



Salem-Zion Mennonite Church

January 17, 2021

Called

“The Lord called Samuel a third time....Here I am.” – I Samuel 3:8

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Prelude Sheila Epp

Welcome and Call to Worship (from Psalm 139) Paul Ortman
 L: O Lord, you have searched me and you know me.
P: You know when I sit and when I rise. You are familiar with all my ways.
 L: Before a word is on my tongue, you know it completely, O God!
P: You knit me together in my mother’s womb; I am fearfully and wonderfully made!
 L: All the days ordained for me were written in your book, before one of them came to be.
P: How precious are your thoughts and ways O God!
ALL: They are so vast that they would outnumber the grains of sand.

Opening Prayer

Opening Hymn – *Holy, holy, holy* (HWB #75)
Choristers: Beth Bontrager & Tim Graber

Celebrating God’s Mission – Mennonite Church USA

Children’s Story Polly Waltner

HEARING GOD’S WORD

Hearing the OT Scripture I Samuel 3:1-10, 11-20 Drama

Song – *Here I am, Lord* (HWB #395)

* Hearing the Gospel John 1:43-51

Sermon – “God Calling” Corey Miller

RESPONDING TO GOD’S CALL

Song – *He comes to us as one unknown* (HWB #498)

Testifying Marlys Tieszen

Congregational Prayer

Sending Song – *I heard the voice of Jesus say* (HWB #493)

Benediction

Postlude

Church Calendar

Deadline for bulletin submissions is 8:30 p.m. Wednesday; salemzion@gwtc.net

TODAY

Listen! God is calling. Whether God uses a trusted voice like Eli or whether it comes deep within our own spirit, God calls people for ministry. Today as we worship our living and loving God, may we be open to the places where God is calling us to serve. Welcome to our time of worship. We are so glad you are here!

The offering that we are celebrating today is for **Mennonite Church USA**. MC USA is an Anabaptist, Christian denomination with roots in the Radical Reformation of 16th-century Europe. It is the largest Mennonite denomination in the United States with 16 conferences, approximately 530 congregations and 62,000 members. MC USA provides resources and support for our congregation. Thanks for your help in supporting this ministry.

Today – Catechism at 4:00 p.m. at the church

THIS WEEK

- Jan. 20 (Wed) - Zoom Bible Study from Mark 4-5 – “*Storms, Satan and Sickness*” at 10 a.m.
- Faith from the Heart on Wednesdays (Jr. Sunday school department; Zoom) led by Sheila Epp at 6:45 p.m.
- Bible Study led by Roy Kaufman in Fellowship Hall at 7:00 p.m.

NEXT SUNDAY – January 24

Next Sunday the focus of the morning is “**Anabaptist Sunday**” and the theme is “*Following Jesus Across Barriers*” and the texts are Isaiah 55:1-6, Ps. 27, John 4:1-42, Phil. 2:1-11. Pastor Corey will be preaching.

Offering next Sunday will be for **MCC Meat Canning**.

COMING EVENTS

- Jan-Feb Wed. nights – Faith from the Heart on Wednesdays (Jr. SS Dept.)
- Jan-Mar Wed. mornings – Zoom Bible study from Mark at 10:00 a.m.
- Jan. 27 & Feb. 3 – Feeding Our Faith at 7:00 p.m.

Salem-Zion Prayer Requests & News

Happenings over the past week:

- On Tuesday, Eileen Kaufman had successful eye surgery to relieve pressure that she had been experiencing.
- Dorothy Preheim was admitted to the hospital on Wednesday for some health concerns and will spend a few days at Avera Prince of Peace in Sioux Falls.

- On January 18, Clara Graber will be having total hip replacement surgery in Sioux Falls.

Remember to pray for:

- those who cannot be here today: Dorothy Preheim.
- our country as it prepares for, responds to, and makes adjustments to, new leadership. We pray for calm and collected resolve as we move forward in this time.

Remember to thank God for:

- the many ways that God still calls us into ministry and into service for the Kingdom.
- the diligent work of Lisa Kaufman and Marnette Hofer for completing our annual yearbooks! We are grateful for their good work among us!
- the witness, words and example of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. that continue to live on in the hearts and lives of all those desiring peace, justice and racial equality.
- all the relationships in our congregations and in our conference that sustain us, guide us, and help us to see the Kingdom of God!

Coming this Week: *Feeding Our Faith*

This next Wednesday, **January 20th**, Roy Kaufman continues his Bible Study lessons based on his new book, "*The Drama of a Rural Community's Life Cycle*." A worksheet with guided questions is available to all and you do not have to purchase the book in order to participate. You can also log into ZOOM to listen. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall at 7:00pm and we ask that you wear masks.

Wednesday Morning Bible Study – Mark – "On the Way"

Join us on ZOOM at 10:00am for our Bible Reading of Mark's Gospel. We will read Mark 4-5, "Storms, Satan and Sickness." If you can't join us, you are invited to read through Mark's Gospel during this Epiphany and upcoming Lent season.

Looking for Testimonials: Please send your testimonies as to how you have endured, survived or even matured over these past 10 months. Your stories, words, pictures and thoughts will serve as "testimonies" in our worship during this Epiphany season. Send them to Pastor Corey via email, text or in the mail. Thank you!

Voices Together: Due to COVID outbreaks in the plants, the printers for both the pew edition and the accompaniment edition of *Voices Together* had to shut down temporarily, which significantly delayed the timeline for delivery of both editions. The full print run of *Voices Together* reached our

warehouse the week before Christmas and the team got to work right away shipping out books to all congregational customers who preordered the hymnal. All preorders have now been submitted to the distributor for shipping. Our new worship resources should be coming very soon!

To congregation of the North church,

During this Christmas season we have again been reminded of people of our community and former neighborhood for the prayers and concerns offered on our behalf of Arlen's ongoing illness. We **thank-you** personally for each card that was sent. In Christian Love, Arlen & Florence Miller

Please see the bulletin board in the narthex for a **thank-you letter** from Tom Manzer (Bienvenidos a Brookings) to Salem-Zion and our Outreach & Service Committee. The letter begins: "Thank you so much for your gift of \$5,000 to Bienvenidos a Brookings. We cannot adequately put into words how grateful we are for your support." Please take time to read the rest of the letter and enjoy the accompanying Christmas photos.

Caring and Sharing Meals: You are invited to provide a meal for Josh and Lynelle Hofer upon the birth of their daughter, Magdalena. One slot remains open for January 21. You can sign up on the email that was sent out on January 9 or by contacting Lisa Kaufman.

We are so thankful for all those who have faithfully led worship, given children's stories, and been choristers during the last several months. Maybe by now, others of you are feeling ready to join this group. If so, let us know!

The worship and music committees continue to seek willing participants in worship in the coming months. Nancy Miller and Kerwin Graber chair these committees.

Salem-Zion is facilitating a group subscription to *Anabaptist World* as was done for *The Mennonite* previously. Please contact the church office by **January 25** if you'd like to receive *Anabaptist World* or if you have any questions about subscriptions. Some of you already selected the group subscription option last year as *Anabaptist World* was launched, but feel free to confirm your subscription status with Lisa if you'd like.

Everence helps individuals, organizations, and congregations integrate finances through a team of advisors and representatives. Everence offers banking, insurance, and financial services with community benefits and stewardship education. **There is a brochure in the narthex from Everence** listing services offered by Everence titled "Take Control of your Finances."

Community Connections

Have the winter blues got you down? Are you looking for a creative outlet? Look no further! The first of three “Creating Together: imaginative art as a spiritual practice” **webinars** is coming up soon! Thursday, January 21, join Iowa City artist Melinda Turnbull as she demonstrates an art technique and talks about the way it is connected to spirituality—and then take a turn trying the technique also! For more information about this and other upcoming webinars (and the Zoom links), visit our website, centralplainsmc.org.

Rural Revival will meet on January 25 at 8:00 p.m. in the Upper Meeting Room of the Et Cetera Shoppe in Freeman. All are welcome to attend.

Pork BBQ Jan. 26: Enjoy a BBQ pork sandwich, beans, chips, and drink at the boys varsity basketball game against Bridgewater-Emery at Freeman Academy on Tuesday, Jan. 26. To-go meals also available. Serving in the Dining Hall from 5:45pm-7:30pm. Please wear masks when social distancing isn't possible. Proceeds support Freeman Academy's Booster Club for activities including music, speech, drama, and athletics.

Donations sought for Schmeckfest drive-thru: Due to the cancellation of Schmeckfest 2021, the FA Auxiliary is planning another Schmeckfest drive-thru event. Homemade ethnic food items and fresh Schmeckfest sausage will be sold March 19-20 and 26-27. This will follow the state recommended guidelines for safety from COVID-19. The auxiliary is asking local bakers for donations of the following popular items: fruit pockets, cheese pockets, kuchen, noodles, poppyseed rolls and pumpkin rolls. We are limiting the variety of items to help streamline the ordering process. Anyone willing to make these homemade food items is asked to contact Sheila Epp, 605-951-2327 Skyla Dowden, 925-4191 or Deb Schmeichel, 648-3430, to offer items. The auxiliary will also hold project work days with dates to be announced in the coming weeks. Watch for more information on the event and details on how to place an order.

MCC Webinars on Service Opportunities: Are you ready to step out and into service? To spend a year serving abroad or the summer serving your church or a local community organization? Check out the webinars happening this winter that will introduce these MCC service opportunities to you! Learn more at mcc.org/mcc-me-webinar-series-service-opportunities.

Join MCC for a free webinar: The Spiritual Cost of Doctrine of Discovery. Mark Charles, a Navajo activist, speaker, and author will be presenting on The Spiritual Cost of Doctrine of Discovery. Along with Soong-Chan Rah, Mark is the author of *Unsettling Truths: The ongoing,*

dehumanizing legacy of the Doctrine of Discovery, Intervarsity Press (2019). The free webinar will take place on Thursday, January 21, from 10-11:30 CST. Please register by January 20 at mcc.org/webinar-registration-dod to receive the webinar link.

The South Church deacon board has invited us to participate in "Take Them A Meal" for **Kaye and Terry Waltner** during the month of January; she had surgery recently. Sign up at www.TakeThemAMeal.com/EFJM1254; contact Peggy Waltner (pdjwltner1982@gmail.com) with questions. Thank you.

Seeking God's Peace:

“Peace cannot be kept by force; it can only be achieved by understanding.”
“Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that.” ~ Martin Luther King, Jr.

Praying for God's Peace in Epiphany:

“God calls us to be followers of Jesus Christ, and by the power of the Holy Spirit, to grow as communities of grace, joy and peace, so that God's healing and hope may flow through us to the world.”

- Vision Statement of Mennonite Church USA

Pastor Corey Miller

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