

Mountain Community Mennonite Church

Join Us - We share God's love by Following Jesus, Reconciling
Community, Building Peace

*"But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will run
and not grow weary; they will walk and not grow faint."*

Lent Week 6: Palm Sunday

Discovering God's Story, Entering God's Hope

March 20, 2016

Pastor

Paul Johnson

Worship Leader

Dan Thiessen

Song Leader & Pianist

Judy Thiessen

Pre-service music

Devin Pierce

Call to Discovery: Passion Week is thick with layers of complex symbolism. The characters in God's story are not straightforward. The people who praised "Hosanna" and hailed Jesus as the coming King, may be the very ones who later shouted, "Crucify him!" Like them, we find ourselves living into the complex covenant story, whose unredeemed motives, desires, and passions all too often drive our behavior and actions. We trust a forgiving God.

WE GATHER

Announcements

Time of Quieting

Call to Worship (Based on Psalm 118)

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord – God is good!

All: God's steadfast love endures forever!

Leader: This is the day that the Lord has made.

All: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

Leader: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

All: The Lord our God has given us light!

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord – God is good!

All: God's steadfast love endures forever!

WE GROW IN WORSHIP

Welcome and Opening Prayer

Dan Thiessen

Opening Hymns

HWB #238, #398

Joys and Concerns

Offering and Prayer

Dan Thiessen

Hymn

HWB #239

Prayer of Confession and Reconciliation

All: Lord we confess that our motives, desires, and passions have not been pure – we have not been living into the truth of your good news story. We confess we have often acted in destructive ways, living out of our brokenness rather than out of your healing, redeeming Love. Help us find our refuge in you. Forgive us, heal us, and reconcile us, oh God, so that we may be the living picture of your covenant love. In all our relationships: with you, with each other, and with all of creation, we pray. Amen.

Pause for silent confession.

Assurance

Leader: God's goodness is accomplished abundantly for those who take refuge there. (From Psalm 31:19)

Scriptures

Luke 19:32-38 & John 12: 9-15

Sermon

"Prince of Palm"

Communion in the Round as Eucharist: Present & Future Abundance

Pastor & Elders

Time of Reflection

Rae Shellenberger
Artist in Residence

WE GO OUT TO SERVE

Sending Song

HWB #405 v.1, 4, 5, 6

Sending Prayer

Your worship service today was planned by the MCMC Worship Commission.

To prepare for Easter, please read and study the following scriptures: ***Acts 10:34-43; Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; 1 Corinthians 15:19-26; John 20:1-18***

ONGOING EVENTS

- Prayer Circle, Sundays @ 8:45–9:00AM. All are welcome!
- The Pastor will be in the MCMC office Monday and Tuesday, March 21 & 22. Please call to set an appointment.
- Women's Bible Study 9:30-11:30 AM each Friday. Contact Rae Shellenberger at 719.213.6931.
- Men's Coffee each Saturday at 8 AM at Serrano's.
- Each Saturday "More than a Meal Ministries" 8:00 AM at Legacy Wesleyan Church, 502 N Walnut St, Colorado Springs, CO 80905.

THIS WEEK AT MCMC

- *Elders' Meeting, Monday, March 21st at 4 PM
- *Program Cabinet, Monday, March 21st at 5:45 PM
- *Worship Commission, Tuesday, March 22nd at 4:45 PM



MARCH BIRTHDAYS/ ANNIVERSARIES

26 *Rae Shellenberger*

30 *Dean Williams*

UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS

-Mountain States Mennonite Conference is guiding a **Holy Saturday retreat** for children and families on Saturday, March 26th from 9–11 AM at Washington Street Community Center (809 S Washington Street, Denver, CO). Holy Saturday is a time in between Good Friday and Easter Sunday to consider how God is inviting us to rest. As families, we will practice some ways to rest together in mind, body and spirit while we consider the Easter story. All ages are invited to participate and light refreshments will be served. A suggested donation of \$5 per child is recommended to cover the costs of supplies and each adult is asked to bring a bag of ground coffee/tea to donate to the community center. RSVP to Annie Lengacher Browning by March 20: annie@mountainstatesmc.org.



Plan to worship with us on **Easter Sunday** morning March 27. We will again place **fresh flowers** on the cross, so please bring several flowers for this purpose. MCMC **Easter Brunch** will follow the worship service. Bring your family and friends and a dish to share!

-The 2016 **MSMC Faith and Life Forum**, “Dreaming in Color,” will be **Saturday, April 16**, from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm at Evergreen Lake House, 29612 Upper Bear Lake Creek Rd. Evergreen, CO. Join us for a time of fun, worship, sharing and dreaming about our conference as we focus on Acts 6 and our guiding text, Luke 1:76-79. All are welcome. Bring a set of colored pencils and wear your favorite color. Please RSVP by April 11 to Karen Martin at administrator@MountainStatesMC.org. If you need childcare or could help underwrite the costs of this event, contact Karen.



-MCSS **Volunteer Spring Tea**: May 3, 4-6 PM at MCMC.



Mark your calendars for Saturday, May 7 for a Community Picnic fundraiser event at MCMC from 10-1. Raw Tools will be demonstrating how "swords" are made into "plowshares" or maybe guns into tools. 😊 Smoked turkey sandwiches and homemade ice cream will be available for purchase, benefiting Silver Key and Mountain Community Senior Services programming. Beth-El Mennonite Church will also be invited to join us. Come and bring your friends and neighbors!

- Summer is getting closer and it's time to register for summer camp at Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp. New for 2016 is Sibling / Multiple Camp Discount, which applies if one child attends multiple camps or if siblings attend camp. Again this summer, save \$20 by registering before June 1. Wilderness camps are a great opportunity for campers to experience God's creation in a unique and adventurous way!

IN THE KNOW

-Check out **The Gathering Place**, an interactive website for Anabaptist youth leaders to find connection, networking, mentoring, and spiritual formation. Join us for book studies, study circles and webinars, or watch archived videos and listen to podcasts. Recent topics include a webinar on today's media and its impact on our youth, a discussion on contemporary Anabaptist peace witness and a podcast on bullying: www.thegatheringplace.us

-**Ten Thousand Villages** has moved, just around the corner, to 275 Clayton Street. Come in Monday-Saturday 10-6. 303.316.8773.

-**Mountain States Conference** is on **Facebook**. "Like" us to see news from the conference and denomination. Look for us at Mountain States Mennonite Conference.

-**More Than a Meal** still needs winter hats, jackets, blankets, etc. Hadley Hiebert is halfway to her goal of collecting 200+ bags of soap for her laundry soap drive. Please place three tablets of soap into a plastic bag, along with a card of greeting for the recipient. These will be handed out at the weekly breakfast. Thanks for helping!

-**Village Arts of Colorado Springs** is excited to announce auditions for Gilbert & Sullivan's *The Pirates of Penzance*, to be presented June 30, July 1-2. Auditions are scheduled for March 28-30. If interested in auditioning, you can find all the info on the Village Arts website: www.VillageArtsCS.org.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Senior meals** at MCMC - Golden Circle Senior Nutrition- will begin April 4, and continue indefinitely, 5 days/week. Preparation each day will begin at 10 AM and will be finished at 1 PM.

-Are you a veteran, or know someone who is? We are seeking groups to try out the 6-week Sunday School curriculum "**Returning Veterans, Returning Hope: Seeking Peace Together**," and share feedback. The curriculum focuses on returning veterans and how the church can play a part in their healing journeys, drawing from biblical reflection, the latest understandings of trauma and moral injury and the experiences of veterans themselves. This is a project of the Peace & Justice Support Network, a partnership of Mennonite Church USA and Mennonite Mission Network. See pjsn.org/vets or contact Jason Boone, PJSN's coordinating minister, at jasonb@mennoniteusa.org.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

-MCC Central States has two positions open; help us spread the word!

*The **MCC Central States Executive Director** position is available starting in June. This full-time position job description can be found at: <http://mcc.org/get-involved/serve/openings/executive-director-cs>.

*The **Office Manager/Bookkeeper** position is available starting in April at the MCC office in N Newton, Kansas. Position is 32 hours/week, and a full job description can be found at: <http://mcc.org/get-involved/serve/openings/office-managerbookkeeper-centralstates>.

Please contact Heidi Huber at heidihuber@mcc.org for more information.



Sermon Notes

- ❖ 1. Luke's Gospel has Jesus riding a colt rather than a war horse to victory. When Jesus looks into our heart, what does the Prince of Palms require of us?

- ❖ 2. Luke's image of the Messiah's entry into Empire is walking upon the garments of His friends. What praise do they have for the Lord?

- ❖ 3. John's Gospel has Jesus and Lazarus trapped in a murder plot as they enter Jerusalem. Who escapes with God's Grace?

- ❖ 4. John's account has added the "crowd of the feast" waving palms as Jesus passes by. Why?

- ❖ 5. Both these accounts transform Jesus from superhero to anti-hero. Why transform the Prince of Palms into the Prince of Peace?