



# Welcome to Boulder Mennonite Church

Sunday, February 23, 2025

*7<sup>th</sup> Sunday in the Season of Epiphany*

## A Service of the Word



*Sermon on the Mount* by Cosimo Rosselli, 1481-82, Sistine Chapel, Vatican City

**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** *Andante* E. Grieg  
**\*Singing** Jesus calls us here to meet him, vv. 1, 2, 3 30

**Call to Worship** adapted from Psalm 137

**Leader:** Come, Boulder Mennonite People, and worship God.

**People:** **We will take delight in the Spirit of Life, that satisfies the desires of our hearts!**

**Leader:** Commit your way to God and trust in God's way.

**People:** **We will quiet our hearts before God and wait patiently on Love.**

**All:** *God's way is our healing space and our refuge when trouble comes. Let us celebrate life. Let us worship God!*

Welcome

## CELEBRATING & PRAISING

**Singing** In the rifted rock I'm resting 619

**Centering Prayer** adapted from Psalm 137

**Singing** Be still and know 37

**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** *Prayer* L. van Beethoven

## HEARING

**A Moment for All Ages**

## Gospel Reading

Luke 6.27-36

Creator Sets Free (Jesus) said, “Hear me, you who are listening now. **I am telling you to love your enemies, do good to the ones who look down on you, return blessing for cursing, and send up good prayers for the ones who give you trouble and pain.**

“If someone slaps you on the side of your face, **show the strength of your heart and offer the other side.** In the same way, if a thief takes your coat, **offer your shirt also.**

“When someone in need asks, **do not hold back. Do what you can to help. If someone takes what is yours, let them keep it.**

“Here is another way to see what I am saying: **Help others in the same way you would want them to help you.** Where is the honor in only showing love to the ones who do the same for you? Why should you be given respect for doing good to the ones who do you good, or for lending only to the ones who can repay you? Even tribal tax collectors and outcasts do these things.

“**Instead, show love and respect to your enemies, help them when they are in need without asking them to repay you.** This will show that you are children of your Abba from above, for Abba takes pity on the ones with bad hearts, even when they do not offer thanks for it. **So then, show kindness to others in the same way as your Abba the Great Spirit.**”

## Singing

Strong, peaceful man of Galilee, vv. 1, 2

573

## Now Testament Reading

*Loving our enemies*, Mary Thiessen Nation

I also confess that Jesus’ words concerning loving our enemies were difficult to teach and practice when thinking about or meeting individuals who had raped, abused, molested, murdered, or oppressed the members of our community. I watched a fellow student from El Salvador in a contemporary Anabaptism course in Philadelphia struggle with the implications of Jesus’ words concerning love of enemy. Because his parents had been brutally murdered, he purchased a gun and now justified his intention to protect his family through the use of force if necessary.

After the course this pastor wrote to my husband who had taught the course: “Thank you...you made me think and re-think some ideas planted very deep in my heart...you do not have a dichotomy between book and life.

...I pray that this student will receive the gift of peace and will devote his life to peacemaking, to loving even his enemies, to entrusting judgment and justice to the higher courts. We pray that someday he will even get rid of his gun.

## Message

*Not for the faint of heart*

## RESPONDING

## Singing

Renew your church, vv. 1, 4

717

## Sharing Joys and Concerns

### Prayers of the People: Praying for those we love, and for those we don't

#### SENDING

##### Announcements

##### \*Benediction

##### \*Sending Song

The peace of the earth be with you

838



#### Resources used in worship:

~Scripture adapted from The Inclusive Bible, Priests for Equality; First Nations Version (adapted);

~Mary Thiessen Nation, in *Jesus Matters: good news for the 21<sup>st</sup> century*, ed. Krabill & Shenk, 2009 Herald Press, pp. 177-180

~Cover art: [Sermon on the Mount, Sistine Chapel \(Illustration\) - World History Encyclopedia](#)

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

<b>Speaker:</b>	Pastor Randy Spaulding
<b>Worship Leader:</b>	Cheri Krause
<b>Readers:</b>	Becky Neumann, Bruce Wheeler
<b>Music:</b>	Justin Mathis, Jean McPherson, Judy Classen
<b>Tech Support:</b>	Steve Voran & Elleanna Voran
<b>Greeters:</b>	Ezra & Joan Tice
<b>Snacks:</b>	Elvira Glenn, Sandi Sanborn, Gus Gouvas
<b>Moment for All Ages:</b>	Elvira Glenn

**February 16, 2025:**

**Attendance: 52**

**Offering: \$5160**

#### TODAY at BMC

9:30a	Worship and mingling
11:00a	Education Hour. Joint adult/youth session in the sanctuary. Mike Tice, facilitator
12:00 noon	Greeter/Usher refresher training, sanctuary
5:30p	Heretics, Heresy, (dis)Harmony small group, Broomfield

#### THIS WEEK at BMC

2/25	Singing Small Group, 6:30p
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#### NEXT SUNDAY – March 2, 2025: Last Sunday in the Season of Epiphany

9:30a	Worship and mingling
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**COMING UP**

- 3/5 Ash Wednesday – the Season of Lent begins
- 3/5 Meditation/Centering Prayer Group, 11a
- 3/7-9 Womens Retreat at Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp
- 3/9 First Sunday of Lent
- 3/29 Justin Mathis Clarinet Recital at BMC, 7:00p
- 4/20 Easter Sunday
- 7/8-12 MennoCon25: Follow Jesus, Greensboro, NC
- 8/1-3 Assembly weekend, Mountain States Mennonite Conference, Glennwood Spgs

**~PRAYERS~**

- ~for **Tim Hundsorfer**'s health and the continued wellbeing of **Susan** and **Tim** in France.
- ~for **Laura Minter**'s health who did not get to travel to Indiana to see her grandma.
- ~from the **McKay's**: for **Haydee** who is home from the ICU!
- ~for **Elvira Glenn**'s brother, **Ray**, who died this week from colon cancer. She offers gratitude for relief from his struggle and asks for prayers for arranging some kind of get-together.
- ~for **MDS and MCC staff and the communities in KY and WV experiencing catastrophic flooding**. Torrential rain Feb. 15-16 filled creeks and rivers, causing significant flooding, most residents lost power and water. MCC Appalachia Build staff are working with partner churches in Kimball, WV, and Elkhorn City, KY, that are serving as temporary shelters. [Support MCC's](#) efforts in the region. [Learn more](#) about MCC Appalachia Build.

<b>March Birthdays</b>	
1 – Gus Dino Gouvas	13 – Marit
2 – Nancy Wolff	16 – Nevin McKay Epp
4 – Laura Minter	23 – Cindy Firnhaber
7 – Ryan Loewer	27 – Becky Sawatzky
	30 – Kokeretso Firnhaber

*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](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:** No office hours at this time. Please call the church office or email [churchadmin@bouldermennonite.org](mailto:churchadmin@bouldermennonite.org) for inquiries and to leave messages.

## ~ IN OUR COMMUNITY~

**INTERESTED IN SERVING AS A GREETER?** Want to know more about how to keep our immigrant neighbors safe(r) at BMC? Come to the Greeter/Usher refresher training session at noon today. We'll meet in the sanctuary and go over the basics of offering hospitality to all who worship with us. And Pastor Randy will highlight some steps we can take if ICE shows up. Hope to see you there!

**FROM THE MINTERS:** The Minter family is looking for occasional daytime drivers for Laura. Doug will be returning to the office full-time February 24th, and Jill will be returning March 24th. Please let Laura know if you may be able to assist.

**SAVE THE DATE:** Erie High School theater department presents "Into the Woods" - March 6-8. Tickets on sale soon (at [eriehsdrama.weebly.com/tickets.html](http://eriehsdrama.weebly.com/tickets.html)). See Hannah or Kelcie Dudenhefer with any questions.

**ANABAPTIST COMMUNITY BIBLE** If you are interested in ordering with others from BMC, please contact Pastor Randy.

## ~ ACROSS THE ANABAPTIST COMMUNITY~

**SAVE THE DATE:** for Mountain States Mennonite Conference Annual Assembly. It is being held near Glenwood Springs, Aug 1-3, 2025.

**FAITH & LIFE FORUM: DID YOU MISS IT?** We gathered on Saturday, February 15 for the Faith and Life forum: Learning to Hope in the Dark: Practices of Faith for Uncertain Times. "The morning session with Shannon was challenging, inspiring, and just what I needed! I love



being part of MSMC!" -- Katie Cunningham of Albuquerque Mennonite Church. You can watch the keynote session of Faith & Life forum with Shannon Dycus [here](#).

**JOB OPENINGS IN MSMC** Sojourn Menno (Ft Collins) and First Menno (Denver) have openings, details at <https://mountainstatesmc.org/resources/openings/>. Albuquerque Mennonite Church (AMC) in Albuquerque, New Mexico has an opening for a three-quarters time (0.75 FTE) lead pastor for a three-year contract, with the possibility of full-time within the next 18 months. Click here for the [Full job description](#).

**MC USA LEGAL CASE:** Mennonite Church USA is proud to [join a multifaith coalition](#) and the Institute for Constitutional Advocacy and Protection (ICAP) in opposition to the rescission of ICE's sensitive locations policy, which is a direct violation of the First Amendment and the Religious Freedom Restoration Act. This decision **directly interferes with our ability to fulfill our religious mandate** and serve all of our congregants equally and with the dignity they deserve. We don't take this step lightly. The extreme actions of our government have called us to step up as we recognize that our practice of loving our neighbor outweighs our traditional stance of non-resistance. Letter from Jon Carlson, Moderator, Mennonite Church USA, here. [Q&A here](#). Mennonite World Conference's response [call to prayer](#).

**MENNONITE CONFERENCE USA CONVENTION – FOLLOW JESUS '25:** Early registration is open for the convention on July 8-12, 2025, at the Koury Convention Center in Greensboro, North Carolina. There are volunteer opportunities. [Find out more and register here](#).

**EVERENCE COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS** Everence offers college scholarship opportunities for you or your children. Eligible students can be chosen to receive scholarships of \$3,000, \$2,000 or \$1,000 for the coming academic year. Applications are accepted through Feb. 28. Download the application at [everence.com/college-scholarships](http://everence.com/college-scholarships).

## ~ IN THE LARGER COMMUNITY ~

**URGENT IMMIGRANT FOOD DRIVE:** The Boulder Valley Unitarian Universalist Fellowship (BVUUF) and the Boulder Area Sanctuary and Immigration Coalition (BASIC) are sponsoring an immigrant food drive. Needed are dry & perishable food. People are really struggling, especially single mothers, children and the elderly. You can drop off food at the BVUUF front entry area in the marked bin (1241 Ceres Dr., Lafayette. 303-665-4280). Highest priority are: Mexican tortillas, eggs, milk, flour maseca (corn flour), sugar, salt, sandwich bread, sandwich cheese, cooking oil, dish soap. See bulletin board for more info. Thank you – Gracias!

**CLIMATE JUSTICE:** As we celebrate Black History Month, **we acknowledge** that climate change disproportionately impacts marginalized communities, including Black communities

that have historically faced environmental injustices. **We also honor** Black leaders who have long been at the forefront of advocating for clean air, safe water and a livable future for all. Here are two ways to **engage**: (1) **Watch** the 2024 documentary, [Our Movement Starts Here](#). It tells the story of a rural, predominately Black community in North Carolina that mobilized and fought the state's plan to site a toxic PCB landfill in their county, bringing together civil rights activists and environmentalists for the first time to fight for common goals. (2) **Read** a climate-justice themed book. For Black History Month—and well beyond—Stephanie Reese and Almeta E. Cooper of [Mom's Clean Air Force](#) curated a list of six essential environmental justice books: [Environmental Justice: 6 Books With Facts For Advocates](#).

**BOULDER MOMS DEMAND ACTION:** Thurs, Feb. 27<sup>th</sup>, First Baptist Church of Denver (1373 N Grant St.). Join Moms volunteers from Boulder and the rest of the state as they flood the Capitol in red shirts! They will speak with our local lawmakers to send a strong message about the bills they want to see get passed. This is one of the most FUN and empowering Moms Demand Action events of the year - plus, a great way to meet other volunteers! It's an incredible day to **show up, take action and make a difference in gun violence prevention**. Read more and sign up to attend by clicking here: [Moms Demand Action Event - Attend | Everytown for Gun Safety](#)

**ECOLOGY TIP:** When the effects of climate change, (including floods, fires, and hurricanes) become too overwhelming, there are a number of things we can do. One is to volunteer with Mennonite Disaster Service in helping to prevent or clean up and rebuild after a climate-caused disaster. Another is to affirm our belief that we are called to enjoy and preserve God's creation and to simply go outside and marvel at nature. At this time of year, we can start looking for early blooming bulbs, such as mini-irises and crocuses, which gladden the heart!



*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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