

Welcome to Boulder Mennonite Church

Sunday, April 21, 2024

A Service of the Word

4th Sunday in the Season of Eastertide – Honoring Earth Day



EPIC 
Ecumenical Project for
International Cooperation



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 Ochethi 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

***Singing** All creatures, worship God most high, vv. 1, 3, 4, 5 81

Call to Worship *To worship is to stand in awe...* 855

Welcome

CELEBRATING & PRAISING

Singing

Blue Boat Home

Text: Peter Mayer, 2002; Music: Roland Prichard, adapt of HYFRODOL

1. Though be - low me I feel no mo - tion stand - ing on these moun - tains and plains.
 2. Sun my sail and moon my rud - der as I ply the star - ry sea,
 3. We give thanks to the waves up - hold - ing us, hail the great winds urg - ing us on,

Far a - way from the rol - ling o - cean still my dry land heart can say:
 lean - in o - ver the edge in won - der, cast - ing ques - tions in - to the deep.
 greet the in - fi - nit sea beo - fore us, sing the sky our sai - lor's song:

I've been sail - ing all my life now, nev - er har - bor or
 Drift - ing here with my ship's com - pan - ions, all we kin - dred
 We were born up - on the fath - oms, nev - er har - bor or

port have I known. The wide un - i - verse is the o - cean I
 pil - grim souls, mak - ing our way by the lights of the
 port have we known. The wide un - i - verse is the o - cean we

tra - vel and the earth is my blue boat home.
 hea - - vens in our beau - ti - ful blue boat home.
 tra - - vel and the earth is our blue boat home.

Centering Prayer

The Peace of Wild Things, Wendell Berry

Leader: When despair for the world grows in me
 and I wake in the night at the least sound
 in fear of what my life and my children's lives may be,

People: **I go and lie down where the wood drake rests
 in his beauty on the water, and the great heron feeds.**

**I come into the peace of wild things
 who do not tax their lives with forethought of grief.**

**I come into the presence of still water. And I feel above me the
 day-blind stars waiting with their light.**

All: *For a time I rest in the grace of the world,
 and am free.*

[Silence...]

Singing

For the beauty of the earth

120

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

HEARING

Gospel Reading

John 10.11-18a

Jesus said, “I am the good shepherd. A good shepherd would die for the sheep. The hired hand, who is neither shepherd nor owner of the sheep, catches sight of the wolf coming and runs away, leaving the sheep to be scattered or snatched by the wolf. That’s because the hired hand works only for pay and has no concern for the sheep.

I am the good shepherd. I know my sheep and my sheep know me, in the same way Abba God knows me and I know God— and for these sheep I will lay down my life. I have other sheep that don’t belong to this fold— I must lead them too, and they will hear my voice. And then there will be one flock, one shepherd. This is why Abba God loves me— because I lay down my life, only to take it up again.

No one takes my life from me; I lay it down freely. I have the power to lay it down, and I have the power to take it up again.

Singing

The Lord’s my shepherd

660

Now Testament Reading

A Prayer of Healing, UN Environmental Sabbath

We join with the earth and with each other: **to bring new life to the land, to restore the waters, to refresh the air.**

We join with the earth and with each other: **to renew the forests, to care for the plants, to protect the creatures.**

We join with the earth and with each other: **to celebrate the seas, to rejoice in the sunlight, to sing the song of the stars.**

We join with the earth and with each other: **to recall our destiny, to renew our spirits, to reinvigorate our bodies.**

We join with the earth and with each other: **to create the human community, to promote justice and peace, to remember our children.**

We join together as many and diverse expressions of one loving mystery: **for the healing of the earth and the renewal of all life.**

Reflection and Sharing

The EPIC Journey

RESPONDING

Singing

Touch the earth lightly

145

Sharing Joys and Concerns Prayers of the People

SENDING

Announcements

*Benediction

*Sending Song

The peace of the earth

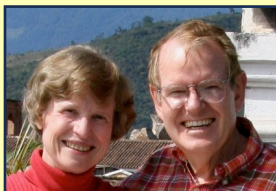
838

Resources used in worship:

Scripture adapted from The Inclusive Bible, Priests for Equality

Wendell Berry, from *Collected Poems 1957-1982*, © Wendell Berry

Prayer of Healing, [The United Nations Environmental Sabbath Service – Earth Ministry/WA IPL](#)



About our Guest Speakers: We welcome BMCers Paul and Mary McKay this morning. Following 15 years teaching International Development at [Bethel College](#), the McKays began working full-time as co-leaders of the [Ecumenical Project for International Cooperation](#) (“EPIC”), roles they continue to perform. EPIC is currently working with 22 program partners in 7 countries. In addition to serving in their administrative and fundraising rolls Paul and Mary provide supervision for EPIC’s work in Guatemala. Paul and Mary joined Boulder Mennonite Church in 1998. Thank you for blessing us today, Paul & Mary!

Thanks to all who contributed to our service today!

Speaker:	Paul & Mary McKay
Worship Leader:	Douglas Minter
Readers:	Jean McPherson, Sandi Sanborn
Music:	Judy Classen, Pastor Randy Spaulding
Tech Support:	Alfred Sawatzky
Greeters:	Paul Classen, Michelene Fast
Snacks:	Judy Classen

April 14: Attendance: 45 Offering: \$ 3,730.00

TODAY at BMC

9:30a	Worship and Connecting
11:00a	Trauma-Informed Care Training. 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.

THIS WEEK at BMC

4/22	Earth Day – for events happening around Boulder, click here.
4/23	Singing small group, 6:30p
4/24	Centering Prayer, 11a

NEXT SUNDAY – **April 28:** Fifth Sunday in the Season of Eastertide

9:30am Worship and mingling

11:00am **Adult Education**, sanctuary: *How We Are: Conversations on Genesis 1-11*, Ezra Tice, facilitator. **Youth Gathering:** Room 102

COMING UP

5/1 Centering prayer small group, 11a

5/22 PCRC meets @BMC, 9am

5/22 Boulder Area Sanctuary and Immigration Coalition, 2p @BMC

7/14 Annual BMC Congregational Meeting

7/26-28 MSMC Assembly at Beth-El Mennonite, Colorado Springs

~PRAYERS~

~from **Jeremiah** and **Cat Osborne-Gowey**: Prayers for our daughter, **Finn**, as she prepares to graduate high school (full of all sorts of nerves and excitement) and for us parents as we prepare to let go of more of her childhood and welcome her more into adulthood.

~from **Jeremiah** and **Cat Osborne-Gowey**: Prayers for our goddaughter, **Ani**, and her parents and family, our dear friends, as Ani and her parents figure out new ways of dealing with mental health struggles. Prayers for them for clarity of mind and thought, peace of heart (and family relationships), and hope for healing and restoration.

~ for **David Corley**, nephew of **Paul & Mary McKay**, who is in hospice due to cancer.

~from **Cindy Fausel**: I can't say enough how much I appreciate everyone for their prayers and support. My foot surgery went well, and I am safe in my room. I am a bit lonely and in a bit of pain but overall, just fine.

~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, Wednesday and Thursday: 8am to 2pm.

Friday: 9am to noon (subject to visitation/meetings). Appointments/call-aheads are encouraged.

Pastor Randy normally takes Monday as a Sabbath.

CHURCH ADMINSTRATOR: Ivanna will be out of the office April 10-23, but will be available via email.

April Birthdays		April Anniversaries
2 – Beau Bryant	26 – Joan Tice	25 – Kristi & Beau Bryant
9 – Becky McKay Epp	28 – Becky Neumann	
24 – Barry Janzen	30 – Bruce Fast	

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

~ IN OUR COMMUNITY ~

BMC WORK DAY, SATURDAY, MAY 11: 7am – 10am. Everyone is invited to help keep our campus healthy and fresh! Possible work includes: clearing rocks in the back yard for better mowing; cleanup along the southeast corner of the lot where debris collects from the wind; some weeding, window washing, and painting. Let's make it our Ebenezer Saturday – helping to clear stones and even choosing one for our next Ebenezer Sunday in 2025!



BMC DONATION DRIVE: COMMUNITY FOOD SHARE (CFS) LOST A TON OF FOOD (literally!) when Xcel turned off the power last week. CFS is a food bank fighting hunger in Boulder and Broomfield Counties. They are asking the public to make donations to cover the losses. Can you help? Bring nonperishable items to place in the CFS bins. Canned and Dry Goods: Unopened and in original packaging with labels; packaging is in good condition (no dents, bulging, or rust); donated no more than 6 months past use-by date. Items such as: nut butters, canned tuna and chicken, canned fruits, cereal and oatmeal, soup and stew, baby food and formula, pasta and canned sauce beans canned or dry and canned vegetables. Other food donation guidelines: [Individuals – Community Food Share](#). Or go to [Ways to Give – Community Food Share](#) and, if you are able, please make a donation. BMC has connections to CFS: Laura Minter volunteers weekly, Karen Cox every other week, and Aaron Miller (son-in-law of Karen Cox) is a staff person. Thank you!

DID YOU KNOW? Ever wonder how your BMC community is organized? How do things get done around here? We have an excellent resource to help you! We have a **Community Guidebook**, originally published 24 years ago, and most recently updated in 2020 by Terry Mast. It includes, among other things, our mission and vision statement, our church structure and leadership, and some history. It's on our website and you can [access it here](#). It needs a bit of updating. If you are interested in helping with this, please see Pastor Randy. And thanks to all those who have helped compile it!

RECORDING OUR BMC SERVICES— Update: During our BMC worship services, we will no longer be recording the sharing and prayer time, out of care and caution for folks who don't want their prayers and concerns to be recorded and shared electronically. This means that our Spreaker podcast will end when the prayer and sharing time begins. Zoom participants will remain connected to worship. Thank you.

GROUP PROCESS @BMC: On Saturday, April 13th a small group gathered to participate in a restorative circle process intended to acknowledge the challenges and hurts that came out of the situation with the Mast family and Lilia and Eve Rumi, as well as to address what happened creating concerns impacting participation at BMC. The process was co-facilitated by *3 Stories Consulting* facilitator, Deb Witzel and the Conference Minister of Mountain States Mennonite Conference, Amy Zimbelman. Participating in the process were, Terry Mast, Kent Olsen, Cornelia Krahn, Berit Janey, Toni Diaz, Susan Graber, Joan and Ezra Tice, Cheri Krause and

Pastor Randy Spaulding. The group shared their thoughts and concerns around communication, leadership and hurts they had experienced. Each person agreed to share only their own experience and not to share the details of another person's expression, in order to respect the privacy of each other. Most people named ways they could participate more fully at BMC in the future. God is faithful, and we pray that our congregation may grow more in love, grace, and service through this circle process. Much thanks to all who participated.

~ IN THE LARGER COMMUNITY ~

ON EARTH PEACE, an agency of the Church of the Brethren, has a strong history of providing resources and support for those who are ready to learn and use active nonviolence to respond to conflict, injustice, violence, militarism, and war. Will you join them in their **3000 Miles for Peace event**, which raises funds to support their work? Learn more about how you can walk, run, dance, swim, shoot hoops to accumulate miles toward their goal. Thank you!

CELLISTS FOR CHANGE PRESENTS PROTECT PLANET EARTH, a FREE bilingual English/Spanish concert featuring community youth cellists performing poetry and music that honors and celebrates nature! **Sunday, April 21 (today!), 3:00pm @ Boulder Public Library's Canyon Theater** (1001 Arapahoe Ave., Boulder, CO). Visit www.cellistsforchange.org for more information! Psyche Dunkhase, the cellist who has taught lessons at BMC for many years, is part of this group!

LIFE LINE SCREENING @BMC: Thursday, August 15, 2024, 9am-5pm. BMC receives four FREE screenings for hosting (valued at \$85.00). Screening for carotid artery, abdominal aortic aneurysm, peripheral arterial, or atrial fibrillation screening. See Pastor Randy for a free form.

ECOLOGY TIP: Happy Spring! Lettuce spring into action by planting peas (peace) and promoting carrots (care) for God's creation. Actually, at this time of year in Colorado we can plant greens such as kale, spinach, and lettuce, as well as radishes, beets, carrots, and peas.



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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