



Salem–Zion Mennonite Church

Renewal Through Repentance

January 19, 2025

10:30am

“Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love.” - Psalm 51:1

GATHERING TO PRAISE

Prelude – *Morning Has Broken* (arr. Jason Coleman) Mavis Ortman

Welcome and Call to Worship (from Mk. 1 and II Chron. 7) Janette Epp

L: Jesus came into Galilee announcing God’s good news, saying: “Now is the time.”

P: Now is the time?

L: “Now is the time! Here comes God’s kingdom! Change your hearts and lives.”

P: Change our hearts and lives?

L: Yes. Repent, and come clean with what you’ve done wrong and the sin that weighs you down.

P: And this is good news?

L: God said, “If my people who belong to me will humbly pray, seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, forgive their sin, and heal their land.”

ALL: This IS good news! God’s kingdom is now. Now is the time to humbly pray, seek God’s face, and turn from our wicked ways. Then we will be forgiven and our land will be healed.

Prayer of Invocation

* Singing our Praise – *Brethren, We Have Met to Worship* VT #25

* Greeting each other

Children’s Story Lillie Eisenbeis

Offering – Mennonite Church USA

Offertory – *God Heareth Me* (William Dichmont)

HEARING GOD’S WORD

Responsive Scripture Reading Revelation 3:14-22 (CEB) screen

Song – *Lord, Listen to Your Children* VT #682

* Gospel Reading Mark 1:14-15

Sermon – “For What Do We Need to Repent?” S. Roy Kaufman

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

Song – *What a Friend We Have in Jesus* VT #628

Intergenerational Ritual: Repentance

Sharing and Congregational Prayer Corey Miller

SENT OUT TO PROCLAIM GOOD NEWS

* Song – *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah* VT #606

* Benediction

Postlude

Church Calendar

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

TODAY

Anabaptist communities have fallen short of who we're called to be as followers of Jesus. Penitence, a primary theme in early Anabaptist spirituality, can correct our tendency for false righteousness. "*Bend the knees of my heart*" was a phrase that was often repeated in early Anabaptist writings. Welcome to our time of worship. We trust that God will meet us in this worship.

The offering that we are celebrating today is for **Mennonite Church USA**.

9:30am – Sunday School for all ages

10:30am – Worship Service

2:00pm – Fuente de Vida church service

THIS WEEK

Jan. 22 (Wed) – Feeding Our Faith. Supper at 6:15pm and Bible Study for all ages at 7:00pm. We grow communities of Hope when we spend time together eating, listening, and learning.

Jan. 24 (Fri) – Fuente de Vida church service at 7:00pm

NEXT SUNDAY – Jan. 26

Next Sunday we continue our "*Services of Renewal*" that guide our worship. The focus of the day is "*Renewal Through Yieldedness*." The texts include Jer. 17:5-10, Prv. 3:5-8, and Mt. 18:1-5 and Pastor Corey will be preaching. Everyone is encouraged to think about their baptism and what they remember. The offering will be for Mennonite Central Committee Meat Canning.

Salem-Zion Prayer Requests & News

Happenings over the past week:

- Reed and Susan Schrag made the decision to place Reed on hospice home care recently. This service provides assistance for Reed (and Susan) in helping to navigate through his various health needs going forward. Continue to pray for Reed and Susan.

Remember to praise God for:

- the story of the Anabaptist movement that sought to follow Christ above all else.
- the ways our children's faith is being formed at SLCC Winter Camp.
- the Ceasefire agreement between Israel and Gaza. We pray that peace may prevail.

Remember to pray for:

- those who cannot be here today: Mary Schmidt.

- the children who are attending and the youth who are helping to lead worship at Winter Camp at SLCC this weekend.
- Reed and Susan and their family as they continue their journey together.
- Sarah Martin in the death of her father recently. Pray for comforting love to surround Sarah and her family.
- our country as it begins a new season. Pray that the message of Dr. King will grow deep inside all leaders.
- the community around Los Angeles as it deals with the devastating fires that have burned homes, businesses, and people's lives in recent days.

We have nearly \$3000 to give away! What a blessing of wealth! What do we want to use it for? What is important to us? Who is in need locally...or further away? The Outreach and Service Committee/Team, twice a year designates **gifts for local and/or global needs**. If you have an idea, request, or suggestion, please share your thoughts with someone from the O&S team by February 3rd. Some of the members include: Charity Ortman, Teresa Dick, Lacey Friesen, Tim Eisenbeis, Nathan Epp, Corey Miller, Gwen Ortman, Janette Epp, Marlyce Miller, Anita Eisenbeis, Clara Beseman.

Anabaptist Community Bible: The Anabaptist Community Bible is available for purchase. If you wish to order one, you can do so online at: <https://www.mennomedia.org/anabaptist-community-bible>.

Community Connections

Swan Lake Christian Camp invites you to join us for **Piano Night at the Lake** on January 26 at 6:00pm. Join us for a relaxing meal, conversation and some fabulous piano music. Our pianist this year is Karen Unruh of Goessel, Kansas. She will be joined by her son Austin and grandson of Freeman in some duets. This is a fundraising event for the chapel/dining hall building at the camp. Come early for a tour of the building. A freewill donation will be taken. Reservations are required. Call 605-326-5690 or email campoffice@myslcc.com.

FA Noodle Making Day Planned: You are invited to join the volunteer crew in making noodles for the 2025 Schmeckfest meal and Country Kitchen on Saturday, Feb. 1, starting at 9:00am. Snow date is Feb. 8, if necessary. This is a great time of work and fellowship for folks of all ages! A pizza lunch will be provided.

The January edition of **On the Level** from Mennonite Disaster Service is now available at <https://conta.cc/40gJGz2>. In this edition, an update on the MDS response to the LA Wildfires, a new job opportunity with MDS, plus all the details for the upcoming MDS 75th Anniversary Celebration.

Estate Planning for those with Disabilities: Families who have loved ones with disabilities have extra concerns when planning their estate. On Thursday, January 30, Anabaptist Disabilities Network (ADN) is hosting the webinar, “After We’re Gone: Protecting Those with Special Needs Through Estate Planning.” Visit <https://www.anabaptistdisabilitiesnetwork.org/after-were-gone-part-2/> for more information and to register.

Learning more about Christian Nationalism: Dr. Drew Strait will present the 37th Annual Mennonite Bible Study Series in Mountain Lake on Jan 31-Feb 2, on the timely theme of “**Following Jesus in a World of Political Idolatry and Polarization.**” This series is sponsored annually by Bethel Mennonite Church and First Mennonite Church in Mountain Lake, Minnesota, with the intent of bringing Anabaptist scholars and practitioners of theology and Biblical studies to the local scene. The meetings will be held at Bethel Mennonite Church beginning Friday evening, January 31 at 7:00pm. Two Saturday, February 1, sessions will be from 9:00 to 11:30am and at 7:00pm. The Sunday morning, February 2, worship service begins at 10:00am at Bethel Church, followed by a Sunday evening session at 7:00pm. Dr. Drew Strait is Associate Professor of NT at AMBS in Elkhart, Indiana. All are warmly invited to any or all of the events of the series.

Seeking Peace: *“Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only Love can do that.”* - Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Pastor Corey Miller
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