

Welcome to Boulder Mennonite Church

Sunday, February 2, 2025

4th Sunday in the Season of Epiphany

A Service of the Word



La Sagrada Familia (The Holy Family). Kelly Latimore, Contemporary Icon

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

***Singing** We sing to you, O God, vv. 1, 2, 3 80

Call to Worship adapted from Psalm 71.1-6

Leader: In you, Holy One, do we find refuge—

All: *Let us never be separated from the way of Love!*

Leader: Come, Compassionate One – refresh us with healing grace.

All: *Be our rock, our tower of strength, with strong arms to hold us in love.*

Leader: When fear grips us and we are left feeling lonely and unsure,

All: *May this community of faith be a welcoming space of hope and friendship.*

Leader: Let us listen this day to the voice of truth and not turn away.

All: *Let us celebrate life. Let us worship God!*

Welcome

CELEBRATING & PRAISING

Singing Be thou my vision, vv. 1, 2, 4, 5 549

Centering Prayer from 1 Corinthians 13.1-13

Singing Jesus Christ is love divine 749

Passing the Peace

A Moment in Mission: Everence

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

Gospel Reading

Luke 4.21-30

Jesus preached to the people in his boyhood synagogue. After reading from the prophet Isaiah, he said to them, **“Today, in your hearing, this scripture passage is fulfilled.”**

All who were present spoke favorably of him; they marveled at the eloquence of the words on Jesus’ lips. They said, **“Surely this isn’t Mary and Joseph’s son!”**

Jesus said to them, “Undoubtedly, you’ll quote me the proverb, ‘Physician, heal yourself,’ and say, ‘Do here in your own country the things we heard you did in Capernaum.’ But the truth is, prophets never gain acceptance in their hometowns.

“There were many women who were widowed in Israel in the days of Elijah, when the heavens remained closed for three and a half years and a great famine spread over the land. It was to none of these that Elijah was sent, but instead to a woman who had been widowed in Zarephath, near Sidon. Recall, too, that many had leprosy in Israel in the time of Elisha the prophet, yet not one was cured except Naaman the Syrian.”

At these words, the whole audience in the synagogue was filled with indignation. They rose up and dragged Jesus out of town, leading him to the brow of the hill on which the city was built, with the intention of hurling him over the edge. But he moved straight through the crowd and walked away.

Singing

The Word of God is solid ground, vv. 1, 3

399

Now Testament Reading

True Unity, Rev Mariann Edgar Budde

[I]s true unity among us even possible? And why should we care about it? Well, I hope that we care, because the culture of contempt that has become normalized in our country threatens to destroy us. Contempt fuels our political campaigns and social media, and many profit from it. But it’s a dangerous way to lead a country.

I am a person of faith, and with God’s help I believe that unity in this country is possible – not perfectly, for we are imperfect people and an imperfect union. The first foundation for unity is honoring the inherent dignity of every human being, which is, as all faiths represented here affirm, the birthright of all people as children of the One God. In public discourse, honoring each other’s dignity means refusing to mock, discount, or demonize those with whom we differ, choosing instead to respectfully debate across our differences, and whenever possible, to seek common ground. A second foundation for unity is honesty in both private conversation and public discourse. If we aren’t willing to be honest, there is no use in praying for unity, because our actions work against the prayers themselves. We might, for a time, experience a false sense of unity among some, but not the sturdier, broader unity that we need to address the challenges we face.

A third foundation for unity is humility, which we all need, because we are all fallible human beings. We make mistakes. We say and do things that we regret. We have our blind

spots and biases, and we are perhaps the most dangerous to ourselves and others when we are persuaded, without a doubt, that we are absolutely right and someone else is absolutely wrong. Because then we are just a few steps away from labeling ourselves as the good people, versus the bad people.

May God grant us all the strength and courage to honor the dignity of every human being, speak the truth in love, and walk humbly with one another and our God, for the good of all the people of this nation and the world.

Message

Prophets Among Us: Embracing Truth and Radical Inclusion

RESPONDING

Singing

God has work for us to do

insert

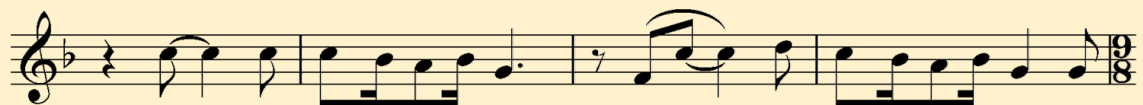
Text: Carl P Daw, Jr.; Music: Mark A. Miller



Solo, then all: 1. Till all the jails are emp-ty and all the bel - lies
All: 2. Till age and race and gen-der no lon-ger se - pa-
 3. By pray-ing through our do- ing, and sing-ing though we



filled; till no one hurts or steals or lies, and no more blood is spilled:
 rate;— till pul - pit, press, and pol - i - tics are free of greed and hate:
 fear, by trust-ing that the seed we sow will bring God's har - vest near:



God_ has work for us to do, God_ has work for us to do, be-



lieve in the pro - mise, "I make all things new,"



God_____ has work for us,_____ work for us to do!

Sharing Joys and Concerns Prayers of the People

SENDING

Announcements

*Benediction

*Sending Song

God has work for us to do, v. 2

insert



Resources used in worship:

Scripture adapted from The Inclusive Bible, and Common English Bible

Right Rev. [Mariann Edgar Budde's sermon here](#)

Cover art: [La Sagrada Familia – Kelly Latimore Icons](#)

God has work for us to do, Hope Publishing, OneLicense 728744-A

Thanks to all who contributed to our service today!

Speaker:	Pastor Randy Spaulding
Worship Leader:	Susan Graber
Readers:	Bruce Wheeler
Music:	Bruce Fast, Elleanna Voran
Tech Support:	Steve Voran, Elleanna Voran
Greeters:	Elvira Glenn, Laura Minter
Snacks:	Jen Dudenhefer, Gus Gouvas
Moment for All Ages:	Susan Graber
A Moment in Mission:	Rachel Swartzendruber Miller

January 26, 2025:

Attendance: 40 in-person, 7 online

Offering: \$723

TODAY at BMC

9:30a	Worship
10:45a	Snacks and Connecting Sunday. Icebreaker Question: <i>What is a time when you laughed really hard?</i>
11:00a	Youth Gathering, Rm 112

THIS WEEK at BMC

2/3	Deacon's meeting, 11:00
2/4	Meditation Small Group, 11am

NEXT SUNDAY – Feb 9, 2025: 5th Sunday in the Season of Epiphany

9:30am Worship and mingling

11:00am Education Hour – Adults in sanctuary; Youth Gathering, Rm 112

COMING UP

2/13 Church council, 5:00

2/13 Singing small group, 6:30p

2/23 Greeter/Usher meeting, noon

2/15 MSMC Faith & Life Forum, 9:30pm, 1st Mennonite, Denver

2/14-16 Sr. High Snow Camp at RMMC

3/7-9 Women's Retreat at RMMC

3/9 First Sunday of Lent

3/29 Justin Mathis Clarinet Recital at BMC, 7:00

4/20 Easter Sunday

7/8-12 MennoCon25: Follow Jesus, Greensboro, NC

8/1-3 Assembly weekend with Mountain States Mennonite Conference, Glennwood Spgs

~PRAYERS~

~for healing for **Cindi Firnhaber**, as she deals with complications from a surgery she had in November; she may have to go back to the OR this week.

~for **Haydee**, good friend of the McKay's, who was transferred by ambulance to an ICU in Guatemala City.

~for **those dealing with the ongoing aftermath of the fires** in the LA area.

~for a successful surgery for **Pastor Randy**, as he has a procedure on Tuesday (Feb 4) to relieve severe neuralgic pain in his neck and throat. He will be at Swedish Medical Center in Englewood.

~For our Tanzanian Mennonite family: **Archy, Judith, and Latanya** have relocated to CA. They are very appreciative for the support and care our congregation provided to them. They ask for continued prayers that God will open doors for their life in CA and help them to deal with the challenges they face.

February Birthdays	
2 - Michelene Fast	12 - Katharina Sawatzky
8 - Wayne Morrison	18 - Naomi Krause
12 - Joel Sawatzky	

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: 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~

FOOD DONATION: Boulder Mennonite contributed 37 pounds of food to **Harvest of Hope** last month. Thank you! We continue collecting this month—list of most needed items [here](#).

ROCKY MOUNTAIN MENNONITE CAMP: BMCers, come to enjoy the beauty and chill of RMMC in the winter once again. Come play in the snow and on the ice and then be ready to come inside for good food, fellowship and worship together. Visit the camp web page (www.rmmc.org) for additional camp details and to register that you're headed to the Colorado Rockies to start the new year! [Senior High Snow Camp \(Feb. 14-16\)](#) Be inspired by singing and worshipping together with other youth! [Men's Retreat: Feb 28-Mar 2](#). Worship, foosball, human curling, snowshoeing, musical jam sessions and great fellowship! [Women's Retreat: Mar 7-9](#). Retreat, hike, explore, rest, fellowship, worship and more!

WE CARE ABOUT OUR IMMIGRANT NEIGHBORS! Check out the "Know Your Rights" info on the bulletin board in the sanctuary. Information can be confusing about what ICE can and cannot do. Visit the Colorado Immigrant Rights Coalition to learn more: [Know Your Rights — Colorado Immigrant Rights Coalition](#)

~ IN THE LARGER COMMUNITY ~

FAITH & LIFE FORUM: *Learning to Hope in the Dark: Practices of Faith for Uncertain Times* Sat, 2/15, 9:30-2:30 at First Mennonite in Denver. Shannon Dycus is our featured speaker. Sponsored by Mountain States Mennonite Conference. **Now is the time to [register](#).** We're hoping for a good in-person turnout, but for those who can't make it, you can register to listen to the morning keynote virtually (the afternoon workshops only for in-person attendees).

MENNONITE CHURCH USA:

Hope for the Future Conference: Registration is open for MC USA's [Hope for the Future conference](#), Feb. 28-Mar. 2, 2025, at Goshen (Indiana) College. This year's unique event will

celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Damascus Road Anti-racism Process and its pivotal role in the Anabaptist commitment to justice and reconciliation.

Webinar on sanctuary: What does it mean to provide sanctuary for undocumented people? This webinar on Feb. 5, 5:00 p.m. MT, will feature several pastors whose congregations have previously served as sanctuaries. Lawyers from the Institute of Constitutional Advocacy and Protection will discuss the legal issues related to sanctuary, specifically focusing on section 1324, and will allow time for participants to ask questions. For churches that are currently working with or are interested in supporting undocumented individuals in their communities, this webinar will provide crucial information on what to expect and what legal assistance is available if your church faces challenges from ICE or immigration agents. [Register here](#)

MennoCon 25: MC USA's Follow Jesus '25 convention, July 8-12 in Greensboro, NC--early bird registration for is now open and a free gift for the first 300 adult registrations is available! Save big and [register today](#).

Menno Snapshots: Learn more about the fascinating and inspirational people in MCUSA!

- Spiritual director, Sherill Hostetter, shares powerful thoughts in the face of an incurable illness, [When life doesn't go as expected](#)
- Pastor Steve Bomar shares his spiritual journey, [From a Nazarene to a Mennonite](#)

Faith and forestry: Bob Atchison reflects on his life working with trees and Mennonite Men's JoinTrees program.

ECOLOGY TIP: Have you started yet celebrating Meatless Mondays or Thoughtful Thursdays? Here's a little fuel for that feast: Plant-based burgers take 75% less water to produce, 95% less land, and emit 87% less greenhouse gas emissions than a beef burger does. Many vegetarian burgers are not only healthier the planet, but also for people. If you're not wild about all the additives in some veggie burgers, there are plenty of recipes that tell you how to make your own from fresh ingredients. And of course, most vegetarian meals don't contain burgers at all, but are made up of delicious entrees.



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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