



Salem-Zion Mennonite Church

January 6, 2019

Light

*“When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy.”
– Matthew 2:10*

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Gathering Song– *Come, thou long-expected Jesus* (insert in back of hymn book)

Welcome and Announcements Stacey Waltner

Preparing for Worship – *Chorale in E* César Franck

Call to Worship

L: Arise, shine, for our light has come and the glory of God has risen upon us!

P: Nations will come to the light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

L: The love of God for all peoples and nations is revealed through his Son, Jesus Christ.

P: We are now one world and one family, called to be children of God.

ALL: Arise, shine, for our light has come!

Opening Prayer

PRAISING GOD

* Gathering Song – *Christ, whose glory fills the skies* HWB #216

Children’s Story Corey Miller

Offering our gifts – Household Treasury; Infant Kits dedicated

Offertory Prayer

Offertory – *Resignation* arr. Callahan

HEARING GOD’S WORD

Scriptures Isaiah 60:1-6, Matthew 2:1-12

Sermon – “Gifts” Corey Miller

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

* Response Hymn – *Oh, beautiful star of Bethlehem* SS #32

Communion

Congregational Prayer

* Sending Song – *Come, come, ye saints* HWB #425

* Benediction

Postlude – *Another Year Is Dawning* Vulpus

* 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

On Epiphany Sunday, we bask in the glow of Christ, the light of the world, who brings all the powers of the world to their knees. With the wise ones who traveled far, we offer our gifts of adoration and praise to Jesus who shines in the darkness.

We welcome to the table of God’s grace all who sincerely love Jesus and are committed to following him with their lives.

Thank you, Liam Ortman, for designing the bulletin covers for this worship service.

Greeters: S. Roy Kaufman and Orville Ortman; **Organist:** Ruby Waltner

9:15 a.m. – Sunday School

10:10 a.m. – Fellowship Time

10:30 a.m. – Worship Service

2:00 p.m. – Memorial service for Marian Brundage in the fellowship hall

“Celebrating Giving”

This morning we receive an offering for the household treasury. This offering is used to support the ministry of Salem-Zion. The household treasury is used to pay salaries, utilities, educational supplies, maintenance and many more things that aid in the ministry of Salem-Zion. Thank you for your financial support, prayer, and the willingness to volunteer to help with all the church is working on to further the work of Jesus and his teaching.

THIS WEEK

Jan. 9 (Wed) **Feeding Our Faith** with soup supper at 6:00 p.m. and programming for all ages. Roy Kaufman will lead a study and discussion about Land Trusts. If you haven’t seen what this is all about, you’re missing out.

Jan. 11 (Fri) – **Deacons supper** at Lori Ortman’s home at 6:30 p.m.

NEXT SUNDAY – January 13

Next Sunday the worship theme is “*The Baptism of the Lord.*” The texts are Isaiah 43:1-7, Psalm 29, Acts 8:14-17 and Luke 3:15-17, 21-22. Our children will be leading the worship time and Corey will be preaching.

Keyboardist: Sheila Epp; **Offering:** Central Plains Mennonite Conference

COMING EVENTS

Jan. 14 – Administrative Board meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Salem-Zion Prayer Requests & News

Happenings over the past week:

- Aidan and Ashton Kesteloot's father, Scott, died rather suddenly this past week. Scott's memorial service will be held on Monday in Minnesota. Remember Aidan, Ashton and Peg in this time of loss.
- Janette Epp began her responsibilities as deacon this week. She replaces Lori Ortman, who served two terms as deacon for Salem-Zion. Praise God for Lori's faithful service and for Janette's willingness to once again share her gifts in this ministry.

Remember to pray for:

- those who cannot be here today: Joyce Schrag.
- Aidan, Ashton and Peg as they process their grief and their loss.
- Gwen Ortman and her family as they say goodbye to their mother and grandmother.
- Amanda Bleichty as we welcome her to her new role on the Ministry Staff as Conference Minister for Christian Formation in Central Plains Mennonite Conference.

Remember to thank God for:

- all the gifts that we have been blessed with in this past Advent/Christmas season.

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 (food) or Sheila Epp (workers) with any questions you might have.

A card from Tim LimberHand is on the bulletin board thanking the congregation for their prayers and love offering in response to his recent fall and surgery.

December Offerings and Gifts: Household Treasury - \$20,393.76; Student Tuition Sharing Fund - \$900.00; Cemetery Fund - \$2,359.10; Deacon Sharing Fund - \$1,000.00; Mennonite Women - \$2,009.08; Freeman Academy - \$1,756.00; Mennonite Church USA - \$2,401.00; Central Plains Mennonite Conference - \$2,888.00; Mennonite Mission Network - \$1,000.00; Mennonite Central Committee - \$2,000.00; MCC (SD Relief Sale) - \$2,000.00; Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary - \$1,500.00; Swan Lake Christian Camp - \$1,000.00; Mennonite Disaster Service - \$3,350.00; Infant Kits - \$1,151.25.

Drivers Needed. The Transit System that has transported our older church members to church from Freeman is looking for volunteer drivers to continue to allow this service to bless our church. They have said that we can use their vehicle to transport our people ourselves. If you are interested in being a driver, please talk to Jay Kaylor (605) 692-5416 or to Pastor Corey.

Community Connections

Please see the bulletin board in the narthex for details regarding **Salem Mennonite Home's Annual Meeting** on Tuesday, January 8 at 7:00 p.m.

The Freeman Network for Justice and Peace will be meeting at 12 p.m. Wednesday, January 9, in the Freeman Public Library meeting room. Anyone is welcome to attend.

Northeast Oklahoma was hit by a tornado on November 30, 2018 that was on the ground for 50 miles. **Volunteers are needed** for a week at a time for chain saw work, cleaning up debris, and separating metal from trash in January. See the bulletin board for details. Expenses will be covered. Volunteers can call Dennis Ries, SD MDS Co-coordinator Phone # 925-7788 or LeRoy Pullman for further arrangements.

Claiming God's Promise of Peace:

Let us bring equality, justice, and peace for all. Not just the politicians and the world leaders, we all need to contribute. Me. You. It is our duty. Malala Yousafzai (Nobel Prize Winner 2014)

