



# Salem–Zion Mennonite Church

*Epiphany*  
January 8, 2023

## GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Prelude Sheila Epp  
Welcome Sherilyn Ortman

Lighting the Peace Lamp

Call to Worship

L: Arise! Shine!

**P: God's light has come to reveal The Way in this New Year.**

L: Arise! Shine!

**P: God's glory has risen upon us.**

L: Arise! Shine!

**P: God's light penetrates the darkness that covers the world.**

L: Arise! Shine!

**P: Nations shall come to God's light and kings to the brightness of God's dawn.**

**ALL: Arise! Shine! For the Glory of the Lord has risen upon us.**

Opening Prayer

\* Hymn – *Arise, Your Light Is Come!* VT #273

Greeting one another

Children's Story Paul Ortman

Celebrating our Offerings – Central Plains Mennonite Conference  
Offertory

## PROCLAIMING

Hearing the OT and NT Isaiah 60:1-6, Ephesians 3:1-12

Song – *O Beautiful Star of Bethlehem* VT #275

\* Hearing the Gospel Matthew 2:1-12

Sermon – “God’s Alternative Route” Corey Miller

## RESPONDING

Song – *Angels, from the Realms of Glory* VT #265

Sharing and Congregational Prayer Gwen Ortman

\* Sending Song – *God Is Working This Purpose Out* VT #770

\* Blessing

Postlude

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Violin: Lynelle Yoder Hofer

*Epiphany*  
**ARISE AND SHINE,  
YOUR LIGHT  
HAS COME!**



## Church Calendar

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

### TODAY

On Epiphany Sunday, we marvel at the long journey that the wise ones took from the far East to see the infant Jesus. May we all “*arise and shine for our light has come*” in the birth of Jesus our Savior, Lord, and Friend. Welcome to worship. We are so glad you are here with us!

The offering that we are celebrating today is for **Central Plains Mennonite Conference**.

9:30 a.m. – Sunday School for all ages

10:30 a.m. – Worship Service

2:00 p.m. – Fuente de Vida church service

### THIS WEEK

**Jan. 9 (Mon)** – Administrative Board in the Fellowship Hall at 7:00 p.m.

**Jan. 11 (Wed)** – **Feeding Our Faith** kickoff; supper at 6:15 p.m. and programming at 7:00 p.m.

**Jan. 12 (Thurs)** – Deacon’s Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

**Jan. 13-15** – Jr. High Retreat at SLCC (Salem-Zion pays half of registration fee)

**Jan. 13 (Fri)** – Fuente de Vida church service at 7:00 p.m.

**Jan. 14 (Sat)** – Women’s book study at 9:30 a.m.

### NEXT SUNDAY – Jan. 15

Next Sunday we are invited to **Envision Peace and Equality** in the world with Dr. Martin Luther King Junior. The scripture texts are Amos 5:14-15, 21-24, Revelation 7:9-17, Matthew 5:1-12, and Pastor Corey will be preaching.

Next week the offering is for **Mennonite Church USA**.

Following the worship service on Sunday, January 15, everyone is invited to a **potluck and meeting organized by the Salem-Zion Committee Structure Task Force**. As discussed at the annual meeting in November, this forum will provide an opportunity for congregational input as we look at Salem-Zion’s committees and the ministries that they support.

## Salem-Zion Prayer Requests & News

### Happenings over the past week(s):

- Major snowstorms shut most people in their homes for a few days last week. Lots of time for praying!
- Special thanks to all those who helped to clean off our church parking lot after the big snowstorm. Many hands make little work.

### Remember to pray for:

- those who cannot be here today: Helen Tieszen.
- our farmers as they deal with difficult winter conditions for their dairy and livestock operations.
- Digna Miller as she continues to walk alongside her sister Alpha in her illness.
- those who struggle with mental health in these long days of winter.
- pastors and lay leaders who have so faithfully served congregations in Central Plains Mennonite Conference in this past year. We give thanks to God for providing able shepherds to lead our congregations.

**Feeding Our Faith begins January 11:** On January 11<sup>th</sup>, our annual Feeding Our Faith midweek ministry will have its kickoff night. A pizza supper will be served (freewill donations accepted) and then we’ll have study and activities for all ages. Pastor Corey will be leading the Bible Study and Sheila Epp will lead our children’s time of faith formation. The supper will begin at 6:15pm and programming will begin at 7:00pm.

The January church **newsletter** is available on the table in the narthex.

Rachel Miller’s December **MVS newsletter** was emailed with the bulletin and a hard copy is available on the bulletin board in the narthex.

**Epiphany of Hope:** “It’s an unwed woman who carries God. It’s the pagans from the East who recognize God. It’s the workers in the field who hear from God. It’s the marginalized neighborhood who welcomes God. It’s God who chooses the lowly and the broken to rise. Christmas is here. Let hope in.” ~Unknown

### Pastor Corey Miller

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

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