Welcome to
Boulder Mennonite Church
Sunday, November 8, 2026

A Service of the Word



Joshua 24:15 from Mennonite Mission Network

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.

GATHERING

Prelude Impromptu in Bb, Variation 4 Schubert

***Call to Worship** 853

Welcome

CELEBRATING & PRAISING

***Singing** My Soul Cries Out 412

Centering Prayer

Singing O Lord, Hear My Prayer 685

***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 Impromptu in Bb, Variation 5 Schubert

HEARING

Hebrew Scripture Reading Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-21

Joshua gathered together all the tribes of Israel and called a summit of the elders, leaders, judges, and officials of Israel. Once they presented themselves before God, Joshua said to the whole assembly, "This is the word of the Eternal One, the God of Israel:

'Long ago your ancestors, including Terah, the father of Abraham and Nahor, lived beyond the Euphrates and worshiped other gods. But I took your ancestors Sarah and Abraham from the land beyond the Euphrates and led them through the entire region of Canaan.'"

Joshua then said, "I now call upon you to revere and serve the Eternal One completely and sincerely. Cast off the gods that your ancestors worshiped and worship the Eternal One alone. If you do not want to worship the Eternal One, then make the decision today whom you will worship, even if it is the gods of your ancestors or the gods of the Amorites in whose country you live. As for me and my household, we will worship the Eternal One."

Then the people responded, "**Far be it from us to abandon the Eternal One to worship other gods. It was the Eternal One our God who brought us and our**

ancestors up and out of the land of slavery. The Eternal One performed those great signs before our eyes. The Eternal One protected us on the entire journey and among all the peoples whose lands we passed through. The Eternal One drove out before us the Amorites and all the people dwelling in the land. We too will serve the Eternal One, who is our God."

Joshua said to the people, "You will not be able to serve the Eternal One. This is a God most holy, a jealous God, a God who doesn't forgive your transgressions and your sins. If you desert the Eternal One and serve foreign gods, after all God has done for you, you will bring disasters—fatal ones—upon yourselves."

But the people protested, "**No! We will serve the Eternal One!**"

Singing I Have Decided to Follow Jesus 443

New Testament Reading Matthew 4:8-10

The Devil then took Jesus up a very high mountain and displayed all the dominions of the world in their magnificence, promising, "All these I will give you if you fall down and worship me." At this, Jesus said to the Devil, "Away with you, Satan! Scripture says, 'You will worship the Most High God; God alone will you adore.'"

Sermon **A Place of Commitment**

RESPONDING

***Singing** Who Now Would Follow Christ 576

Introductions & Announcements

Sharing Joys and Concerns
Prayers of the People

SENDING

***Sending Song** Longing for Light 715

***Benediction**

*Please stand as you are able

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

Boulder Mennonite is committed to making our worship space sacred for all. Please refrain from taking pictures of people during the service without their consent. Thank you for your sensitivity to everyone, BMC Church Council.

Thanks to all who contributed to our service today!

Speaker:	Terry Zimmerly	**Prayers of the People:**	Terry Zimmerly
Worship Leader:	Sandi Sanborn	**Tech Support:**	Steve Voran
Readers:	Toni Diaz Bachus, Judy Classen	**Greeters:**	Toni Diaz Bachus, Elvira Glenn
Music:	Susan Graber, Jean McPherson	**Snacks:**	Toni Diaz Bachus

TODAY at BMC

9:30a	Worship
10:45a	Snacks and mingling
11:00a	Christian Ed led by Beverly Brown, a Certified Senior Advisor® (CSA) with 11.5 years in the senior industry. She'll be speaking on *The Caregiving Conversation — How to approach difficult conversations with dignity and compassion*.
3:00p	Heretics Group. Contact Jeremiah Osborne-Gowey, 541-207-8105

PASTOR: Terry Zimmerly, our transitional minister, is generally in the office 9:30 – 2:30, Tuesday – Friday. Appointments/call-aheads are encouraged. Pastor Terry normally takes Monday as a Sabbath. Contact Terry at: terry@bouldermennonite.org / 319-512-8625 (cell)

DEACONS: Cheri Krause: 510-227-9712; Toni Diaz Bachus: 303-579-4290; Douglas Minter: 303-819-5248

CHURCH ADMINSTRATOR: Susan Graber is training our new administrator, Cole Azulay. His hours are being defined. *Please call in or email (info@bouldermennonite.org) announcements by Thursday, 8:00am.*

ECOLOGY TIP: We can take this opportunity, as candidates are newly elected, to share with them our concerns about the environment. Email, call, or write a letter to one representative or senator, sharing your views on one issue you are passionate about. It only takes a few minutes, and it could help to improve our air quality or save an endangered species!

THIS WEEK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS *can be accessed here or via this QR code: They are also posted on the bulletin board in the sanctuary.*

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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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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS for November 8, 2026

Sunday, November 1, 2026: **Attendance:** 36, + 7 Online **Offering:** $655

THIS WEEK at BMC

11/14	Walking Group, 9:00a. Contacts: Karl Ortman, 303-938-9289 and Steve Voran, 303-250-3689

NEXT SUNDAY – November 15, 2026:

9:30a	Worship
10:45a	Snacks and mingling
11:00	**Our annual fundraising and fun auction!** Please get your contributions for the live auction submitted online this week!

Speakers:	Steve and Susan Ortman Goering
Worship Leader:	Judy Classen
Moment for All:	Karen Cox
Readers:	Sandi Sanborn, Michelene Fast
Music:	Susan Graber
Prayers of the People:	TBD
Tech Support:	Steve Voran
Greeters:	Paul Classen, Lisa Voss
Snacks:	Michelene Fast

COMING UP

11/21	Dinner potluck and peace concert at Boulder Mennonite—please plan to attend and help if you can. See announcement.
11/25	Meditation Group, 10:00a. Contact: Sandi Sanborn, 720-530-0659
11/28	Walking Group, 9:00a. Contacts: Karl Ortman, 303-938-9289 and Steve Voran, 303-250-3689
12/2	Meditation Group, 10:00a. Contact: Sandi Sanborn, 720-530-0659
12/12	Heretics Group, 11a. Brunch. Contact Jeremiah Osborne-Gowey, 541-207-8105
7/6-10, '27	MC USA's **MennoCon**, the national convention, Cincinnati, Ohio

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS	
1 – Suzanne Classen 4 – Frances Tice	22 – Mike Tice

~PRAYERS~

~ for Mai, Bruce and Sheng Wheeler. Mai has transitioned from cancer treatment to hospice care at her home.

~ for Brenda Fox and her mother, who had a heart attack. Prayers for her mom as she wrestles with cardiac and end of life issues—may she have the love and support that she needs.

~ for Justin and Cheri, who have decided (somewhat impulsively) to move to a more walkable neighborhood. We are under contract with a townhouse near the Wheat Ridge-Ward light rail station. Please pray for us as we get our house ready to list and show. We hope to get a buyer as quickly as possible, which is not very likely in this current market.

~ of thanksgiving for our new church administrator, Cole!

~ for our nation in the wake of the midterm elections. May we find renewed courage to bridge our divisions, protect the vulnerable, uphold justice, and work together toward a more compassionate and peaceful future for all.

~ IN OUR CONGREGATION~

AUCTION TIME: Our annual fundraising auction is next **Sunday, November 15** after worship! It's a fun time together, and an important part of our annual church income. **Get creative and contribute items! Plan to come and be generous!** We conduct a silent auction for less expensive items—please bring those next Sunday before worship, or drop them by the church this week (please label that they are for the auction). More costly items/events/experiences/services will be auctioned off live. **Please enter your live auction contributions into the spreadsheet now so others can plan their bidding!** The spreadsheet is located on our website, under Events.





GUEST SPEAKERS NEXT SUNDAY: As we celebrate another birthday for our church (#42!), our former pastors, Steve and Susan Ortman Goering, will join us next Sunday and share during worship.

PRIORITIES SURVEY HAS BEEN OPENED: The Congregational and Pastor Priorities survey, part of the MC USA pastor search process, is now open online. The survey link was sent to active participants. If you did not receive the survey, and would like to give some informal feedback, please contact a member of the search committee.

You can find documents related to our pastoral search and congregational meetings in the Members area of the website. Contact the church office if you need the password.

Here is an updated list of some events and milestones in the pastoral search process. (Completed items are struck out.) – Pastoral Search Committee: Douglas, Joanna, Steve, Susan, Toni

~~10/18~~	~~Congregational Meeting to introduce the survey on congregational and pastoral priorities, and to clarify "missional church"~~
~~11/1~~	~~**Congregational Meeting** to kick off the survey and talk together about our thoughts on the priorities. Please come ready to share your top 6 priorities.~~
11/15	**Survey responses due**
12/6	**Congregational Meeting** to review survey results and try to reach a decision on whether we will seek a full-time or ¾-time pastor
TBD	Ad released for pastor--all aspects of pastoral role must be defined when the ad is released so Amy Zimbleman, our conference minister, can advise potential candidates.

CHOIR ENSEMBLE FOR SUNDAY, 11/15: Jean McPherson is putting together a small choir for worship on Sunday 11/22. We'll sing one piece together. Rehearsals are tentatively scheduled for Wed, 11/11 at 7:00p, Wed, 11/18, 7:00p, and Sunday morning, 11/22, at 8:45a. If you are interested in singing and don't yet have the music, please contact Jean, 719-289-0604.

ADMINISTRATOR UPDATES:

- **THANK YOU CHERI!** Since January Cheri Krause has faithfully volunteered a few hours each week as our church administrator. Cheri had previously worked in the role, and was able to step in and be so helpful! She's now stepped away from this work. Cheri, thank you for your care for our church and volunteering your precious time!
- **OUR NEW ADMINISTRATOR:** We have hired a new church administrator, **Cole Azulay**. Cole has experience with administration in the music world, and is an accomplished cello player/teacher, who plays with the Longmont Symphony Orchestra. Cole will join us some Sunday morning to experience one of our services. Susan is training him and helping to ensure a smooth transition. Welcome Cole!

PICTURE COLLAGE/DISPLAY HELP: For our church birthday/auction Sunday, 11/15, it would be nice to have a display and/or PowerPoint with pictures of the congregation through the years. If you would be willing to take on this small project, please contact the church office. Thanks for considering!

CONCERT AND POTLUCK AT BMC: Join us on **November 21,** for a Peace Concert featuring ***"Minab Lullaby"*** a composition by Moji Agha. On February 28, the first day of the U.S. bombing of Iran, an elementary school was struck in the city of Minab, killing 168 people, mostly children. Half of all donations for the evening will benefit the Minab School Memorial Monument for Peace, a project of the Peace-Seeking Iranian Veterans. $12 donation requested (not required). Children under 12 are free. Link for more information and to donate: Here is the schedule—**please plan to help if you can and to attend the potluck and concert! Help sign up list on back table.**

- 5 PM Welcome, setup
- 5:30-6:30 PM Potluck
- 6:30-8 PM Concert

HELP FEED THE MULTITUDES—WITHOUT LEAVING YOUR KITCHEN! While MDS responds to natural disasters, homelessness is a human disaster—one that calls for the same compassion, urgency, and willingness to help. For several years, we've partnered with others

in Denver to respond by providing a Thanksgiving meal for neighbors experiencing poverty and homelessness.

We need volunteers to roast and carve a turkey or prepare large batches of instant mashed potatoes or stuffing at home, to be ready by Saturday morning, November 21. We can provide the food and containers! We also need a few people to transport prepared food from Boulder Mennonite to First Mennonite in Denver. Or, you can join us that Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to noon to help cook and serve. Last year, 12 Boulder Mennonite volunteers, including youth, had a wonderful time working together!

Please sign up at the back table, indicating how you'd like to help. Thank you for responding with generosity and compassion to this human disaster, and for putting Jesus' call to care for "the least of these" into action!

~ ACROSS THE ANABAPTIST COMMUNITY~

JOINTREES SUPPORTS EPIC WORK IN GUATEMALA & MEXICO: Mennonite Men recently posted a photo and video gallery update from the work of FUNDAMARCO / EPIC on the Mennonite Men Website. We hope you both enjoy viewing them and are inspired to continue your support of our efforts with JoinTrees. View the full gallery HERE.

MCC ACTION ALERT: MCC US National Peace & Justice Ministries urges us to oppose the Bipartisan American Affordability and Jobs Act (BAAJA) legislation. Read more here.

MCC'S 'SEEK PEACE' POSTER CONTEST: - MCC invites participants of all ages to design a poster interpreting the theme "Seek peace" through one of three scripture verses. The purpose of the contest is to motivate our communities to continue to strive for peace and to have hope in the daily actions each person can take to make their corners of the world more peaceful. MCC will print and distribute the winning poster! Visit mcc.org/seek-peace for full contest details.

JOURNALS OF A PILGRIM IN HIS HOMELAND: Returning to his native South Africa, former Mennonite Mission Network executive director, Stanley Green, reflects on apartheid, resilience, reconciliation and the enduring hope for justice through a deeply personal Just Peace Pilgrimage.

FROM MENNO MEDIA: This week, we'll release *Without Ceasing: Bold Prayers for Troubled Times* by Sarah L. Sanderson and to celebrate, enjoy 40% off for one week only. This book invites Christians who are burdened by the state of the world to reimagine prayer as both prophetic imagination and faithful action. For those carrying grief, anger, or uncertainty about the world around them, it offers a hopeful invitation: pray with hope, work with courage, and trust that prayer makes a difference.

GUYTON TO CONCLUDE ROLE AS MC USA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Mennonite Church USA Executive Director Glen Guyton will conclude his role on Dec. 31, and will not seek renewal for a fourth term. (On Jan. 1, he will begin a new role as president and chief operating officer of the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center in Cincinnati, Ohio.) The Executive Board will oversee the transition process and keep the church informed as plans develop. Read more here.

FABULOUS FIERCE & SACRED 2027 IS LIVE: Join with fascinating queer folx and allies for this gathering of music and worship, art, fellowship, learning, and community hosted by queer-affirming Anabaptists from Brethren and Mennonite churches and the Brethren Mennonite Council for LGBT Interests. It will be held at La Verne Church of the Brethren in La Verne, CA, February 12-14, 2027. Registration and information here.

SOLIDARITY WITH INDIGENOUS PEOPLES JUST PEACE PILGRIMAGE: Mennonite Mission Network invites us to join a Just Peace Pilgrimage to Navajoland near Bluff, Utah, focused on contemporary Indigenous realities, the histories of Indigenous Peoples, and the complexities of Indigenous-settler relations. Co-hosted with the Coalition to Dismantle the Doctrine of Discovery and led by Coalition Executive Director Sarah Augustine and Joe Hubbard of the Coalition. May 10-14, 2027. Registration and more info.

REMINDER FROM MENNONITE MISSION NETWORK: I**f you plan to mail a year-end charitable gift, allow extra time and keep proof of the mailing date.** As the end of the year approaches, we want to remind you about a change that the United States Postal Service made to how postmarks are applied that may affect your 2026 taxes. USPS generally applies postmarks at regional distribution centers rather than at each local post office. So, a check mailed on December 31, 2026, may not receive a postmark until January 2027. If that happens, that gift cannot be claimed on your 2026 taxes. So, plan ahead or give online!

MENNOCON '27: MennoCon '27, MC USA's biennial convention, will be held in downtown Cincinnati in July. It's a great opportunity for us to connect to our larger Mennonite family! Start checking it out here.

FROM MENNONITE WORLD CONFERENCE: Learn more about Anabaptists around the world, in this newsletter: Together becoming the good news

~ IN THE LARGER COMMUNITY ~

FROM BOULDER COUNTY MOBILITY: Ride BoCo is a free, on-demand shuttle service available to everyone in Boulder County. Ride BoCo offers two new bus services called Ride Gunbarrel and Ride SouthEast. Learn more on Boulder County's website.