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

Mountain Community Mennonite Church

Box 502
Palmer Lake, CO 80133



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: March 5, 2023 Second Sunday of Lent

9:00 am: Worship Begins

Coffee

10:00: Discovery Hour

Lead Pastor: Vern Rempel

vkrempel@gmail.com

soulreport.WordPress.com

Elders: Barb Eichelberger, Wilmer Villacorta

Information Technology Support: Wilmer Villacorta

Mountain Community Senior Services (719) 488-0076

Sermon downloads available at http://mcmcpl.org

Please silence your cell phones. Thank You.

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

DATE: March 5, 2023

Second Sunday of Lent

Sermon Series: Truth and Reconciliation: The

Practice of Faith

Order of Service

Speakers: Vern Rempel
Worship Leader: Rae Shellenberger
Song Leader Don Graber
Sound Room: Lynn Roth

We Gather

Welcome
Announcements
Time of Quieting
Call to Worship:

Liturgist: From the safety and comfort of home, God called Abram to go from all he knew to embrace a future yet to be revealed.

All: "Go from," God says, and our hesitant hearts place one foot in front of the other to trust God with the unknown.

Liturgist: By night, Nicodemus came seeking greater insight into the teachings of God for the journey set before him. Jesus called him out of the shadows and towards a life born anew.

All: "Go towards" God says, and a new life awaits us. We reach towards a God who has not come to condemn the world but to offer a salve that can heal all wounds.

Liturgist: We fear the unknown and that which we lack in understanding. "How can this be?" we proclaim with Nicodemus. And yet, God's call is one that urges us to go with our whole self into that unknowing, trusting that God will provide a way.

All: Love calls us forth into lives of transformation, born anew into new paths of faith. Though we do not know where we are going, God has promised to never leave us alone. Let us worship the One who will show us the way.

We Grow in Worship

Opening Prayer

Opening Hymns #555, Lord I am fondly

#557, Spirit of God, descend on us

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

Congregational Hymn: #544, Softly and Tenderly Jesus is

Calling

Offering and Prayer

Prayer for Transformation and New Life

Liturgist: O God, we all too often wish to go our own way, maintain control, and rely on our own strength rather than trust that you will provide. Forgive us in our unwillingness to live by faith or to not trust you with providing all that we need for the journey.

All: May God's mercy surround our weaknesses with grace for restoring us to hope everlasting.

Scriptures: John 3: 1-10 NRSV

There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of

Sermon: Acts of Truth

We Go Out to Serve

Sending Song: #831, Blest be the tide

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

MCMC

Dennis Book B March 19
Rae Shellenberger B March 26

MCMC

Easter Brunch......April 9
Program Cabinet......April 14---1:00

This evening the **Palmer Lake Star** on the mountain will be shining brightly in honor of the life of Clair Brenneman.

Memorial for Clair - April at 10:00 am at MCMC. In lieu of flowers please donate to our charities to be announced later.

Mountain States Conference News

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

Alamosa MVS seeks year-long volunteers starting Summer 2023. Openings here or contact aliceprice1950@gmail.com.

Read an article from our own Erica Lea-Simka, pastor of Albuquerque, in MC USA's Menno Snapshots: https://www.mennoniteusa.org/menno-snapshots/bringing-gifts-to-my-daughter/.

The Mountain States Mennonite Conference Women's Retreat at Rocky Mountain Camp is coming March 10, 11, and 12. The theme of the weekend will be Meeting the Holy in Nature, and we are excited to welcome Jane Scanlon, who will lead us in "Forest Bathing" which is a practice that invites us to connect with our senses, and experience the natural world with a quiet mind and open heart. During our time together, we will deepen our connection to the holy in the natural world. Additionally,

the weekend will include opportunities for fellowship and activities of your choosing, including yoga, hiking, human curling, and crafts, or you may choose to simply relax by the fireplace! Online registration is available at www.rmmc.org

MENNONITE CHURCH USA

Beyond Incarceration webinar series

- March 7, 2023 at 7:30pm: <u>Create</u>: How do we imagine and bring about alternative systems?
- March 21, 2023 at 7:30pm: <u>Practice</u>: What does proclaiming, intervening and creating alternative systems to mass incarceration look like in practice?

MCC and MC USA are partnering in a new webinar series, **Beyond Incarceration:** A hard look at dismantling the prison system and building healthy communities. Join us to learn about the ways the faith community is actively understanding and working against these complex systems of confinement.

The webinars will be followed by learning tour opportunities in different parts of the U.S. in 2023. Register once and participate in one or all of the webinars.

Registration for MennoCon23 is now open. Mennocon23 will be held in Kansas City, Mo., July 3-6, immediately followed by the Mennonite Church USA Delegate Assembly and the new Youth & Young Adult Climate Summit.

Register here: convention.mennoniteusa.org/registration/

View a downloadable printer-friendly flier here: mennoniteusa.org/mennocon-flyer-print-friendly

The African American Mennonite Association (AAMA), one of the racial ethnic groups that make up the Racial Ethnic Council of Mennonite Church USA, has prepared a new master class curriculum for Black Mennonite church leaders. Learn more here: mennoniteusa.org/news/aamacurriculum

Menno Snapshots

During the first week of December 2022, the Executive Council of Mennonite World Conference (MWC) met to finish the business that they had begun in Indonesia in July. Linda Dibble, moderator for Mennonite Church USA and the MWC North American representative for the United States, shares about her experiences of connection with a diverse group of Anabaptists here: mennoniteusa.org/together-global-church

In celebration of the birthday of Anabaptism, which occurs on Jan. 21 each year, Mollee Moua, managing editor of the Anabaptism at 500 Project at MennoMedia, a Mennonite Church USA agency, shares about the work of making the Bible more accessible to all. Read her thoughts here: mennoniteusa.org/dangerous-work-scripture-together

#BeTransformed

Change and transformation is a constant in life. For Lorraine Stutzman Amstutz, Mennonite Church USA's denominational minister for Peace and Justice, relationships have been an important part of the transformation in her own life and have sustained her throughout those changes. Read more of her reflections here: mennoniteusa.org/change-and-transformation

Participants from three Mennonite Mission Network
Service Adventure units are in Newton, Kansas, for five
days of fellowship, during which they will share the
importance of service with potential participants. A similar
event will be held in two weeks in Elkhart, Indiana. Pray
that current and future participants will grow in their
commitment to active faith through these events.

Mennonite Mission Network

Mennonite Mission Network requests prayer for Iglesia Cristiana Menonita del Perú (Mennonite Christian Church of Peru), as they witness about the Prince of Peace during a time of national unrest.