



# Salem-Zion Mennonite Church

**January 3, 2021**

*“On the road to radiance”*

## GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Prelude – *Joy to the World* (arr. Dan Forrest)

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

Ella Waltner

Welcome and Call to Worship

Sheila Epp

L: Lift up your eyes and look around:

**P: God delivers the needy when they call.**

L: Let your hearts thrill and rejoice;

**P: God will deliver the poor and those who have no helper.**

L: The nations will bring gold and frankincense before the Lord.

**P: We shall see and be radiant,**

**ALL: and we will proclaim the praise of the Lord!**

Opening Prayer

Opening Hymn – *Hark! the herald angels sing* (HWB #201)

Celebrating God’s Mission – Household Treasury

Children’s Story

Corey Miller

## HEARING GOD’S WORD

Hearing the Scriptures Isaiah 60:1-6, Ephesians 3:1-12

Song – *Oh, beautiful star of Bethlehem* (SS #32)

\* Hearing the Gospel

Matthew 2:1-12

Meditation – “Following a Star”

Corey Miller

## RESPONDING TO GOD’S CALL

Communion

*Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne* (arr. Dan Forrest)

Sharing and Congregational Prayer

Sending Song – *Joy to the world* (HWB #318; v. 1,2,4)

Benediction

Postlude – *We Three Kings* (arr. Joel Raney)

**Musicians:** Mory Ortman, Jordan and Kirsten Ortman

## Church Calendar

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

### TODAY

Jesus, the Light of the world has come and shed light on our journey. As we ponder this tremendous gift, we are radiant in the light of his love and grace. We are so glad that you have joined us on this first Sunday of 2021. Welcome family of God, wherever you may be!

This morning our gifts will be used in the *Household Treasury* to support the local ministry of Salem-Zion. Thank you for supporting our ministry.

**Today (Sun)** - Outreach and Service meeting at 2:00 p.m.

- Catechism at 4:00 p.m. via ZOOM

### THIS WEEK

Jan. 6 (Wed) - ZOOM Bible Study from Mark at 10 a.m.

- Faith from the Heart on Wednesdays (Jr. Sunday school department) led by Pastor Corey at 6:45 p.m.

- Deacon Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

### NEXT SUNDAY – January 10

Next Sunday we continue celebrating the Epiphany season. The theme is “*Baptism of the Lord*” and the texts are Genesis 1:1-5, Psalm 29, Acts 19:1-7 and Mark 1:4-11. Pastor Corey will be preaching.

Offering next Sunday will be for **Central Plains Mennonite Conference**.

### COMING EVENTS

Jan. 11 – Administrative Board meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Jan. 13, 20, 27 – Faith from the Heart on Wednesdays (Jr. SS Dept.)

Jan. 13, 20, 27, Feb. 3 – Feeding Our Faith at 7:00 p.m.

## Salem-Zion Prayer Requests & News

### Happenings over the past week:

- On Monday, Burton Kaufman had total knee replacement surgery in Sioux Falls. Burton was able to return home on Wednesday and is recovering well at home.

- On Monday, Bill Waltner had hernia repair surgery in Sioux Falls. Bill is doing well and recovering at home.

- Larry & Anette Eisenbeis celebrated their 65<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on Tuesday, Dec 29<sup>th</sup>. We praise God for their long and fruitful lives together.

- The Miller family was able to return safely on Monday from a quick trip to KS, where they visited family.

**Remember to pray for:**

- those who cannot be here today: Nita Engbrecht.
- Burton and Bill as they continue to heal from their recent surgeries. Lord, hear our prayers.
- those who are feeling deeper sadness in this past holiday season because of lost loved ones. We continue to pray for Beth Bontrager, Mary Schmidt and Delmar Ortman in the loss of Kevin, Allen and Maxine.
- those in our church and community who continue to recover from Covid or deal with its reality in our time.
- our college students, Josie Epp and Rachel Miller, as they return to Bethel for another semester.

**Remember to thank God for:**

- the gift of a new year that is filled with hope and opportunity to be expressions of God’s light in the world.
- the 65 years of marriage that have blessed Larry and Anette and their families!

**Flandreau Project update:** A “drive through” Christmas party was planned by Nitza and Bienvenidos a Brookings for the immigrant families of Flandreau. Tom Manzer of Bienvenidos reports that they stuffed (37) Christmas stockings and provided gift cards instead of toys this year. They felt in these uncertain times that parents should have the flexibility to purchase what is most appropriate for their children whether it be a toy, clothing or food. He says “the outpouring of support from your church communities continues to amaze and humble me.” Thanks for your continued generosity and support.

**Coming Soon: *Feeding Our Faith***

Starting on Wednesday, **January 13<sup>th</sup>**, the Board of Education is offering four Bible Study sessions led by Roy Kaufman 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. Books are available for purchase at the museum and Roy will have some as well. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall where we can social distance and masks are required for attendees. We look forward to growing together as we study and learn.

**Wednesday Morning Bible Study – Mark – “On the Way.”**

Last summer, a small group gathered via ZOOM to read over our top 14 scripture passages. In this new year, we will be reading through Mark’s Gospel, culminating in the Easter story right at Easter time. Lisa will provide the ZOOM link and the study will take place at 10:00am, starting on January 6. Join us if you can as we study God’s Word together.

**December Mission Fund Offerings and Gifts:** Mennonite Central Committee - \$1,980.00; Mennonite Mission Network - \$1,555.00; Central Plains Mennonite Conference - \$1,335.00; Mennonite Church USA - \$1,030.00; MCC Meat Canning - \$1,000.00; Northern Turner Co. Food Pantry ½ Thanksgiving Day offering - \$649.00.

The **January newsletter** was sent as an attachment with this week’s e-mailed bulletin. Hard copies are available in the narthex for anyone who would like one.

**Opening Prayer for Epiphany Season:**

O God, who in the work of creation commanded the light to shine out of darkness: we pray that the light of the glorious gospel of Christ may shine into the hearts of all your people, dispelling the darkness of ignorance and unbelief, and revealing to them the knowledge of your glory in the face of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Pastor Corey Miller**

Office Hours:  
Tues.-Fri. 8:00 a.m. - Noon  
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**Church Admin. Assistant:**

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