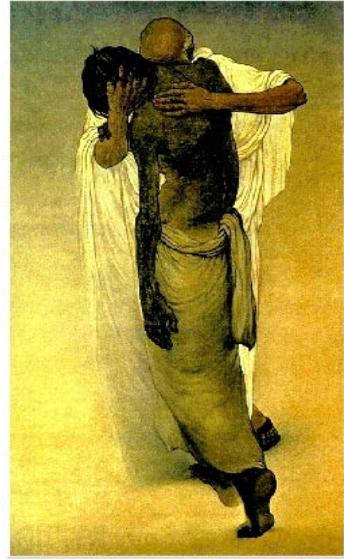


Welcome to
Boulder **Mennonite Church**
Sunday, March 31st, 2019

Fourth Sunday in the Season of Lent
A Service of the Word



Prodigal Daughter, oil-on-linen,
1992 Patricia Terrell-O'Neal

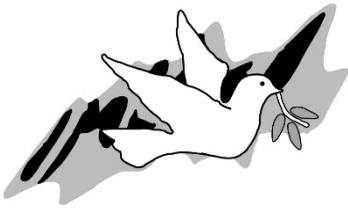


Forgiving Father, woodblock
print, Frank Wesley

Welcome to the worship service today.

We hope it is meaningful for you and welcome you to come again.

As a Christian community, called by Christ to be inclusive, caring, and peace-minded, we affirm that people of any race, ethnic identity, gender, sexual orientation, ability, age, economic status, or life situation are welcome to be in full participation in our congregation.



Boulder Mennonite Church

is a vibrant, Christ-centered community welcoming all people to know God and to be ambassadors of God's love, healing, and peace.

Today: March 31, 2019

- 9:30 am Worship: Guest Speaker Adam Tice
 Snacks & Fellowship (sanctuary)
- 11:00 am Christian Education for All Ages
 Q&A with Adam Tice
- 12:00 pm Introverts Small Group
 Sage-ing Small Group

GATHERING

Prelude

***Singing** When morning gilds the skies Hymnal 644

***Call to Worship** (adapted from Psalm 63 and 2 Corinthians 5)

Leader: O God, you are our God. We seek you.

People: Our souls thirst for you as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.

Leader: We seek the Anointed One, in whose Way creation is made new.

People: The old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

All: *May our souls be satisfied with a rich feast. In the shadow of God's wings, we sing for joy and are upheld. Let us celebrate life. Let us worship God!*

Welcome

CELEBRATING & PRAISING

Singing Come, thou fount Hymnal 521

***Passing the Peace**

Offering Invitation/Blessing

Please place written prayer requests in the offering baskets.

Offertory

HEARING

A Moment for All Ages

*Toddlers and children through 1st grade may be dismissed for childcare after this time.
Older children may use the back of the sanctuary for quiet activities, with parental permission.
We love the sounds infants contribute to our worship service!*

Hebrew Scripture Reading

Psalm 32

Response

Amazing grace! vv. 1, 2, 3

Hymnal 143

Gospel Reading

Luke 15.1-3, 11b-32

Leader: 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,

People: **“This person welcomes sinners and eats with them!”**

Leader: Jesus then addressed this parable to them: “A person had two children. The younger of them said to their parent,

People: **‘Give me the share of the estate that is coming to me.’**

Leader: So the parent divided up the property between them. Some days later, the younger sibling gathered up their belongings and went off to a distant land. Here they squandered all the money on loose living.

After everything was spent, a great famine broke out in the land, and the child was in great need. So they went to a landowner, who sent them to a farm to take care of the pigs. The child was so hungry they could have eaten the husks that were fodder for the pigs, but no one made a move to give them anything. Coming to their senses at last, the child said,

People: **‘How many hired hands at my parent’s house have more than enough to eat, while here I am starving! I’ll quit and go back home and say, “I’ve sinned against God and against you; I no longer deserve to be called one of your children. Treat me like one of your hired hands.”’**

Leader: With that, the younger child set off for home.

While still a long way off, the parent caught sight of the returning child and was deeply moved. The parent ran out to meet them, threw their arms around them and kissed them. The child said to them,

People: 'I've sinned against God and against you; I no longer deserve to be called one of your children.'

Leader: But their parent said to one of the workers,

People: 'Quick! Bring out the finest robe and put it on my child; put a ring on their finger and shoes on their feet. Take the calf we've been fattening and butcher it. Let's eat and celebrate! This child of mine was dead and has come back to life. They were lost and now they're found!'

Leader: And the celebration began. Meanwhile the elder child had been out in the field. Nearing the house, they heard the sound of music and dancing. They called one of the workers and asked what was happening. The worker answered,

People: 'Your sibling is home and the fatted calf has been killed because your parent has them back safe and sound.'

Leader: The child got angry at this and refused to go in to the party, but their parent came out and pleaded with them. The older child replied,

People: 'Look! For years now I've done every single thing you asked me to do. I never disobeyed even one of your orders, yet you never gave me so much as a kid goat to celebrate with my friends. But then this child of yours comes home after going through your money with sex workers, and you kill the fatted calf for them!'

Leader: The parent replied,

People: 'But my child! You're with me always, and everything I have is yours. But we have to celebrate and rejoice! This sibling of yours was dead and has come back to life. They were lost and now they're found.'

Message

All This Pain (Beautiful Things)

Text and Music: Michael Gungor and Lisa Gungor



1. All this pain. I won-der if I'll ev - er find my way;
2. All this earth. Could all that is lost ev - er be found;
3. All a - round hope is spring-ing up from this old ground.



I won-der if my life could real - ly change at all. *to verse 2*
could a gar-den come up from the ground at all? *to refrain*
Out of cha-os, life is be - ing found in you. *to refrain*



Refrain



You make beau-ti-ful things, you make beau-ti - ful things out of the dust.



You make beau-ti-ful things, you make beau-ti - ful things out of us. *to verse 3 to bridge*

Bridge



You make me new, you are mak - ing me new.



You make me new, you are mak - ing me new.

When Pain or Sorrow (Hold On)

Text and Music: Adam M. L. Tice

Verses



1. When pain or sor - row is too much to bear; when
 2. If God is si - lent when you need to hear that
 3. And when it looks like there's no end in sight, know



your heart feels numb, un - a - ble to care, when faith seems so point - less that
 you're not a - lone, that com - fort is near; if you are a - ban - doned when
 all that is wrong can still be made right. You're ne - ver a - lone; God has

Refrain



you can - not pray, when no - one knows quite what to say, then
 you need a friend, when all good things come to an end, then
 pro - mised to be with us e - ven when we can't see, so



hold on, hold on, to find a way to get through.



molto rit.

And when your hope is gone and you can't hold on,
we will hold on to you.

RESPONDING

***Singing**

Like a mother who has borne us

STJ 91

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

SENDING

Introductions

Announcements

***Benediction**

***Sending Song**

Na nzela na lola (As long as we follow)

Text: Lingala; Joseph Kabemba (Democratic Republic of the Congo); trans ST Kimbrough Jr.; Music: Joseph Kabemba

1. Na nze-la na lo - la to-ko-tam-bo - la ma-lem-be, ma-lem-be to - ko-tam-bo
 1. *As long as we fol - low in the way that God is lead-ing, we know God's reign will sure-ly*
 2. *As long as we hope there is a fu - ture for cre - a - tion, a fu - ture for the un - i -*



Refrain

la. Ma - lem - be ma - lem - be, ma - lem - be, to - ko - tam - bo - la.
come. We know this, we know this. Yes, God's reign will sure-ly come.
verse.

The musical score consists of two staves: a treble clef staff for the vocal line and a bass clef staff for the accompaniment. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 7/8. The melody is characterized by a series of eighth and sixteenth notes, with some chords. The accompaniment features a steady eighth-note bass line with chords. The piece concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

**As you are able, please stand in body, mind, or spirit.*

Resources used in worship:

Unless otherwise indicated, all **scripture texts** are read/adapted from the *Inclusive Bible*, Priests for Equality, 2004

Lent resources from Leader magazine, Winter 2018-119

Na nzela na lola Text and Music ©2004 Joseph Kabemba (admin. General Board of Global Ministries), OneLicense #728744-A

Hold On, Text and Music Adam M. L. Tice, Tune: ERB, © 2019 GIA Publications, Inc., OneLicense #728744-A

All This Pain (Beautiful Things), Text and Music Lisa Gungor, Michael Gungor, © 2009 worshiptogether.com songs (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing), CCLI #11543414

Psalms 32, Nan C. Merrill, *Psalms for Praying*, 2004 Continuum

Thanks to all who contributed to our service today!

Speaker:	Adam Tice
Worship Leader:	Judy Classen
Readers:	Becky Sawatzky, Alfred Sawatzky
Musicians:	Susan Graber, Kent Olson, Millie Unrau, Pastor Randy
Moment for All Ages:	Betty Jantzen
Sound System:	Lily Mast
Greeters:	Becky Neumann, Toni McClain
Childcare:	Betty Jantzen
Snacks:	Judy Classen

About our Guest Speaker:



We welcome **Pastor Adam Tice** as our guest speaker. Adam is a widely published writer of hymn and song texts. His words appear in many recent denominational hymnals and have been translated into several languages. He serves as Text Editor for *Voices Together*, and lives in Goshen, Indiana. The Hymn Society of the United States and Canada named him a Lovelace Scholar in 2004, and he served as a member of the Society's executive committee from 2007 to 2010. Adam is an ordained minister with Mennonite Church USA and served as associate pastor at *Hyattsville Mennonite Church* (MD). Blessings to you, Adam. We are glad you are with us today!

March 24, 2019

Attendance: 65

Offering: \$992

THIS WEEK

Thurs Centering Prayer Small Group, 11:00 am
Thurs Periodically Pious Pickers, 6:30 pm

NEXT SUNDAY – April 7, 2019

9:30 am **Worship: SOAR Youth and Adult Choir singing**
Snacks & Fellowship
11:00 am Christian Education for All Ages

COMING UP

April 18 **Maundy Thursday** Communion and Foot Washing @BMC
April 21 **Easter!** Breakfast @ 9:30am, Worship @ 10:30am, Easter Egg Hunt
following worship
May 12 Drama: “Mary Magdalene” performed by **Mary Sprunger-Froese @BMC**
during worship
July 2-6 *Mennonite Church USA Convention #MennoCon19* (Kansas City, MO)
August 2-4 *Mountain States Mennonite Conference Annual Assembly* (at BMC!)

~ PRAYERS ~

- ~ **Cheri Krause** offered prayers of thanksgiving for being invited to move in with her partner, **Justin Mathis**, and she looks forward to the move to Arvada in the next month or so.
- ~ **Kurt Firnhaber** asked for prayers for the doctors and nurses performing **Portia’s** surgery on Tuesday.
- ~ **Petra Lisa Voss** requested continued prayers for **her mother, Isle**, that she may come home this Thursday or Friday.
- ~ **Terry Mast** thanked BMC for continued prayers for regaining (any amount) of hearing in her left ear following sudden hearing loss on Feb. 22. She detects some progress with a combination of conventional and integrative care. She’ll have another audiology test on April 2 to determine potential next steps.

~ READINGS ~

Psalm 32 (With Amazing Grace!)

Blessed is each one whose wrongdoings have been forgiven, whose shame has been forgotten. Blessed is each one in whom Love Divine finds a home, and whose spirit radiates truth.

When I refused to acknowledge my shortcomings, I became ill through all my defenses. And day and night, guilt weighed heavy in my heart; My spirit became dry as desert bones.

Sing v. 1

I admitted my faults, and I made known my regret; I cried out, "Forgive me for those times I have sinned in my thoughts, my words, and my deeds;" And Love created a clean heart within me.

Therefore, let everyone who is sincere give thanks; For whenever we feel overwhelmed by fear, we shall be embraced by Love. Dwelling in the heart of God, we are free from distress, free to live creatively.

Sing v. 2

O God, you are my guide and my teacher; Be watchful of me, give me your counsel. I pray for the gifts of inner peace and wisdom, For the gift of reverence for life.

Many are the heartaches of those separated from Love; Steadfast love abides with those who surrender their lives into the hands of the Beloved. Be glad and rejoice, all you who walk along the path of truth! And sing for joy, all you upright of heart!

Sing v. 3

~Psalm 32 from Nan C. Merrill, *Psalms for Praying*

~ ANNOUNCEMENTS ~

Please call in or email (info@bouldermennonite.org) announcements by Thursday, 9:00 am

DEACONS: Elvira Glenn: e_glenn@netzero.net or 303-666-6331
Steve Voran: 303-499-6843
Carole Suderman: 303-494-8527

PASTOR RANDY'S OFFICE HOURS:

Tues: 10am – 4pm; **Wed:** 10am - 2pm; **Thur:** 10am – 3pm; **Fri:** 10am – 3pm (subject to visitation or meetings): Appointments/call-aheads strongly encouraged. Randy takes Mondays as a Sabbath rest from work—including emails. He responds only in emergencies on Monday.

CHURCH ADMIN BEN'S OFFICE HOURS:

Tues: 11 am - 12 pm, 1 - 3 pm; **Wed:** 10 am - 12 pm;
Thur: 10 am - 12 pm, 1 - 3 pm; **Fri:** 10 am - 12 pm, 1 - 2 pm

March Birthdays:

1	Gus Gouvas	4	Laura Minter
2	Pablo Ceres	7	Ryan Loewer
2	Nancy Wolff	16	Nevin McKay Epp
3	Grace Ceres	27	Becky Sawatzky
3	Lily Mast	31	Dick Williams

~ IN OUR COMMUNITY ~

SAGE-ING GROUP: Sage-ing Group meeting today at BMC at 12 pm noon for one hour.

This is a small group that has formed recently to study, research, and support one another in the aging process. We also look at living possibilities when one needs to move from our present homes. Today's meeting is a report of those who have visited four retirement facilities in the past two weeks. Everyone is welcome to any and all meetings.

EASTER BREAKFAST SIGN-UP: BMC's annual Easter breakfast potluck is coming up, 9:30 am on April 21, before the worship service at 10:30 am on Easter Sunday. It's time to start thinking about your favorite breakfast food to bring and share. Also, please sign-up to help set up tables, clean up or decorate, etc, using the sign-up sheets at the back of the church. ~ **Elvira Glenn.**



EASTER FLOWERS ORDERS: BMC will take orders for Easter flowers to be displayed at our Easter Service. Our goal is to purchase sustainable, organic daffodils, tulips, hyacinths, etc. You may take them home after the service. An “in honor of” list will be printed for the service. A sign-up sheet is located on the table by the door.

NEW WAY TO SUPPORT BMC AT KING SOOPERS:



King Soopers is revamping their grocery gift card rewards program. Rather than needing a gift card to reload, all you need to do is register your SooperCard online. This new program becomes effective April 1, 2019. After this date, individual purchases will begin counting towards our organization within 7-10 business days of registering. Each time you swipe your SooperCard (or enter your Alt ID), **BMC** automatically starts earning a rebate. King Soopers will pay up to \$125,000 per cycle to participating organizations based on their percentage of spending as it relates to the total spending of all participating King Soopers Community Rewards organizations.

To sign up:

- Go to <http://www.kingsoopers.com>
- Click on “Savings & Rewards” and scroll down to “Community Rewards”
- Click on the ‘Enroll Now’ link.
- If you have an existing account associated with your loyalty card, sign in. If not, please create an account
- Locate the “Find Organization” Box and search for Boulder Mennonite Church or QF875 (our assigned number) and click Enroll.

New users will need to create an account which requires some basic information, a valid email address and a rewards card. Customers must have a registered King Soopers rewards card account, i.e. SooperCard. If you do not have a King Soopers or rewards card, please pick one up from the customer service desk at any King Soopers. **REMEMBER**, purchases will not count until you register your rewards card. On March 31st, I will be available to answer any questions or help you sign up. Please let me know what questions you may have.
~ **Becky Sawatzky, Gift Card Coordinator.**

ECOLOGY TIP OF THE WEEK: **Denver Water** has proposed expanding **Gross Reservoir in Boulder County** and has been trying to silence (with payoffs) any entity who might object. According to

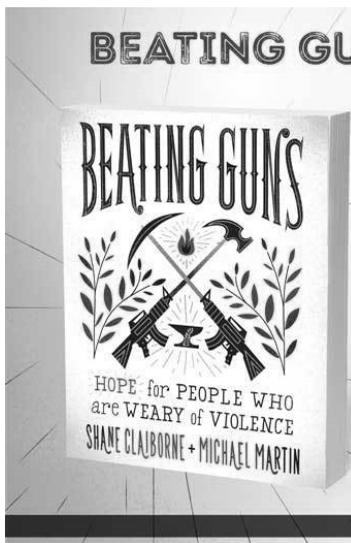


www.SaveBoulderCounty.org, this unrealistic project would include cutting down over 200,000 trees, leeching heavy metals into South Boulder Creek, loss of habitat and wetlands, and significant danger from over 98 heavy truck trips per day for more than 7 years. No matter where you live, consider taking a moment to encourage the **Boulder County Commissioners** to stand firm in opposing this assault on the earth.

~ IN THE LARGER COMMUNITY ~

BEATING GUNS BOOK TOUR: Shane Claibourne, Mike Martin, and friends are

launching a thirty-seven-city Beating Guns Book Tour in March 2019. Each of these events will feature a live transformation of a gun into a garden tool. The tour kicks off on March 9 in Philadelphia, stopping in more than 35 cities during the pre-Easter season of Lent, when many Christians reflect on the sanctity and gift of life. The events will also feature speakers, music, and stories. Holding the shameful record for most gun deaths at about 38,000 per year, it's clear that this country is in the midst of an epidemic. Bestselling author and activist Claibourne, and Martin, a Mennonite pastor turned blacksmith, offer a Christian response to the crisis, transcending the rhetoric of "thoughts and prayers" with concrete ways to address the problem. To learn more, pick up a copy of their now-available *Beating Guns: Hope for People Who Are Weary of Violence*.



BEATING GUNS NATIONAL BOOK TOUR

March 9	Philadelphia, PA (afternoon)	March 28	San Francisco Bay Area, CA
March 9	Lancaster, PA (evening)	March 30	Portland, OR
March 10	Baltimore, MD	March 31	Seattle, WA
March 11	Roanoke, VA	April 2	Kansas City, KS
March 12	Winston-Salem, NC	April 3	Jefferson City, MO
March 13	Charlotte, NC	April 5	Minneapolis, MN
March 14	Knoxville, TN	April 6	New York City, NY (Revolutionary Love Conference)
March 15	Nashville, TN	April 7	New Haven, CT
March 16	Atlanta, GA	April 9	Naperville, IL (afternoon)
March 17	Birmingham, AL	April 9	Chicago, IL (evening)
March 19	Waco, TX	April 10	Goshen, IN
March 20	Dallas, TX	April 11	Muskegon, MI (afternoon)
March 21	Hesston, KS	April 11	Grand Rapids, MI (evening)
March 23	Ft. Collins, CO (afternoon)	April 14	Ft. Wayne, IN
March 23	Colorado Springs, CO (evening)	April 15	Toledo, OH
March 24	Tempe, AZ	April 16	Cleveland, OH
March 25	Pasadena, CA	April 17	State College, PA
March 26	Thousand Oaks, CA	April 18	Rochester, NY
March 27	Fresno, CA		

LEARN MORE AT BEATINGGUNS.COM/TOUR

LOVE CROSSES BORDERS: Introducing a **Mennonite Men (MC USA)** immersion

experience with immigrants: Love is the greatest of all virtues. But what does love look like in times of cynicism and polarization? Borders are not only social constructs, they're also spiritual ones. Who's included? Who's excluded? How do we reconcile God's call to welcome the stranger with so much fear-filled rhetoric and policies? What can unwelcomed immigrants teach the Church about love? July 28 to August 3, **Mennonite Men** will provide a week-long immersion experience with immigrants to engage these issues. To register or for more information, visit www.MennoniteMen.org or contact **Steve Thomas** at SteveT@Mennonites.org.

