



# Welcome to Boulder Mennonite Church

Sunday, October 20, 2024

*28<sup>th</sup> Sunday in the Season of Ordinary Time*

## A Service of the Word



*Job and his Friends, Job 6:1-4, illustration from Gustav Dore's 'The Holy Bible', engraved by J.Regnier, 1866*

**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

<b>Prelude</b>	<i>Sure on this Shining Night</i>	S. Barber
<b>*Singing</b>	Holy Spirit, come with power	57

### Call to Worship

Leader: We have come to worship;

**People: gather us in, O God.**

Leader: Some of us come full of happiness; some of us come a little sore from what life brings; some of us come indifferent or confused;

**People: gather us in, O God.**

Leader: We honor the Spirit who forms us and calls us each by name.

God: known and unknown; present here and everywhere,  
who makes us unique yet part of a world-wide body of faith.

**People: Gather us in with a fierce love, a tender care, and abundant grace.**

Leader: We pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

### Welcome

## CELEBRATING & PRAISING

<b>Singing</b>	Wonderful grace of Jesus, vv. 1, 2	170
----------------	------------------------------------	-----

### Centering Prayer

<b>Singing</b>	Still my soul	603
----------------	---------------	-----

### 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.](#)*

<b>Offertory</b>	<i>Meditation</i>	J. Massenet
------------------	-------------------	-------------

## HEARING

<b>Hebrew Scripture Reading</b>	Job 23.1-9
---------------------------------	------------

Then Job replied: “I am still bitter in my complaint—God’s hand is heavy, despite all my groaning. **If only I knew where to find the Almighty, so I could approach the Judgment Seat! I would make my case to God and expound my best arguments in my defense.** But I would also benefit by hearing the answers and get a grip on what is behind all this. Would God get on a high horse in debating with me?

**No, God would give me the chance to state my case! There an upright person could make such a convincing case that I would be delivered forever from my Judge.** “But if I go east, God isn’t there; if I go west, I find nothing. When God is working up north, I can see no one; when God turns south, I don’t even catch a glimpse. **The Most High makes my heart sink, and makes my body shake in terror. Even so, I’m not silenced by the darkness nor by the deep gloom that covers my face.”**

### **Now Testament Reading**

Elie Wiesel, 1986 Nobel Prize Speech

We must remember the suffering of my people, as we must remember that of the Ethiopians, the Cambodians, the boat people, Palestinians, the Mesquite Indians, the Argentinian “*desaparecidos*” – the list seems endless.

Let us remember Job who, having lost everything – his children, his friends, his possessions, and even his argument with God – still found the strength to begin again, to rebuild his life. Job was determined not to repudiate the creation, however imperfect, that God had entrusted to him.

Job, our ancestor. Job, our contemporary. His ordeal concerns all humanity. Did he ever lose his faith? If so, he rediscovered it within his rebellion. He demonstrated that faith is essential to rebellion, and that hope is possible beyond despair. The source of his hope was memory, as it must be ours. Because I remember, I despair. Because I remember, I have the duty to reject despair. I remember the killers, I remember the victims, even as I struggle to invent a thousand and one reasons to hope.

### **Gospel Reading**

Mark 10.17-25

As Jesus was setting out on a journey, someone came running up and asked, “Good Teacher, what must I do to share in everlasting life?” Jesus answered, “Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: No killing. No committing adultery. No stealing. No bearing false witness. No defrauding. Honor your mother and your father.”

The other replied, “Teacher, I have kept all these since my childhood.” Then Jesus looked at the person with love and said, “There is one thing more that you must do. Go and sell what you have and give it to those in need; you will then have treasure in heaven. After that, come and follow me.”

At these words, the inquirer, who owned much property, became crestfallen and went away sadly. Jesus looked around and said to the disciples, “How hard it is for rich people to enter the kingdom of God!”

The disciples could only marvel at these words. So Jesus repeated what he had said: “My children, how hard it is to enter the realm of God! It is easier for a camel to pass through the Needle’s Eye gate than for a rich person to enter the kindom of God!”

**Singing** Alleluia 650

**Reflection** *Not silenced by the darkness*

## RESPONDING

**Singing** Precious Lord, take my hand 610

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

## SENDING

**Announcements**

**\*Benediction**

**\*Sending Song** Guide me, O thou great Jehovah 606



### **Resources used in worship:**

Scripture adapted from The Inclusive Bible, Priests for Equality

Call to Worship: adapted from Diane Zaerr Brenneman, *Words for Worship 2*, Herald Press

Elie Wiesel Nobel lecture: <https://www.nobelprize.org/prizes/peace/1986/wiesel/lecture/>

Cover art: [File:119.Job Speaks with His Friends.jpg - Wikimedia Commons](#)

### **Thanks to all who contributed to our service today!**

**Speaker:** Pastor Randy Spaulding  
**Worship Leader:** Douglas Minter  
**Readers:** Toni Diaz, Sandi Sanborn  
**Music:** Justin Mathis, Randy Spaulding  
**Tech Support:** Tice Family  
**Greeters:** Carole Suderman, Michelene Fast  
**Snacks:** Toni Diaz Bachus

**October 13: Attendance: 38 Offering: \$**

### **TODAY at BMC**

9:30a Worship and mingling  
11:00a Adult/Youth join Education Hour: *Be Not Afraid: Readyng for Election Day.*  
Pastor Randy, facilitator

## THIS WEEK at BMC

- 10/22 Singing small group, 6:30p
- 10/23 Centering Prayer small group, 11a
- 10/23 BASIC (Sanctuary Coalition) mtg, 1pm
- 10/24 Church Council meets, 5pm
- 10/26 BMC Blessing of the Animals, 10:30-11:30am, BMC Deck

## NEXT SUNDAY – October 27:

- 9:30am Worship and mingling
- 11:00am Adult/Youth joint Education Hour: *Be Not Afraid: Readyng for Election Day.*  
Pastor Randy, facilitator

- Speaker:** Pastor Randy Spaulding
- Worship Leader:** Cheri Krause
- Readers:** Laura & Douglas Minter
- Music:** Judy Classen, Susan Graber
- Tech Support:** Steve and Elleanna Voran
- Greeters:** Ezra & Joan Tice
- Snacks:** Cindy Firmhaber
- Moment for all Ages:** Judy Classen

## COMING UP

- 11/1-2 All Saints' and All Souls' Day
- 11/3 All Souls' day observance at BMC – reading the names of those who have died in the last year.
- 11/2 MSMC Faith & Life Forum First Mennonite (Denver)
- 11/3 Advent/Christmas/Epiphany worship planning, 12pm
- 11/5 BMC Prayer meeting on Zoom, 6pm
- 11/5 Election Day in the US
- 11/10 Heresy, Heretics, and (dis)Harmony, 4p @ Sanitas Brewing Co.
- 11/17 BMC Auction and Birthday
- 12/1 Advent Season begins
- 12/13 Pastor Randy & Gary's Holiday Open House
- 12/14 Casa de Paz fundraiser @Posner Center
- 12/15 Heresy, Heretics, and (dis)Harmony, 4p

## ~PRAYERS~

~for continued healing for **Lisa Voss** recovering from knee surgery. Lisa reports having a tough week with pain, but is doing better!

~for Mennonite Disaster Service (MDS) **volunteers** in **western North Carolina**, responding to the impacts of Hurricane Helene with equipment to move debris, mud, and downed trees. MDS is accepting donations for the recovery effort. Please **pray** for the people affected by the hurricane

and the volunteers as they respond. Visit [MDS.org](http://MDS.org) to see the latest volunteer needs or to make a donation.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS		OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES
1 – Toni Diaz Bachus	21 – Karen Cox	4 – Cheri Krause & Justin Mathis
3 – Judy Classen	23 – Steve Falk	6 – Jill & Douglas Minter
Joyce Penner	24 – Anne Cox	10 – Becky & Alfred Sawatzky
10 – Terry Mast	28 – Joanna Harrison	16 – Gwen Grasse & Steve Voran
Carole Suderman	29 – Steve Ruby	17 – Elvira & Ed Glenn
16 – Alexandra Clement	30 – Cat Osborne-Gowey	
17 – Emma Falk	30 – Eden Harrison	
19 – Chris Friedman		

## ~ANNOUNCEMENTS~

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

**DEACONS:** Paul Classen: 316-217-2355; Cheri Krause: 510-227-9712; Toni Diaz Bachus: 303-579-4290

**PASTOR RANDY’S OFFICE HOURS:** Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday: 8am to 2pm.

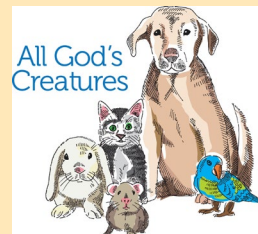
Friday: 9am to noon (subject to visitation/meetings). Appointments/call-aheads are encouraged. Pastor Randy normally takes Monday as a Sabbath.

**CHURCH ADMINSTRATOR:** Ivanna is out of the office this week. You may still email her with all things church-related.

## ~ IN OUR COMMUNITY~

**PASTOR CONGREGATION RELATIONS COMMITTEE:** Thanks to all who participated in the 2024 survey by the Pastor-Congregation Relations Committee. We asked what draws you to this congregation and most responses mentioned relationships with others in the congregation. We asked about Randy’s ministry among us and you strongly affirmed him in his role as our pastor. You also suggested changes and several of these have been implemented. A summary of the responses is now available on request. Let Ezra Tice ([Ezra.M.Tice@gmail.com](mailto:Ezra.M.Tice@gmail.com)) know if you’d like to have a copy.

**BMC BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS:** Bring your furry, finny, scaly or feathered companions to BMC next **Saturday morning, October 26, anytime between 10:30-11:30am for a blessing** in honor of St. Francis, the patron saint of animals, and who is celebrated and honored every October. Bring your companion(s) to the BMC deck and Pastor Randy will offer a prayer and blessing for you and your critter. All are welcome, even if you don’t have a critter to bring (except yourself)!



**HERETICS UNITE!** From BMC’s small group “Heretics, Heresy and (dis)Harmony”: Firstly, about our next meetings... We agreed to have them be somewhat topical with one person bringing a short intro to a topic for the rest of us to comment on from our own experience if we're so moved. With that in mind, we scheduled the next three meetings (all on Sundays starting at 4pm): **November 10:** Speaker: Jeremiah Topic: Prayer or Heaven/Hell Location: Sanitas Brewing Co. **December 15:** Speaker: Bruce Topic: Personism Location: Arvada, specific location TBD. Some books/ideas mentioned include: ~ I Am a Strange Loop by Douglas Hofstadter; ~ Peter Singer’s idea of personism; ~ Gordon D. Kaufman books serendipity; ~ Harold S. Kushner’s When Bad Things Happen to Good People; ~ Kent Nerburn’s books; ~ Smoke Signals, the book and the 1998 movie; ~ The Lone Ranger and Tonto Fistfight in Heaven by Sherman Alexie

**FAITH AND LIFE FORUM:** Mark your calendars! Saturday, November 2, 9:30 am - 2:30 pm at First Mennonite Church, Denver. Theme: *Learning to Hope in the Dark: Practices of Faith for Uncertain Times*, with pastor, educator, and author [Shannon Dycus](#). [Registration information here!](#) Interested in carpooling? Speak with Pastor Randy.

**ELECTION DAY BMC PRAYER MEETING:** Join BMCers at 6pm on Election Day in the USA (Tuesday, November 5). We’ll meet on Zoom for a brief, 30-minute time of connecting, reflecting and praying together for our nation and the world. This is one of the most significant elections in our US history. Join us to find support, comfort and peace! [Click here for the Zoom link.](#)

**WORSHIP PLANNING FOR ADVENT:** All those interested in worship planning (worship leaders, musicians, artists, storytellers, etc.) for the Advent/Christmas/Epiphany season, please meet at Noon on Sunday, November 3 in the sanctuary. We’ll share a light lunch and prepare using worship materials from our Mennonite resources for the season. Please RSVP to [randy@bouldermennonite.org](mailto:randy@bouldermennonite.org). Thanks!

**ALL SOULS REMEMBRANCE – SUNDAY, November 3<sup>rd</sup>.** Who are the important people in your life who have died in the last year? Who made a lasting impression on your faith journey –family, friend, or famous—who has died? Join us in worship as we remember and honor persons in the last year who have died and are dear to us. We will **write their names in our Book of Life** and light candles in their memory. Pastor Randy will read the names aloud during worship. If you will be in the sanctuary, bring a photo or picture to place on the worship table to celebrate their life and light! If you join us via Zoom, have a photo nearby. If you will not be attending but would like your loved one’s name written in the book, please email Randy at [randy@bouldermennonite.org](mailto:randy@bouldermennonite.org).



**THE BMC AUCTION IS SUNDAY, November 20<sup>th</sup>.** We will share some finger foods after worship and begin the live auction at 11:00 a.m. Click this link to **donate an auction item:** [AUCTION DONATIONS](#), or visit the BMC website under “Events”. Our annual auction helps BMC remain active in our ministries and programs in the community. Thank you!



## ~ IN THE LARGER COMMUNITY ~

**CASA DE PAZ:** During September, we welcomed 96 people from *FORTY DIFFERENT COUNTRIES*. For the first time in two years, we saw 2 people from Belarus! For October, we've already seen 50 people from 15 different countries! **Fundraiser:** Save the date and/or buy an early ticket to our first ever fundraising event! Saturday December 14<sup>th</sup> 4:00PM - 7:00PM at the Posner Center for International Development, located at 1031 33<sup>rd</sup> St. in Denver.

**MENNONITE CHURCH USA: Safe Church Webinar:** Many congregations have established safety protection policies to proactively provide a secure and healthy environment for individuals of all ages to connect with God. However, when a person who is a known sex offender seeks to join the congregation, what steps should the congregation take? Join host Nancy Kauffmann and presenters Eric Massanari, Jolene Miller, Kristin Jackson and Michael Danner on Tuesday, October 28 at 7 p.m. ET/4 p.m. PT, as they discuss these questions and more during an informational webinar. Register [here](#).

**MENNONITE CENTRAL COMMITTEE: Responding To the Crisis In Lebanon And Gaza:** Up to a million people in Lebanon have been displaced in the last few days due to increasing military attacks. And the grave humanitarian crisis in Gaza continues. You can donate and provide relief today. Donate online [here](#).

**ECOLOGY TIP:** With extreme weather events world-wide, more crops are being destroyed, thus making it even more important to advocate for hungry people. This afternoon is the Boulder County CROP Walk, taking place in Lafayette, beginning at 1:30. The money raised goes to Church World Service, Community Food Share, and Bread for the World. If you still wish to walk or contribute, contact Carole Suderman: [cjsude@yahoo.com](mailto:cjsude@yahoo.com) or 303-494-8527.



*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

3910 Table Mesa Drive, Boulder, CO 80305  
(303) 443-3889 • [www.bouldermennonite.org](http://www.bouldermennonite.org) • [churchadmin@bouldermennonite.org](mailto:churchadmin@bouldermennonite.org)