



Welcome to Boulder Mennonite Church

Sunday, May 11, 2025

4th Sunday in the Season of Eastertide

A Service of the Word



Be still and know that I am God.

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 Ojibwe 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** Christ who left his home in glory, vv. 1, 3 361

Call to Worship (adapted from Psalm 103:3–4, Isaiah 49:15–16, Deuteronomy 30:4–5)

Leader: Come, beloved community—gather in the presence of the Holy One,
the One who forgives our failings and heals our deepest wounds.

People: **God lifts us from the pit and crowns us with love and tenderness.**

Leader: Can a caregiver forget the child they have nurtured?
Even if they could, our God will never forget us.

People: **We are inscribed on God's hands, held in God's heart,
known by name.**

Leader: No matter how far we wander, God gathers us in, restores us, and
brings us home again.

All: *Let us return with joy and hope—for the One who loves us beyond
measure welcomes us now. Let us worship God!*

Welcome

CELEBRATING & PRAISING

Singing O worship our God 74

Centering Prayer adapted from Psalm 103

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

A Moment for All Ages

Scripture Reading

Deuteronomy 30.2-5, 19-20

Moses said: If you and your children turn your hearts back again to the Eternal One, your God, and obey God with all your heart and with all your soul, according to everything I command you today, then the Eternal One, your God, will again restore you to your destiny, and will gather you again from all the nations to which you were banished. Even though the banishment drove you to the ends of the earth, the Eternal One, your God, will bring you back into the land which your ancestors occupied, and you will occupy it again.

I call heaven and earth to witness against you today: I set before you life or death, blessing or curse. Choose life, then, so that you and your descendants may live, by loving the Eternal One, your God, by obeying God's voice and by clinging to the Eternal One. For that will mean life for you, a long life in the land which God swore to give to your descendants Sarah and Abraham, Rebecca and Isaac, and Leah and Rachel and Jacob.

Scripture Reading

from Isaiah 49.8-16

Thus says the Eternal One: "At the time of my favor I will answer you, on the day of salvation I will help you. I will keep you, and appoint you to be a covenant people. I will restore the land and assign you the properties that have lain waste.

I will say to the prisoners, 'Come out!' and to those who are in darkness, 'Show yourselves!' Congested roadways will become places where they can safely graze, and barren heights will become lush pastureland for them.

They will never hunger or thirst, and scorching wind and sun will never plague them; for the One who has compassion on them will lead and guide them to springs of water.

I will make roads through all the mountains, and my highways will be raised up, because they are on their way from afar, some from the north or the west, others from the land of Aswan.

Shout for joy, you heavens! Exalt, you earth! You mountains, break into happy cries! For the Eternal One consoles the people and takes pity on those who are afflicted.

But Zion said, 'the Eternal One has abandoned me, Adonai has forgotten me.'

Does a woman forget her baby at the breast, or fail to cherish the child of her womb? Yet even if these forget, I will never forget you. Look and see: I have inscribed you on the palms of my hands; your walls are forever before me.

Singing

Loving Spirit, vv. 1, 2

697

Sermon

Practicing Presence

RESPONDING

Singing Mothering God, you gave me birth 426

Sharing Joys and Concerns
Prayers of the People

SENDING

Announcements

*Benediction

*Sending Song The love of God, v. 1 162



Resources used in worship:
Scripture adapted from The Inclusive Bible, Priests for Equality



About our Guest Speaker: *We welcome Rev. Paul Johnson this morning. Dr. Paul Johnson* was born and raised in Colorado, and spends lots of time in Grand Lake. He has served in church-wide roles as Treasurer of Mennonite Education Agency, conference moderator, pastor at Mountain Community Mennonite and supporting pastor at Western Slope Mennonite Fellowship, and is current Chair of Rocky Mountain Unit Mennonite Disaster Service. He and Mary have two children and two amazing grandsons in Centennial, Colorado. *Blessings as you are among us today, Rev. Paul!*

Thanks to all who contributed to our service today!

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|----------------------|--|
| Guest Speaker: | Rev. Paul Johnson |
| Worship Leader: | Becky Neumann |
| Readers: | Sandi Sanborn |
| Music: | Susan Graber, Judy Classen |
| Tech Support: | Bruce Wheeler, Steve Voran |
| Greeters: | Carole Suderman, Toni Diaz |
| Snacks: | Mai Wheeler, Sheng Wheeler, Gus Gouvas |
| Moment for All Ages: | Karen Cox |

May 4: Attendance: Offering: \$

TODAY at BMC

- | | |
|--------|--|
| 9:30a | Worship and mingling |
| 11:00a | Education Hour, joint adult/youth; meet in the sanctuary |

THIS WEEK at BMC

5/14 PCRC, 9a
5/17 Heretics, Heresy and (dis)Harmony small group, 11a

NEXT SUNDAY – May 18: 5th Sunday in the season of Eastertide

9:30am Worship and mingling
11:00am Education Hour: adults meet in the sanctuary; Youth Gathering in Rm 102

Speaker: Pastor Randy Spaulding
Worship Leader: Sandi Sanborn
Readers: Jen Dudenhefer, Douglas Minter
Music: Justin Mathis, Randy Spaulding, Judy Classen
Tech Support: Alfred Sawatzky
Greeters: Paul Classen, Lisa Voss
Snacks: Judy Classen, Tammie Bernstein, Gus Gouvas

COMING UP


5/20 Deacons meeting, 8:30a
5/26 Memorial Day
5/27 Singing small group, 6:30p
5/28 Meditation/Centering small group, 11a
5/29 Anabaptism @500 Zurich, Switzerland
6/4 Meditation/Centering small group, 11a
6/19 Juneteenth
6/24 Singing small group, 6:30p
6/29 Heretics, Heresy, (dis)Harmony Small Group, 4pm
7/8-12 Follow Jesus '25: MC USA National Convention
7/20 Holy Humor Sunday – get those corny Dad jokes ready!
7/20 BMC Annual Meeting – all invited to attend, following worship
8/1-3 Mountain States Mennonite Conference Assembly, Colorado Mountain College, Glennwood Spgs. [Click here to register.](#)

~PRAYERS~

~from **Susan Hunsdorfer**: *Pray for healing for my beloved husband, **Tim**.*

~from **Gus Gouvas**: *Pray for **Pastor Steve Ramer**, of Ft. Collins Mennonite Church. He was in the hospital for surgery and is now home and back to work. Pray for my sister, **Doras Demos**, who was in the hospital for 10 days. She is home now, resting.*

~for the **Conclave of cardinals** who will be selecting the new pope, as they begin their discernment this week. ~**Paul & Mary McKay**

More prayers 

~from **Toni Diaz**: *Pray for my sister, **Diana**, who had a 5-hour brain surgery on May 6. They will be removing 2 brain aneurysms. Prayers for the team of doctors who will be performing the surgery and for a good recovery and full healing.*

~from **Toni Diaz**: *On May 7, my husband, **Felipe**, and I will be at the US Center for Immigration Services at noon. Our appointment is for an interview and to collect biometric information from Felipe, who is a Cuban immigrant whose legal status has been reworked by the US government. Pray for safety and that he won't be deported.*

May Birthdays		May Anniversaries
1 – Kurt Firnhaber	12 – Hannah Dudenhefer	1 – Susan Graber & Tom Jirak
4 – Erin Dudenhefer	12 – Kelcie Dudenhefer	13 – Duane & Joanna Harrison
7 – Sandi Sanborn	12 – Sheng Wheeler	19 – Linda Hardesty & Chris Friedman
10 – Gwen Grasse	20 – Linda Hardesty	26 – Jen & David Dudenhefer
10 – Cindy Reeves Janzen	22 – Cheri Krause	
10 – Olive Loewer	28 – Duane Harrison	
10 – Douglas Minter		

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: 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 for inquiries and to leave messages.

~ IN OUR COMMUNITY~

BACKYARD MINISTRY: As we progress with our beautification of the backyard of the church, we invite all to participate in some way. If your back is not strong enough to till or build raised beds, perhaps you can **“ADOPT-A-BED”** or a portion of one. Each of the four beds will cost up to \$500. If you are willing to donate, designate that on your check or electronic donation to BMC, or talk to Bruce Fast or Pastor Randy. The ultimate purpose of all of this is to invite both church members and the neighborhood community to a place of rest, prayer, meditation, and connection, and hopefully in the future, concerts, peace events, ice cream socials, and other gatherings. Thanks for your generosity!

SEEKING NEW HANDS-ON COORDINATOR: After many years, Elvira Glenn is resigning her position as our Hands-On Coordinator, which she has done with grace, grit and tenacity. We honor her time and service to this ministry – *Thank you, Elvira!* If there is anyone who is interested in taking over this position, which would include the coordination and organizing of potlucks, and other social events at the church, please reach out to either Pastor Randy or Ivanna. Elvira has said of the position, “*It is not a difficult job since there are always wonderful people to help,*” and that she will be happy to talk with anyone who might be interested.

~ ACROSS THE ANABAPTIST COMMUNITY~

2025 ASSEMBLY: **Early Bird Registration is Open!** Book now for the best price.

Mountain States Mennonite Conference (MSMC) Annual Assembly. Registration includes meals (3 on Saturday & 2 on Sunday) plus snacks (2 on Saturday). In an effort to keep costs reasonable for everyone, we are relying on **Hospitality Sponsors** this year. We are offering varying levels of sponsorship to cover costs for translators and costs associated with attenders that are 18 and under. We would greatly appreciate your consideration! [Click here for options to register and pricing.](#)

MENNONITE DISASTER SERVICE is organizing a spring work project at the [Aspen Camp for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing from](#) May 20–24. Volunteers are needed for construction, fire mitigation, and meal preparation in a beautiful mountain setting near Snowmass/Aspen. If you’re ready to serve with strong hands and a willing heart, consider joining this meaningful effort—no experience necessary! To confirm attendance and receive more info, please contact: Beuford Aeschliman, a.j.aeschliman@hotmail.com, 941.592.7028. Thanks!

Memorial Day Work and Play May 23-26, 2025: Spend your holiday weekend at Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp for the annual Work and Play Retreat! The weekend focuses on getting ready for the coming summer camp season by helping with foodservice, cleaning and fixing things, while also offering a free day on Sunday to enjoy the holiday weekend. A couple of exciting projects will include moving new furniture to Rocky Ridge and Emmental and assembling bunk beds for Park Ridge. The retreat will begin at 7:00pm on Friday and conclude after breakfast on Monday. Visit rmmc.org to learn more and to register!

FOLLOW JESUS ’25 MC USA NATIONAL CONVENTION: The countdown is on! Register now for MC USA’s Follow Jesus ’25 biennial convention in Greensboro, North Carolina, July 8-12, 2025! Save \$100 by registering before May 31! Register [here](#). View PowerPoint slide [here](#). View the PDF [here](#).

CHECK OUT THE CHECKLIST for youth leaders to help faith formation leaders prepare their youth for Follow Jesus ’25, MC USA’s national convention, [here](#).

BRING THE PEACE: MC USA is seeking award [nominations](#) for its 2025 [Bring the Peace initiative](#). The denomination grants the award to a Legacy Peacemaker and a Young Peacemaker each year. [Submit your recommendations for nominees by May 23](#).

MENNO SNAPSHOTS: The Worship Planning Team for Follow Jesus '25, MC USA's national convention, shares the benediction litany ahead of convention. [Read the full litany here](#).

ANA ALICIA HINOJOSA, senior executive for Ventures at Mennonite Mission Network, has fought against the patriarchy and a hyperproductive world to find her rightful place in society, while also finding rest. Her blog is part of MC USA's "Learn, Pray, Join: Undoing Patriarchy" educational campaign. Read more about Hinojosa's experiences [here](#).

~ IN THE LARGER COMMUNITY ~

MAY 12 VIGIL AT GEO DETENTION CENTER sponsored by [AFSC](#), [IIN](#) and [Ni 1 Mas](#). 6 - 7 pm at [3130 North Oakland St.](#) in Aurora. This will be an interfaith vigil, and an opportunity for a very public interfaith statement in support of immigrant lives and rights. Put it on your calendar and spread the word!

ECOLOGY TIP: Although it's tempting to plant tender plants and purchase annual flowers near Mother's Day, Colorado's weather is unpredictable enough that you may want to hold off. By May 12, the probability of frost in the front range is a 50% chance, depending on your garden's variables, so that's a safer date on which to start watching the night temperatures! Happy planting!



*Blessings and Peace to all mothers, grandmothers, and to all—including all genders and orientations—who are a helpful, loving, **mothering** presence to others. To all who have lovingly mothered us – Thank You! A special prayer for those whom Mother's Day is a painful time, and in remembrance of those mothers who are no longer with us. Here is a meaningful Litany for Mother's Day from*

Anabaptist writer Carol Penner: <https://togetherinworship.net/ResourceView/82/21805>. For more Anabaptist resources around mothers, visit <https://togetherinworship.net/Browse/2899>.



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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