



Welcome to Boulder Mennonite Church

Sunday, March 17, 2024

5th Sunday in the Season of Lent

A Service of the Word



Vincent van Gogh, *Field with Green Wheat*, 1890

“[U]nless a grain of wheat falls on the ground and dies, it remains only a single grain; but if it dies, it yields a rich harvest.” John 12.24

Join the service at 9:30 a.m. Sunday morning:

Zoom link: or call in: Dial 253 215 8782, then enter Meeting ID: 283 224 109#

Or join us via our audio stream: [Spreaker](#)

Welcome to the worship service today.

We hope it is meaningful for you and welcome you to join us again.

As a Christian community, called by Jesus to be inclusive, caring, and peace-minded, we affirm that people of any race, ethnic identity, gender identity, sexual orientation, ability, age, economic status, or life situation are welcome to be in full participation in our congregation and in our denomination, MC USA.

Boulder Mennonite Church acknowledges that we are gathering on the traditional territory of Indigenous Peoples. It was inhabited by the Ute, Cheyenne, Arapaho and Ojethi Sakowin Peoples. We affirm that settlers have specific responsibilities in the journey of reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples.



Boulder Mennonite Church is a vibrant, Jesus-centered community welcoming all people to know God and to be ambassadors of God's love, healing, and peace.

GATHERING

Prelude	<i>Romance, from 5 Bagatelles</i>	G. Finzi
*Singing	Holy, holy, holy, vv. 1, 2, 3	76

Call to Worship adapted from Jeremiah 31

Leader: The Spirit of Love is making a new covenant with us:

People: **“I will write my law on your hearts, I will be yours, and you will be mine,” Love says.**

Leader: We will not have to teach one another about the Way of Love,

People: **for we will all know the Way, from the greatest to the least.**

All: ***Come and walk the Way of Love,
which forgets our wrongs and forgives our sins.***

Welcome

CELEBRATING & PRAISING

Singing	Love divine, all loves excelling	638
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Centering Prayer	<i>God, give me grace</i>	1007
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Singing	I know not why God's wondrous grace, v. 1	590
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Passing the Peace

Offering Invitation/Blessing

Please place your prayer requests in the basket with your offering.

At home: please type your prayer requests into the “Chat” column on Zoom or send them via email at least 2hrs prior to the worship service. Or [click here to donate online.](#)

Offertory	<i>The Swan</i>	C. Saint-Saens
	<i>from Carnival of the Animals</i>	

HEARING

A Moment for All Ages

Hebrew Scripture Reading

Jeremiah 31.31-34

“Behold, the days are coming, says the Eternal One, when I will establish a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them up out of the land of Egypt—a covenant they broke, though I was their spouse, says the Eternal One. But this is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Eternal One: I will put my Law in their minds and on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people.

“No longer will they need to teach one another or remind one another to listen to the Eternal One. All of them, high and low alike, will listen to me, says the Eternal One, for I will forgive their misdeeds and will remember their sins no more.

Gospel Reading

John 12.20-33

Among those who had come up to worship at the Passover festival were some Greeks. They approached Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and put forth this request: “Please, we would like to see Jesus.” Philip went to tell Andrew, and together the two went to tell Jesus.

Jesus replied, “Now the hour has come for the Chosen One to be glorified. **The truth of the matter is, unless a grain of wheat falls on the ground and dies, it remains only a single grain; but if it dies, it yields a rich harvest. If you love your life you’ll lose it; if you hate your life in this world you’ll keep it for eternal life. Anyone who wants to work for me must follow in my footsteps, and wherever I am, my worker will be there too.** Anyone who works for me will be honored by Abba God. Now my soul is troubled. What will I say: ‘Abba, save me from this hour?’ But it was for this very reason that I have come to this hour. Abba, glorify your name!”

A voice came from heaven: **“I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.”** The crowds that stood nearby heard this and said it was a clap of thunder; others said, “It was an angel speaking.” Jesus answered, “It was not for my sake that this voice came, but for yours. **Sentence is now being passed on this world; now the ruler of this world will be overthrown. And when I am lifted up from this earth, I will draw all people to myself.**” By these words Jesus indicated the kind of death he would die.

Singing

In the bulb there is a flower

670

Reflection

RESPONDING

**Sharing Joys and Concerns
Prayers of the People**

SENDING

Announcements

***Benediction**

***Sending Song** Blest be the tie that binds, vv. 1, 2, 3 831



Resources used in worship:

Scripture adapted from The Inclusive Bible, Priests for Equality
Cover art: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wheat_Fields
Esref Armagan: <http://www.armagan.com/>

Thanks to all who contributed to our service today!

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|-----------------------------|--|
| Speaker: | Pastor Randy Spaulding |
| Worship Leader: | Joan Tice |
| Readers: | Bruce Wheeler, Judy Classen |
| Music: | Judy Classen, Justin Mathis, Randy Spaulding |
| Moment For All Ages: | Bruce Wheeler |
| Tech Support: | Alfred Sawatzky |
| Greeters: | Paul Classen, Becky Neumann |
| Snacks: | Michelene Fast |

March 10, 2024: **Attendance: 45** **Offering: \$**

TODAY at BMC

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|--------|----------------------|
| 9:30a | Worship and mingling |
| 11:00a | Education Hour |

THIS WEEK at BMC

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|------|-----------------------------------|
| 3/20 | Centering Prayer small group, 11a |
| 3/21 | Bible study small group, 7p |
| 3/22 | King Sooper shooting Remembrance |

NEXT SUNDAY – March 24: Palm/Passion Sunday

Guest Speaker: Karen Cox

9:30am Worship and mingling

11:00am Education Hour (Joint Adult/Youth), sanctuary

Guest Speaker: Karen Cox

Worship Leader: Steve Voran

Readers: Joan & Ezra Tice

Music: Jean McPherson, Susan Graber

Tech Support: The Tice Family

Greeters: Ezra & Joan Tice

Snacks: Elvira Glenn, Sandi Sanborn

COMING UP

- 3/24 Palm Sunday
- 3/24 Book discussion small group, 11:15a
- 3/28 Maundy Thursday Meal & Foot Washing, 6pm
- 3/31 Easter Sunday, 9am Brunch; 10:30am worship; 11:45am Easter Egg Hunt
- 4/9 Singing small group, 6:30p
- 4/11 Church Council, 6:30p
- 4/13 Ingrid Latorre-Sanctuary Coalition fundraiser, 5p
- 4/14 Mennonite Hymn Sing, Glennon Heights Menno Church, 1pm
- 4/17 Centering prayer small group, 11a
- 4/21 BMC training in Trauma-Informed Care, 11am
- 4/23 Singing small group, 6:30p

~PRAYERS~

- ~for: **Jon Tuttle** who is hospitalized with a severe case of Covid. Jon is pastor of the Prairie View congregation and a central figure in Western Plains district work. Please pray for God's hand to guide Pastor Jon's health, and for strength for his spouse Debra and for Jon's family and congregation through this difficult time.
- ~for **David Corley**, nephew to **Paul** and **Mary McKay**, who is asking for a miracle of healing for his cancer. David has now entered hospice because there is no further medical treatment for him.
- ~for the Saavedra family: Yorger, Villimar, Emmanuel, Estephany and Brianna, as they settle into their new “home” here at BMC. Prayers of gratitude for all BMCers helping to settle them in! Especially for Becky Neumann and Bruce Fast, our Immigrant Task Force co-leaders!

March Birthdays		
1 – Gus Dino Gouvas	4 – Laura Minter	23 – Cindy Firnhaber
2 – Pablo Ceres	7 – Ryan Loewer	27 - Becky Sawatzky
2 – Nancy Wolff	16 - Nevin McKay Epp	30 – Koketso Firnhaber
3 – Grace Ceres		

Please let us know if we failed to acknowledge your special day. We want to celebrate you!

~ANNOUNCEMENTS~

Please call in or email (info@bouldermennonite.org) announcements by Thursday, 7:00am.

DEACONS: Carole Suderman: 303-494-8527; Paul Classen: 316-217-2355; Cheri Krause: 510-227-9712

PASTOR RANDY’S OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday: 8am to 2pm (subject to visitation/meetings). Appointments/call-aheads are encouraged. Pastor Randy will be in Indiana attending [MC USA leadership meetings](#), 3/20 – 26. He normally takes Monday as a Sabbath.

CHURCH ADMINSTRATOR: Ivanna is in the office on Tuesday from 6:30a to 2:30p and Wednesday from 6a to 2p.

~ IN OUR COMMUNITY~

TRAUMA-INFORMED CARE TRAINING @BMC: The Saavedra family has moved onto our BMC campus and we are excited for them to settle in. Maya John of the Colorado Hosting Asylum Network (CHAN) will be offering training to educate our congregation on how to walk with individuals and families who have experienced trauma. Join us **Sunday, April 21 at 11am** during the Education Hour. Thank you for making this an important time to gather.

DISMUKES LEARNING TOUR: Are you interested in going on a learning tour in Appalachia (Kimball W. Virginia) to learn more about Dr. Dismukes and MCC’s work within the area, including [SWAP \(Sharing With Appalachian People\)](#)? Ivanna is organizing a group of folks from BMC to attend a learning tour in August about Dr. Dismukes and his connection to Mennonites. Please [contact her](#) if you are interested.

NO JOKE – JUSTIN’S CLARINET RECITAL: **Monday, April 1, 7:00pm**, Boulder Mennonite Church Admission is free and will also be streamed via Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/283224109> Performing works by Bach, Copland, Gershwin, Finzi, Bennett, and Saint-Saens. Donations are appreciated but not necessary. There will be snacks during intermission and after the performance.

INTERFAITH VIGIL for REMEMBRANCE and HEALING On the Anniversary of the Boulder Table Mesa Tragedy: Friday, March 22nd, 2pm gathering at the Reynolds Library to visit the Soul Box Project (created by 1st Cong. UCC folks), then join together at 2:30pm for a vigil on the lawn of the library. All are welcome. George Reynolds Library Branch, 3595 Table Mesa Drive.

MAUNDY THURSDAY COMMUNION AND FOOT WASHING, March 28, 6pm: Singing, a simple meal, communion, foot washing and scripture readings. Please **sign up at the back of the sanctuary today if you plan to attend this special service of Holy Week.**



EASTER FLOWERS ORDERS: Boulder Mennonite Church is taking orders for Easter flowers to be displayed at our Easter Service. You may take them home after the service. An “in honor of” list will be printed for the service. A sign-up sheet is located on the table by the door. Price for each plant will range from \$15-30.



HELP FOR EASTER POTLUCK BRUNCH: There is a sign up at the entrance to help set up and clean up after the Easter brunch. Please let me know if you are willing to help. You can also call (303 666-6331 leave message) or send an email (elviraglenn37@gmail.com). Come at 8:45 for set up. Most of the cleanup will happen after the service. Thanks for your help! Elvira Glenn

EBENEZER SUNDAY is April 7, 2024. All are invited to bring a stone and a story of how God/The Universe/Love has been with you this year. In the Hebrew scriptures, Samuel led the people of Israel to erect an "Ebenezer," a "stone of help," to thank God who had helped bring them to that particular point in their journey (1 Samuel 4-7). During worship, tell us how you have seen Love, Justice, Peace, Grace, etc., present in your life in the past year. This sharing has been rich for us at BMC. Plan to participate!



~ IN THE LARGER COMMUNITY ~

AS PART OF MC USA's "I CHOOSE TO BE MENNONITE BECAUSE...SERIES, Marlene Kropf, a spiritual director, and retreat leader, shares that she was born and raised a Mennonite, but after moving to an area without any Mennonite churches, she had to be creative in how she continued to worship. Read her story [here](#).

IN HONOR OF WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH, the MC USA Archives has compiled a Mennonite Women's History timeline. Explore the rich history with this engaging [resource](#).

FUNDRAISER FOR THE Boulder Area Immigration and Sanctuary Coalition. Saturday, April 13, 5-8pm, Boulder Valley UU Fellowship (Lafayette). The coalition, to which BMC belongs, continues to support Ingrid Latorre as she seeks citizenship in the US, as well as working to provide support for other area immigrants and education to the public. Come for delicious tapas, music and connecting with others!

MENNONITE CHURCH USA:

MC USA signed a letter to Congress, along with 62 faith-based organizations, asking for strengthened funding for Victims of Crime Act grants. Read the letter [here](#).

MC USA Church Safety: On Monday, March 25 at 5 p.m. (M) on Zoom, join Nancy Kauffmann, MC USA's interim denominational minister for Church Safety and Marlene Bogard, former minister of Christian Formation for Western District conference, former executive director of Mennonite Women USA, and former interim pastor at Salem Mennonite Church, to learn more about safe protection policy guidelines during an informational webinar. Register [here](#).

Menno Snapshots: Lorraine Stutzman Amstutz, MC USA's denominational minister for Peace and Justice, calls attention to the destructive nature of capital punishment and advocates for the abolishment of the death penalty in her Menno Snapshots blog [here](#).

In celebration of the 499th birthday of Anabaptism, John Roth, project director of MennoMedia's Anabaptism-at-500 initiative, reports on the development of the Anabaptist Community Bible, which is slated to be ready for readers on the 500th birthday of Anabaptism. Read more in his Menno Snapshots blog [here](#).

ECOLOGY TIP: We think of green for St. Patrick's Day, and over the years, green has also become a way to describe anything that is sustainable or good for the earth. Maybe we can greet each other by saying, "Have a green week!" Have small slips of paper (colored green) to give folks which say "Plant a tree" or "Use cloth napkins" or "Bring your own reusable water bottle or mug"! Happy Green St. Patrick's Day!



Donate to BMC



Boulder Mennonite Church
is a member congregation of Mountain States
Mennonite Conference and Mennonite Church USA
and in affiliation with the Church of the Brethren

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