

Many of you are aware of the situation with Greta Lindecrantz.

For those unfamiliar, Judi Nafziger has worked with Greta in the past. Greta taught one or two WBB classes, about two years ago, during our “the justness in justice” series; and, she has recently worked with prisoners in Guantanamo. In her work, Greta’s goal has always been to provide information or data that could help the jury determine that a death sentence is not an appropriate punishment (i.e. growing up with continued sexual abuse, living in a series of foster homes, unstable family dynamic...).

Greta remains in custody at the Arapahoe County Detention Center, in Centennial. She has been incarcerated for over a week now, on direct contempt charges, because she refuses to testify (as is her right) in this penalty phase, where it will be determined if Mr. Ray should be put to death. Previously, during this trial Greta has testified under oath; that testimony is in the court record; yet it is being demanded that she testify again. Greta’s most recent appeal has been denied.

Greta said to Donna Swartzendruber *“I have dedicated my life to trying to fight against the death penalty for my clients. My spiritual beliefs do not allow me to be complicit in the death of any fellow human being. I cannot aid the district attorneys in their goal to see Mr. Ray executed.”*

A group of us, including the Hershbergers, the Swartzendrubers, Judy Nafziger, Angie Nofziger, Nikki Kandelind, the Dewhursts, Ivannah Johnson, Vern Rempel and Cole Chandler of Beloved Community, and Amanda Henderson of Interfaith Alliance have met at the Arapahoe County Courthouse at 7325 S. Potomac, in Centennial. We gather in solidarity and support of Greta, near the courthouse steps at 1pm Monday-Saturday, and sing hymns. Local media and the AP have picked the story up. It has been televised, and written up in the Washington Post, NY Times, Denver Post, the Independent, and Colorado Public Radio, among other publications.

We are encouraging anyone who can come stand with us to do so. And if any of you feel compelled to write a note of letter of encouragement to Greta, we welcome that. We will have supplies for you to do so, during refreshments. If you have any questions about this, please speak to any of the aforementioned individuals, who have been present at the courthouse.

Lastly, please pray for Greta and her family, pray for Mr. Ray, and the Fields family as well.

First Mennonite Church of Denver

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[Facebook.com/FMCDenver](https://www.facebook.com/FMCDenver)

For announcements, see **FMC Weekly** on our website or at welcome center.

Pastor Glenn’s blog: <http://www.glennbalzer.com/>

Welcome to

First Mennonite Church
Denver, Colorado



March 11, 2018

Fourth Sunday of Lent

*That you may know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge,
so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.*

Contemplative Worship Preparation 9:20 AM

Entering Worship 9:30 AM

God of grace and God of glory Blue hymnal 366
In celebration of Mim Roth's 80th birthday

Welcome

Longing for light Green book 54

Call to Worship

God loves us with a steadfast love.

Let the redeemed of the Lord say so!

God loves us so much that God gave us God's own Offspring.

Let us believe and have eternal life!

God loves us with a great love, rich in mercy.

Let us have faith to receive this grace!

Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good.

Blessed Assurance Blue hymnal 332

Introductions and Passing of the Peace

Faith Reflection

Children's Time for children 3rd grade and younger

Let the children come to me Purple book 47

Afterward, nursery care is available in B2 downstairs for children 1-4 yrs.

Alleluia Green book 41

Chimes

Your will be done Green hymnal 57

Scripture John 3:1-21

Meditation "A Dangerous Conversation"

Chimes

Your will be done Green hymnal 57

Offertory

Community Sharing

Sharing and Pastoral Prayer

You are salt for the earth Blue hymnal 226

Benediction

Leadership for this Service

Meditation – Glenn Balzer

Worship Leader – Arden Slotter

Song Leader – Arlen Hershberger

Musician – Andi Gingerich

Children's Story – Roberta Kandel

Usher coordinators – Judi & Ralph Nafziger

Audiovisual – Randy Friesen

Flowers – Julia Weaver

Lenten Banners – Anne Friesen Birky

Thanks to all who have given generously of their attention & talents to make this service a time of encouragement & challenge in our walk of faith.

After the worship service in the Community Center

- ◆ Join us for refreshments and help support our youth
- ◆ Purchase grocery cards to help support the FMC Ministry Plan.

Peace School Hour 10:45-11:45 AM

Children & Youth, ages 2-18: Peace School Classes in lower level

Adult Education 10:45-11:45 AM

Naomi Nishi will lead a conversation on Recognizing Oppression: Patriarchy and Intersectionality – this is week three of a 4-week series.

We will examine patriarchy and intersecting systems of oppression. The women's marches and the #metoo movement have been focused overwhelmingly on white women and their issues, although often masked as being for all women. In this session, we'll look at examples of patriarchy and intersectionality and discuss again how we resist these intersecting oppressions within ourselves and with others.