



# Welcome to Boulder Mennonite Church

Sunday, September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2025

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

## A Service of the Word



*The Lost Coin*, by  
Domenico Fetti,  
Italy c. 1618-1622,  
oil on panel

**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**

*Chant de Matin*

Boëllmann

**\*Singing**

I owe the Lord a morning song

496

**Call to Worship**

God of every place

859

Leader: God of every place, some of us see you today from mountains of joy and confidence,

**People: mountains of gratitude and praise.**

Leader: Some of us see you today from valleys of grief or doubt,

**People: valleys of loss or exhaustion.**

Leader: And in all places, there you are with us, nudging us onward. When we descend from the heights, show us your presence on the ground. When we rise from the depths, show us the light on your way.

**All: Meet us all on the path made by Jesus.**

**Welcome**

## CELEBRATING & PRAISING

**Singing**

Come, thou fount

563

**Centering Prayer**

adapted from Psalm 100

**Singing**

Praise God from whom

Doxology

Tune: LASST UNS ERFREUEN

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise God all creatures here below;  
alleluia! alleluia!*

*Praise the Creator, praise the Son; Praise, praise the Spirit, Three-In-One;  
O sing ye, O sing ye, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

**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**

*Scherzetto*

Boëllmann

HEARING

A Moment for All Ages

New Testament Reading 1 Thessalonians 5.14-24

We urge you, kindred, to warn the idlers, cheer up the fainthearted, support the weak, and be patient with everyone. Make sure that no one repays one evil with another. Always seek what is good for each other—and for all people.

Rejoice always, pray constantly, and give thanks for everything—for this is God’s will for you in the Anointed Jesus. Don’t stifle the Spirit; don’t despise the prophetic gift. But test everything and accept only what is good. Avoid any semblance of evil.

May the God of peace make you perfect in holiness. May you be preserved whole and complete—spirit, soul, and body—irreproachable at the coming of our Savior Jesus the Anointed. The One who calls us is trustworthy: God will make sure it comes to pass.

Gospel Reading Luke 15.1-10

Meanwhile, the tax collectors and the “sinners” were all gathering around Jesus to listen to his teaching, at which the Pharisees and the religious scholars murmured, **“This person welcomes sinners and eats with them!”**

Jesus then addressed this parable to them: “Who among you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, doesn’t leave the ninety-nine in the open pasture and search for the lost one until it’s found? And finding it, you put the sheep on your shoulders in jubilation. Once home, you invite friends and neighbors in and say to them, **‘Rejoice with me! I’ve found my lost sheep!’** I tell you, in the same way there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who has a change of heart than over ninety-nine virtuous people who have no need to change their hearts.

“What householder, who has ten silver coins and loses one, doesn’t light a lamp and sweep the house in a diligent search until she finds what she had lost? And when it is found, the householder calls in her friends and neighbors and says, **‘Rejoice with me! I’ve found the silver coin I lost!’** I tell you, there will be the same kind of joy before the angels of God when one sinner has a change of heart.”

Singing Alleluia 650

Reflection and Action *Standing on Broad Shoulders*

RESPONDING

Singing Great is thy faithfulness, vv. 1, 2 419

Sharing Joys and Concerns

# Prayers of the People

## SENDING

### Announcements

### \*Benediction

### \*Sending Song

The Lord lift you up

832



### Resources used in worship:

Scripture adapted from The Inclusive Bible, Priests for Equality

Psalms for praying, Nan C. Merrill, 2004 Continuum

Cover art: [File:Parable of the Lost Drachma by Fetti.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Parable_of_the_Lost_Drachma_by_Fetti.jpg) - [Wikimedia Commons](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Parable_of_the_Lost_Drachma_by_Fetti.jpg)

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

<b>Speaker:</b>	Pastor Randy Spaulding
<b>Worship Leader:</b>	Douglas Minter
<b>Readers:</b>	Bruce Wheeler, Michelene Fast
<b>Music:</b>	Jean McPherson, Pastor Randy Spaulding
<b>Tech Support:</b>	Bruce Wheeler, Steve Voran
<b>Greeters:</b>	Karl Ortman, Toni Diaz Bachus
<b>Snacks:</b>	Mai Wheeler, Sheng Wheeler, Gus Gouvas
<b>Moment for All Ages:</b>	Karen Cox

**September 7 – Attendance: 36 Offering: \$3,590**

### TODAY at BMC

9:30a	Worship
c.10:40a	Snacks and Connecting
11:00a	Education Hour: Book study, <i>Strange Worship</i> , on resisting Christian Nationalism, facilitator: Pastor Randy (joint adult/youth)

### THIS WEEK at BMC

9/17	Meditation/Centering prayer small group, 11a
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### NEXT SUNDAY – September 21, 2025:

9:30am	Worship: Anabaptist Pilgrimage presentation by Susan Graber & Carole Suderman
10:30am	Snacks and Connecting
11:00am	Education Hour

<b>Speaker:</b>	Susan Graber, Carole Suderman
<b>Worship Leader:</b>	Berit Jany

- Readers:** Cheri Krause, Toni Diaz Bachus
- Music:** Justin Mathis, Jean McPherson, Randy Spaulding
- Tech Support:** Alfred Sawatzky
- Greeters:** Paul Classen
- Snacks:** Michelene Fast, Tammie Bernstein, Gus Gouvas
- Moment For All Ages:** Cheri Krause

**COMING UP**

- 9/21 Anabaptist Pilgrimage presentation by Susan Graber & Carole Suderman
- 9/22, 25 Volunteers needed for Earth’s Table Gardens
- 9/23 Singing Small Group, 6:30p
- 9/24 Deacons meeting, 8:30a
- 9/24 Meditation/Centering prayer small group, 11a
- 9/27 Habitat for Humanity service-learning project
- 9/28 Heretics, Heresy, (dis)Harmony Small Group, 4p
- 10/4 Mennonite Action event, Glennon Heights Mennonite Church
- 10/5 School Kit Sunday @BMC
- 10/18 Relief Sale, Mennonite Central Committee, Castle Rock, CO
- 10/20 CROP Walk in Boulder
- 11/2 All Souls Sunday

**~PRAYERS~**

- ~for students and parents at Evergreen High School.
- ~for displaced persons and migrants around the world.
- ~for all the people of the US struggling to keep democracy alive and true.

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS		SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES
8 – Lisa Voss	16 – Susan Graber	1 – Suzanne Classen & Ryan Loewer
9 – Brenda Fox	20 – Alfred Sawatzky	
12 – Jen Dudenhefer	30 – Wilburn Taylor	
12 – Miles Mathis		

*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 ~

**WAS THERE LIFE ON MARS?** One BMCer says the signs look promising! **Mike Tice**, a Texas A&M geologist, and a BMCer, was published this week saying that recent findings from the Perseverance rover just might point to the presence of life on ancient Mars. Congrats, Mike! Read more [here](#), the full research document in the journal *Nature*, [here](#), and here's a Youtuber who presents a pretty good explication of the study: [Did NASA Just Find Alien Life on Mars? Here's What We Know](#).

**SERVICE-LEARNING PROJECT:** Saturday, September 27, 2025, when BMC will join Flatirons Habitat at BoulderMOD, Boulder's first modular housing factory. We'll learn how this innovative project builds affordable homes while training future tradespeople—and we'll get to be part of the work by helping build a home that day.



**HARVEST OF HOPE:** BMC'ers donated 70 pounds of food to Harvest of Hope in August. If you are interested in sharing food with the food insecure in our community, please bring your non perishable items to the church and place them in the blue bin in the sanctuary at the back of the church. All items will be dropped off at the end of the month. Thank you for your contributions.

**MENNONITE DISASTER SERVICE:** There is an upcoming opportunity to be of service to both [Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp](#) and MDS at the same time. MDS will be bringing their equipment to RMMC on October 6-11, 2025, when these two organizations will team up to do some mitigation around the camp. Getting rid of dead or dying trees will help decrease the chance of a wildfire causing loss and damage at RMMC as well as helping to lower the cost of property insurance. If interested, contact Brad Shelly with any questions or to sign up to help. Come for the entire week or any part of it. Lodging and food provided. 720-459-2929; [bradshelly55@yahoo.com](mailto:bradshelly55@yahoo.com)

**CROP WALK 2025:** As Jesus called us to feed the hungry, one way to do that is to support the CROP walk, this year being held in Lafayette on Sunday, October 20 at 1:30. Please consider signing up as a walker to join the fun with an ecumenical group from many churches. You can also donate to any BMC walkers. The funds are given to Church World Service (international, 75%), Community Food Share (local, 24%), and Bread for the World (advocates for legislation benefitting the poor, 1%). Let's build a great team from BMC!

**BMC HOSPITALITY COORDINATOR** – As we offer our thanks and gratitude to **Elvira Glenn** for her wonderful service as our Hospitality coordinator these past few years, we welcome and give thanks for **Susan Graber**, who will be taking up this important role at BMC. The role includes coordinating meals and carry-ins at BMC, organizing volunteers and



keeping our food supplies stocked. Thank you, Elvira, and welcome aboard, Susan!  
Blessings to you both!

## ~ ACROSS THE ANABAPTIST COMMUNITY ~

**MENNONITE ACTION COMING TO DENVER!** “To Build Our Courage” Tour. The genocide in Gaza rages on as ICE kidnaps our neighbors off the streets in the U.S. That’s why Mennonite Action is bringing training, tools, and frameworks to help our communities respond in courage to our historical moment, “discerning the times” as we’re called to do (Matthew 16:3). Mark your calendars: **Saturday, October 4, 9:00am at Glennon Heights Mennonite Church**, Lakewood, CO. Let’s get a group from BMC to carpool! [Register here.](#)

**ROCKY MOUNTAIN MCC SALE:** We are just two months away from the 2025 Rocky Mountain Relief Sale for **Mennonite Central Committee** in Castle Rock on Saturday, October 18th, and preparations are well underway! There are several ways you can help make the sale a success. Make school kits, donate an item, bake a pie, and/or provide for the pantry. For more information about the sale, please go to the Relief Sale [website](#).

**SEEKING SHALOM PEACE CAMP:** We invite all young adults to be a part of MCC’s [Seeking Shalom Peace Camp](#), November 1–8! This camp will begin at Camp Friedenswald in Cassopolis, Michigan, November 1–4, diving deep into God’s word, and into practical tools of peacebuilding, as we dream possibilities of shalom for our communities and gain tools for engaging conflict effectively. For November 5–8, we will transition to Grand Rapids, Michigan, and participate in the [Christian Community Development Association’s \(CCDA\) annual conference](#). Find more information and [register here](#) by **October 5**.

**TODAY, SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 14<sup>TH</sup>** from 10a to 2p **Fort Collins Mennonite Fellowship** (FCMF) has existed for 50 years, and the Mennonites have existed for 500 years! This celebration will include: special worship service, delicious potluck lunch, exhibits by local partners and vendors, and live entertainment by Betwixt n Between (bluegrass/gospel band) We also urge you to visit our [“500-50” GoFundMe](#) site and consider contributing to our ongoing work with the homeless.

**MCUSA MENNO SNAPSHOTS:** Nekeisha Alayna Alexis, speaker/consultant for Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, shares her hope and provides an opportunity for others to share that hope amid a world that seems to be full of despair. Read more in her [Menno Snapshot’s blog here](#).

## ~ IN THE LARGER COMMUNITY ~

**THE EARTH’S TABLE GARDENS** are overflowing with produce for those in need. We could really use some extra volunteers on the mornings of Monday, September 22, and Thursday, September 25. Please contact [Carole Suderman](#) if you are able to help on one of

these days. It would be great if Boulder Mennonite could show our support for the hungry by sending a few enthusiastic volunteers! Thanks!

**DECLARATION OF RESPECT:** The second pilot of the Declaration of Respect, began on **August 11, 2025**, in partnership with the Boulder Police Department. The program engages 20 officers over a three-month period, building on the success of the first pilot and representing an important milestone for the Declaration of Respect as an **independent nonprofit organization founded after the death of George Floyd**. The Boulder pilot provides a model that can be adapted for other police departments across Colorado and the United States, emphasizing **trust, accountability, and respectful policing** through officer reflection, scenario-based training, and community collaboration. Find more information [here](#).

**FLATIRONS HABITAT FOR HUMANITY:** was featured on **Channel 7 news**, see [here](#) for the feature about their work helping with affordable housing in the Boulder area. "When we look at a home that is going to appraise at \$750,000 or \$850,000, and we sell that home to a family at \$250,000 or \$350,000, that gap has to be made up." - Dan McColley, Executive Director, Flatirons Habitat for Humanity

**"IF I COULD STAY/ SI PUDIERA QUEDARME"** – The documentary of Jeanette Vizguerra and Ingrid Latorre, and their 5-year journey in church sanctuary, will be shown **Monday, September 26, 6:00pm, at the Boulder Valley UU Fellowship**, 1241 Ceres Dr, Lafayette. [Read more about this intimate portrait of mothers who](#) go to dramatic lengths to fend off deportation and separation from their families in the US. Jeanette is currently detained by ICE.

**ECOLOGY TIP:** The University of Colorado has begun eliminating all single-use plastics from its campus beverage services. The sustainability department says that in one year it will prevent 325,000 plastic water bottles from being used at Folsom Field. CU Boulder is transitioning to aluminum or glass bottles for pop or water on campus, after signing a deal with PepsiCo, which includes no exceptions. Glass and aluminum are more easily turned back into glass and aluminum containers, while plastic is usually "downcycled" into other products which require new materials. If a large organization like CU Boulder can take these steps, what can we as households and small churches do to reduce our carbon footprint?



*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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