



Salem-Zion Mennonite Church

January 5, 2020

Epiphany: By Another Route

“Arise, shine, for your light has come!” - Isaiah 60:1

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Prelude – *O Lord, how shall I meet Thee*

How far is it to Bethlehem?

Paul Manz

The Prophet Calls

Isaiah 60:1-6

Welcome and Call to Worship

Tim Graber

L: Oh God, our God, you cry out to us.

P: Asking, when will you see the light that I am, the grace I have extended to all people, the dance out of the darkness and into righteousness to which I invited you?

L: Can we see that in you, we are transformed, unable to go back the way we have known?

ALL: God, what are we waiting for?

Opening Prayer

OFFERING OUR PRAISE

* Hymn – *Good Christian friends, rejoice*

HWB #210

Children’s Story

Susan Schrag

Come, Light of the world SS #3

Rejoicing with Paul

Ephesians 3:1-9

Offering our gifts – Household Treasury; large bars of mild soap (leave in wrapper), pairs of socks, caps

Dedicating Infant Kits

Offertory – *O Morning Star, how clear and bright* Michael Burkhardt

PROCLAIMING GOD’S WORD

* Hearing the Gospel

Matthew 2:1-23

Sermon – “On the road”

Corey Miller

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

Song – *What Child is this*

HWB #215

Communion

Sharing and Congregational Prayer

* Sending Song – *The first Noel, the angel did say*

HWB #199

* Benediction

Postlude – *Improvised*

* Congregation please stand. If standing is difficult, please remain seated.

The peace lamp is lit weekly as a reminder that there is violence and suffering in the world. We as a faith community pray for peace for all people and look for ways to be active in peacemaking and proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Church Calendar

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

TODAY

Through a series of dreams, Mary, Joseph, and the wise men were instructed to get on the road. As we celebrate the birth of Jesus, the Light of the world that shines upon us, we too are invited to walk by another route in our faith journey. We are so glad you have joined us to worship our living and loving God!

We welcome to the Lord’s communion table all who earnestly love Jesus and who are committed to being a part of Christ’s church through baptism waters.

Bulletin cover designed by Kenzy Penner. Thank you, Kenzy!

Greeters: Elizabeth Janssen & LeAnn Kaufman; **Organist:** Ken Mannes

9:15 a.m. – Sunday School

10:10 a.m. – Fellowship Time

10:30 a.m. – Worship Service

THIS WEEK

Jan. 8 (Wed) Feeding Our Faith; Supper begins at 6:15 p.m. and programming for all ages at 7:00 p.m.

NEXT SUNDAY – Jan. 12

Next Sunday we will begin a new series during January and February called “*Seeing Jesus in 2020.*” The theme will be “Calling Disciples” and the scriptures are Genesis 18:13-26 and Matthew 4:18-22. Pastor Corey will be preaching.

Greeters: Mavis & Marlo Ortman; **Organist:** Lisa Kaufman; **Offering:** Central Plains Mennonite Conference

COMING EVENTS

January 8, 15, 22 and 29: Feeding Our Faith! A midweek soup and study time that will be for all ages. The supper will begin at 6:15pm and our study will begin at 7:00pm. Pastor Corey will lead an adult Bible Study on I Peter, there will be programming for our younger and older children (up to 8th grade) and the youth will meet. We look forward to gathering in community to grow in our faith.

Jan. 13 – Administrative Board meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Jan. 18 – Comforter Blitz in Fellowship Hall

Salem-Zion Prayer Requests & News

Remember to pray for:

- those who cannot be here today: Eva Goosen.

- willing teachers to help our friends at Hutterthal Mennonite in their time of healing.

- places in the world that are experiencing conflict, violence, poverty and corruption. Pray for families that are on the run due to horrific living environments.

Remember to thank God for:

- the willing SS teachers who are helping the Hutterthal Mennonite Church this morning as they tend to their healing.
- the hope that comes in a new year. Hope for healing. Hope for salvation. Hope for rebirth. Hope for love.

There are Schmeckfest sign-up sheets for FOOD and KITCHEN WORKERS in the narthex. Sign up early and have your pick of day to contribute with food and/or work. Contact Polly Waltner or Sheila Epp with any questions you might have regarding these assignments.

December Offerings and Gifts: Household Treasury - \$13,037.21; Service & Mission Fund - \$2,000.00; Deacon Sharing Fund - \$3,018.00; Student Tuition Sharing Fund - \$1,300.00; CPMC - \$1,490.00; Mennonite Church USA - \$1,397.00; The Banquet - \$1,044.52; Jr. Sunday School - MCC Infant kits - \$180.00; Bienvenidos a Brookings Christmas project - \$168.00; Freeman Academy - \$25.00.

Minutes from the October deacon meeting are posted in the narthex and bulletins from last week are also available on the table in the narthex.

Thank You: We want to offer our heartfelt gratitude to the Salem-Zion congregation for all the cards, letters, food and gifts offered to us during December. We feel very cared for and blessed and are humbled by your generosity. Thank you again for showing your love in such tangible ways.

- Corey, Nancy, Hannah and Rachel Miller

Community Connections

Freeman Academy constituents are invited to a **Town Hall meeting** in the Dining Hall on Saturday, Jan. 11 following FA basketball games (approximately 3:30 pm). Among the board's primary agenda as the new year begins are: 1) negotiating terms of a triple net lease with the museum, 2) continuing to incorporate restorative justice techniques to strengthen community within our constituency and within our classrooms, and 3) promoting our school through positive and consistent messaging. Board members and administration will be present to answer questions and hear feedback on these and any other topics of interest or concern to constituents. A soup supper to benefit the FA Chamber Choir will also be served from 12-3 p.m.

The Freeman Academy Auxiliary will be **making noodles** for the Schmeckfest Country Kitchen and meals on Saturday, January 18 and Tuesday, January 21 in the Pioneer Hall kitchen starting at 9 a.m. If a "snow date" is needed, we will also make noodles on Tuesday, January 28. Cancellations will be announced on the *Courier* and Freeman Academy websites. Volunteers to help make noodles would be greatly appreciated. Bring a friend and enjoy the fellowship.

God is with us in Christmas: By the light of nature we see God as a God above us, by the light of the law we see Him as a God against us, but by the light of the gospel we see Him as Emmanuel, God with us.

- Matthew Henry

Pastor Corey Miller

Office Hours:
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