2: 1-7 (p. 1515)

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

SERMON ..... Richard Gehring
"Listen to What the Spirit is Saying"

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

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

MUSIC FOR REFLECTION ..... Dave Kuhlmann Taylor, Jeremy Botts

COVENANTING AND CELEBRATING COMMUNION

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COVENANTING, CRAFTING, AND COMMUNION ..... Barbara Krehbiel Gehring

COMMUNION LITURGY ..... Insert

Leader: Blessed are you, Our God, Ruler of the universe.
Through your goodness we have this bread to offer,
which earth has given and human hands have made.
May it become for us the bread of life.
People: Blessed be God forever.

People: By the mystery of this cup
may we come to share in the ministry of Jesus,
who fully shares in our humanity.
Leader: Blessed are you, O God of all creation.
Through your goodness we have this juice to offer,
fruit of the vine and work of human hands.
May it become for us our spiritual drink.
People: Blessed be God forever.

Leader: In your kindness, O God, accept our gifts and make them holy,
that they may become the sacrament of our liberation.
We ask this in your holy name.
People: Amen.

Leader: Our God is with you.
People: And with your spirit.
Leader: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them up to God most high.
Leader: Let us give thanks to God;
People: it is right and just.
Leader: God of all, you called us into being as your imaginative, co-creative people.
You are our source and destiny.
By planting your divine life into our hearts,
People: you empower us to build a community of unity,
to work for justice, to see no one left in need.

Leader: The table we now share is adorned with the gifts of creation,
gifts given for all to share in equality and justice,
a table where all are welcome
and from which no one is to be excluded.
As followers of Jesus we celebrate the open table,
a table of abundant life, inclusive love, and redemptive liberation.

Leader: Invoking our religious tradition, we remember that
All: while sharing a feast at table,
Jesus took bread, gave thanks to you,
broke the bread and shared it among friends, saying:
Take this all of you and eat:
this is my body which will be given up for you.

Leader: After the meal,
All: **Jesus took the cup, gave thanks**
and shared it with his friends, saying:
Take this all of you and drink;
this is the cup of my blood, of the everlasting covenant.
In prophetic solidarity, it is poured out for you and for all.
Do this in memory of me.

Leader: The mystery of faith:
People: **when we eat this bread and drink this cup,**
we proclaim your death, O Jesus,
until you come again.

Leader: As a people called to mature faith, we invoke upon all gathered here
the empowering Spirit of courage and wisdom,
so that we, too, may be empowered as agents of Gospel liberation.

Leader: With grateful hearts,
People: **we rejoice and thank our God**
for all we have received.
And we name and lament the poverty and violence
afflicting so much of humanity.
Move us, O God of liberation,
to work for the freedom of all.

Leader: This prayer we make in union with all God's people,
living and dead, and particularly all laboring for peace,
our companions and inspirations. We pray
People: **in the name of our Creator God and liberating Spirit,**
whom Jesus embodied as our primary model:
in, with and through whom we offer our praise,
this day and forever. Amen.

Leader: Let us pray as Jesus taught us:
All: **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.**
Your kingdom come, your will be done
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory
are yours now and forever. Amen.

—Communion service adapted from Movable Feast, an Anabaptist faith community.
Thanks to Pastor Celeste Kennel-Shank

RECEIVING COMMUNION, SIGNING THE COVENANT, AND CRAFTING IN COMMUNITY

Eat This Bread (Coman de este pan) ..... *Voices Together* 476
New Earth, Heavens New ..... *Voices Together* 377
Lead On, O Cloud of Presence ..... *Voices Together* 194

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

**Blest Be the Tie That Binds* ..... *Voices Together* 831

*WORDS OF BLESSING

ANNOUNCEMENT HIGHLIGHTS

Thanks to Maggie Bergevin for designing our community art project, Valerie Kropf for baking the communion bread and doing setup, Hasun Lee and Amanda Olsen for helping serve communion, and Jeremy Botts for printing out our membership covenant.

We start a new sanctuary class today called **The ABCs of LGBTQ+.** Special guest speaker Matthew Neumann, a Queer Christian and activist who is the executive director of the LGBTQ+ Foundation of Kansas, will join us via Zoom. —Pastor Nathan

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 (NOVEMBER)

The ABCs of LGBTQ+: Sanctuary
Salt & Light Bible Study: Room 303
Coffee & Conversation: Fellowship Hall

CHILDREN + YOUTH CLASSES

Ages 3-5 years: Room 101, downstairs
Grades K-2: Room 102, downstairs
Grades 3-5: Room 103, downstairs
Grades 6-8: Office classroom
Grades 9-12: Conference room

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: Rebecca Huff (chair), Vina Ariyaprakai, Pam Eiten, Elliot Johnson, Doug Kimball, Hasun Lee, and Hilary Rhodes. 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 9-12; Fri 1-5

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS CONT'D

The **Pastor Congregation Relations Committee** will meet with our pastors this coming Saturday. PCRC exists to support our pastors and to keep lines of communication open between them and the congregation. If you have kudos, concerns or questions, please email sharing withpcrc@lombardmennonite.org or contact a committee member: Melodie G., Ken G K., Carlen S. (Chair), and Jonah W.

All are welcome to a **baby shower for soon-to-be parents Adriana and Danilo A.** this coming Saturday (Nov 21) at 2pm. Let's show them lots of love and support. Hope to see you there!

TODAY AT LMC

A/V Techs: Katharine Richert, CJ & Spencer Yoder
Fellowship Host: Mona Richards
Greeters: Evan & Mona Richards
NURSERY VOLUNTEERS
Worship: Valerie Kropf, Evan Richards
Sunday School: Vina Ariyaprakai, Dave Lantz
Church Lockup: Lyle Bohnert
Lawn Mower: Evan Richards

THIS WEEK AT LMC

Tuesday, 7pm: Contemplative Prayer via Zoom
Wednesday, 7pm: Ministry Team
Thursday, 9:30am: Menno Men
6pm: Advent Planning Team
7:15pm: Worship Commission
Saturday, 9:30am: Pastor Congregation Relations Committee
2pm: Baby Shower for Adriana & Danilo A.

NEXT SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22

Theme: Reign of Christ Sunday
Scripture: Matthew 25: 31-46
A/V Technicians: Dave Kuhlmann Taylor, Roy Taylor
Fellowship Host: Linea Richards
Greeters: Richard & Arlee Blackburn
NURSERY VOLUNTEERS
Worship: Doug Kimball, Esther Wetherill
Sunday School: Bart Miller, Paul Reimer