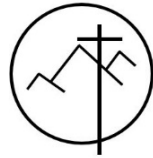


*There will be a time of quiet meditation when the music stops*

*at 9:00 am prior to the start of worship. We invite you to join in this time of silence before our service begins.\**

Mountain Community Mennonite Church  
Box 502  
Palmer Lake, CO 80133  
(719) 481-3155



Join Us – We share God’s love by: Following Jesus, Being  
a Reconciling Community and Building Peace

“We are a new creation in Christ, leading us in the  
ministry of peace and reconciliation.” 2 Cor. 5

**DATE: January 8, 2023**  
**Sermon Theme: Epiphany Sunday**

**9:00 am:** *Worship Begins*

**Coffee**

**10:00:** Discovery Hour

**Lead Pastor:** Vern Rempel

[vkrempel@gmail.com](mailto:vkrempel@gmail.com)

[soulreport.WordPress.com](http://soulreport.WordPress.com)

**Elders:** Barb Eichelberger, Wilmer Villacorta

**Information Technology Support:** Wilmer Villacorta

Silver Key - Golden Circle Nutrition Program  
Reservations (719) 884-2304 Before 5:00am  
Mountain Community Senior Services (719) 488-0076

**Sermon downloads available at <http://mcmcp.org>**

*Please silence your cell phones. Thank You.*

**DATE: January 8, 2023**  
**Sermon Theme: Epiphany Sunday**

### ***Order of Service***

**Speaker:** Vern Rempel  
**Worship Leader:** Gayle Preheim  
**Song Leader:** Vern Rempel  
**Sound Room:** Lynn Roth

### ***We Gather***

**Welcome**

**Announcements:**

**Time of Quieting**

**Call to Worship:**

~~Lead: Holy God, who sent your only Son to take the  
form of a servant, humbling himself to die for us,  
only Son in all his glory to the people of the earth.~~

People: The manifestation of light and new life, you are  
Emmanuel, God with us.

Leader: **Guide us into your presence, where we may see  
your glory face to face.**

~~Lead: Holy God, who sent your only Son to take the  
form of a servant, humbling himself to die for us,  
only Son in all his glory to the people of the earth,~~  
blessing to your kingdom.

All: **Let all the earth adore you, for you are the Lord of  
lords and King of kings.**

### **WE GROW IN WORSHIP**

**Opening Prayer**

**Opening Hymns:** #251: There Were Angels Hovering  
Round. #250: The First Noel, the Angel Did Say

**Prayers of the people and sharing the grace...**

**Congregational Hymn:** #276: Solemn Stillness, Weary  
Streets

**Offering and Prayer**

**Peace Moment: Where have you acted or seen others act  
for peace?**

**Prayer of Transformation & Words of Grace**

Holy One, we confess our need for grace and mercy. We  
seek forgiveness for the ways in which we have drawn  
away from you and our neighbors. We express remorse for  
our participation in the systems of the world that are  
actively opposed to your kingdom. Transform us to be  
carriers and promoters of your good news of new life,  
liberation, and hope in the world. Amen.

**Scriptures:** Matthew 2: 1-12 NRSV

**Sermon:** “Beginning”

### ***WE GO OUT TO SERVE***

**Sending Song:** #240: Joy to the World

**Sending Prayer**

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

***Please return the hymnals to boxes provided at back of  
sanctuary. Exit promptly to Narthex. Thank you***

## Birthdays and Anniversaries

Karen Weins B January 8  
Steve Diller B January  
10  
Rollin Murphy B January  
15  
Teresa Barnes B January  
17

## MCMC

Program Cabinet January 13, 1:00  
Annual Business Meeting January 29

Jordan will be looking for things to do from January 9-22. I will be in Oaxaca, Mexico participating in an artist residency. If anyone is interested in going on a walk with him, or going out for a meal with him, he would love the company. Best method of contact is text [719.432.5555](tel:719.432.5555). Thanks!! Jina

The plastics industry has a new trick for making and selling even more wasteful single-use plastic.

It's pushing a practice deceptively called "chemical recycling," which is really just burning plastics to turn them into fuel -- and pumping out toxic pollution in the process.

As special interests in the industry continue ramping up their support for the expansion of this harmful practice, let's sort fact from fiction.

The vast majority of plastic is never recycled. That's despite the plastics industry's insistence that throwing plastic in the blue bin can reliably and substantially curb plastic pollution.

Companies have maintained a status quo where the burden of recycling all this "stuff" falls squarely on the consumer and taxpayer -- keeping themselves blissfully free from accountability for the mountains of plastic waste they're responsible for creating.

The industry's latest greenwashing attempt is something it's calling "chemical recycling." It says it can reclaim some of the chemicals from plastic products by burning them. But that's not

really recycling. Burning is dirty -- and many of the chemicals that don't get recovered are spewed into the air as harmful pollution.

Later, the leftover waste from this incineration process simply gets burned once more and then discarded at hazardous waste facilities. And worse still, that deceptive label allows plastic producers to avoid air quality standards and skip investing in pollution controls.

## Mountain States Conference News

**The MDS Volunteer Weekend** Please mark your calendars for the next MDS Volunteer Weekend in May 2023.

### MC USA ANNOUNCEMENTS:

**Mennonite Church USA** will host its annual Hope for the Future conference Feb. 3-5 in Atlanta. The conference welcomes MC USA-affiliated BIPOC leaders and young adults for a time of networking and mutual edification. Register by Jan. 18. Learn more here: [mennoniteusa.org/hope-for-the-future](https://mennoniteusa.org/hope-for-the-future)

**Area conference ministers from Mennonite Church USA and Mennonite Church Canada** gathered in San Francisco in early December for renewal, training and collaborative work around a new misconduct accountability and prevention guide. [mennoniteusa.org/proposed-misconduct-policies](https://mennoniteusa.org/proposed-misconduct-policies)

**Menno Snapshots** The topic of money is sensitive and complex. For this reason, church leaders often struggle with how to approach the topic within the church. Michael Danner, the associate executive director for Church Vitality in Mennonite Church USA, offers some insights into how to embrace regularly incorporating financial messages into the church, in his recent article in Leader magazine, "Christians

and our money." [mennoniteusa.org/christians-and-our-money](https://mennoniteusa.org/christians-and-our-money)

**The Executive Board of Mennonite Church USA** adopted a new resolutions process, responded to the actions of the Delegate Assembly and proposed a new three-year cycle for future Delegate Assemblies. Read about more of their actions here: [mennoniteusa.org/executive-board-takes-action](https://mennoniteusa.org/executive-board-takes-action)

**"Between: Embracing Vulnerability" is the theme for the sixteenth Mennonite Arts Weekend** (flyer attached), February 3-5, 2023 in Cincinnati, Ohio. Presentations and workshops by musicians, visual artists, writers, and craftspeople start on Friday evening and conclude with Sunday morning worship. Activities and workshops designed for Pre-K children through high school are planned. Special Guest: Girl Named Tom, who you might remember from our Virtual Assembly several years ago! To take advantage of early-bird registration (Deadline Dec 1) and sign-up for workshops, go to <https://mennoniteartsweekend.org/2023maw/>. The website also includes a list of presenters registration, location, and lodging information. Come enjoy the fun, connect with friends, and hear **Girl Named Tom**.

## MENNONITE MISSION NETWORK

Mennonite Mission Network praises God for the 40 SOOPERS participants who are serving this month in places like Kykotsmovi, Phoenix, and Tucson, Arizona; Gotha, Florida; America's, Georgia; Meridian, Mississippi; Mt. Pleasant, Pennsylvania; and San Antonio, Texas. Pray that they will be instruments of God's peace and love.