WELCOME TO
Lombard Mennonite Church



November 29, 2026

GOD DREAMS OF HOPE

Advent 1; Habakkuk 1: 1-7, 2: 1-4, 3: 17-19

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

PRELUDE

PRELUDE ..... Gray Taylor, Roy Taylor

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing; *Angels We Have Heard on High; The First Noel, the Angel Did Say; O Come, All Ye Faithful* (*Voices Together* 247, 249, 250, 241)

GATHERING

SONG OF PRAISE — Elizabeth Shuman, Song Leader; Gray & Roy Taylor, Accompanists

**The First Noel, the Angel Did Say* ..... *Voices Together* 250

WELCOME ..... Eric Larson

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We gather to worship and to watch.
What are we watching for?
People: Watching to see what God is doing.
Leader: What are we watching for?
People: Watching to see God's people live righteously.
Leader: What are we watching for?
People: Watching to see justice prevail.
Leader: What are we watching for?
People: Watching to see love take over the world.
Leader: What are we watching for?
All: We are watching and hoping for transformation for God's dream of love, peace, and justice to overflow in our world.

OPENING PRAYER

CANDLELIGHTING ..... Marcin "Marty" Lewandowski

**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).

PRAISING

**We Dream of a Turning* ..... *Voices Together* 209
For the Fruit of All Creation ..... *Voices Together* 124

MUSIC FOR MEDITATION ..... Pam Eiten
Give Thanks (Ellen Banks Elwell)

OFFERING PRAYER

CONFESSING

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: In the nighttime of despair, we are filled with doubt.
People: We are overwhelmed with busyness and the compulsion to do. We have lost our way.
Leader: The night is almost over. We are emerging from our doubt.
People: O God, show us the way of your heart.
Leader: Come quickly, to show us.
All: The dawn is nigh. Show us the way.

Silence

Leader: Come! Walk in the way of God's heart. The dawn is breaking!
Christ is coming to free us from despair. He will show us the way.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE Based on Psalm 97

HEARING GOD'S WORD

CHILDREN'S STORY ..... Hasun Lee

SCRIPTURE READING ..... Ken G Kabira
Leader: Hear the word of God.
People: Our ears and hearts are open.

Habakkuk 1: 1-7; 2: 1-4; 3: 17-19 (p. 1135)

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

SERMON ..... Richard Gehring
"Living the Dream"

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

SONG OF RESPONSE
Be Thou My Vision ..... *Voices Together* 549

MUSIC FOR REFLECTION ..... Pam Eiten
O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (Thomas Keesecker)

SHARING IN COMMUNITY

ADVENT GIVING PROJECT ..... Rebecca Kuhlmann Taylor

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
**Go Now in Peace* ..... *Voices Together* 835

*WORDS OF BLESSING

ANNOUNCEMENT HIGHLIGHTS

In today's **The ABCs of LGBTQ+ class**, Ezekyel K., an international expert on gender and sexual-based violence, will join us via Zoom. He'll share his story as a French Amazigh (Indigenous group in Morocco) trans man and what he has learned since transitioning.

Next Sunday (Dec 6), we'll hold a **congregational meeting** during Sunday school, followed by a **potluck feast** of your family's favorite Christmas foods. Families A-K should bring a side dish, salad, or dessert. Families L-Z should bring a main course.

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

If you haven't had a chance to sign the **covenant**, it's in the narthex. You can also pick up an "**Advent at Home" devotional** downstairs.

This year's **Christmas Eve service**—scheduled for 6:30pm on Thursday, December 24—will be a simple service of scripture readings and songs. If you are willing to help with a scripture reading, please contact Pastor Richard.

Our **2026 Advent Giving Project** will support our immigrant siblings and those working on their behalf. You can donate with the QR code.

Sing with us! Our **next choir rehearsal** is Sunday, Dec 6 at 8:30am in the sanctuary. We'll sing in worship on Dec 13. Newcomers are welcome!

Mennonite Action Chicago is doing a **fundraiser for Watermelon Sisters.** See flyer downstairs.

TODAY AT LMC

A/V Technicians: Gray Taylor, Dave Kuhlmann Taylor
Fellowship Host: Katharine Richert
Greeters: Richard & Arlee Blackburn
NURSERY VOLUNTEERS
Worship: Melissa Miller, Evan Richards
Sunday School: Doug Kimball, Mona Richards
Church Lockup: Lyle Bohnert

THIS WEEK AT LMC

Tuesday, 7pm: Contemplative Prayer via Zoom
Thursday, 9:30am: Menno Men
Saturday, 7pm: MYF Lock In

NEXT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6

Theme: God Dreams of Peace
Scripture: Esther 4: 1-17
A/V Technicians: Elias Rose, CJ Yoder
Fellowship Host: Katharine Richert
Greeter: Carlen Sellers
NURSERY VOLUNTEERS
Worship: Adriana Alvarez, Ruth Quiroa
Sunday School: Arlee Blackburn, Ken G Kabira