



Salem-Zion Mennonite Church

**“God Heals”
October 6, 2024
10:30am**

*“Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching...
and curing every disease...” - Matthew 9:35*

GATHERING TO PRAISE

Prelude Sheila Epp
Welcome Elizabeth Janssen

Call to Worship (from Psalm 103)

L: Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name.

P: Bless the Lord, O my soul, and do not forget all his benefits –

L: Who forgives all your iniquity, heals all your diseases, and redeems
your life from the Pit,

**P: Who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, and satisfies you
with good -**

ALL: So that your youth is renewed like the eagle’s.

Opening Prayer

* Singing our Praise – *For the Healing of the Nations* VT #705

* Greeting each other

Children’s Story Beth Bontrager

Lighting the Peace Lamp

Offering – Household Treasury
Offertory

HEARING GOD’S WORD

Healing in the Old Testament II Kings 5:1-14

* Hearing the Gospel Matthew 9:2-8

Sermon – “God’s Healing Ways” Pastor Corey Miller

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

Song – *Come, Ye Disconsolate* VT #643

Communion

Sharing and Congregational Prayer

SENT OUT TO PROCLAIM GOOD NEWS

* Song – *As You Go Out from Here* VT #841

* Benediction

Postlude

Church Calendar

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

TODAY

Jesus’ healing ministry revealed God’s peace in tangible ways. While we often relegate healing to modern medicine and doctors, God is still healing us and the world. In proclaiming a God who looks more like Jesus, we celebrate God’s healing ways. Welcome to our worship!

The various breads displayed on the communion table reflect the diversity of Christ’s church. May this visual be a reminder of how deep and wide Christ’s church is!

The offering that we are celebrating today is for the **Household Treasury.**

9:30am – Jr. SS Opening in the sanctuary

9:30am – Sunday School for all ages

10:30am – Worship Service

2:00pm – Fuente de Vida church service

THIS WEEK

Oct. 7 (Mon) – Memorial Service for John Schwartz at 11:00am at Salem-Zion

Oct. 9 (Wed) – Children’s Choir, 6:00-6:30pm

Oct. 9 (Wed) – Outreach and Service meeting at 7:30pm

Oct. 11 (Fri) – Fuente de Vida church service at 7:00pm

NEXT SUNDAY – Oct. 13

Next Sunday the theme is “*A God Who Looks Like Jesus: Playing.*” The text is from Matthew 19:13-15 and Pastor Corey will be preaching.

The offering will be for Mennonite Church USA.

COMING EVENTS

October 13 – Fall Gathering at Salem-Zion, 5:00-7:00pm

October 16 – Board of Education meeting at 7:00pm

October 27 – Harvest Mission Festival at Salem Mennonite. Worship at 9:30am, Additional Presentation at 10:30am. Noon meal to follow.

Salem-Zion Prayer Requests & News

Happenings over the past week:

- John Schwartz died at his home on Tuesday afternoon. His burial was held at SZ cemetery on Wednesday and his memorial service will be held at Salem-Zion on Monday at 11:00am.

- Reed Schrag continues to make progress from his recent health issues. He remains a patient at the Freeman Hospital, but he hopes to be able to return home next week sometime.

Remember to praise God for:

- all the ways that Christians are united on this World Communion Sunday.
- dry conditions, favorable harvesting weather, and bountiful crops.

Remember to pray for:

- those who cannot be here today: LaVonne Schrag.
- those who have experienced tragic death and devastating losses from Hurricane Helene in the Southeast.
- all people who have experienced trauma, loss, and death from the escalating violence in the Middle East.
- all the faithful shepherds in Central Plains Mennonite Conference throughout Pastor Appreciation Month in October. Our conference is blessed with the leadership of so many good pastors!

Everyone is invited for a **Fall Gathering** at Salem-Zion, on October 13, from 5-7 pm. A light supper with hotdogs for roasting and s'mores will be provided. You are welcome to bring a side dish. Activities will include soccer and lawn games. Bring a lawn chair and enjoy a fun time of fellowship. If you have questions, contact Sheila or Anita.

Maria Paff is recovering from surgery, and if anyone would like to **provide a meal** for the Paff family in the coming days, please make arrangements by contacting Maria (312-998-1251) or Brian (312-998-0949). Thank you!

Freeman Academy's annual fall church drive will begin Sunday, October 20th. Students will share music and Board President, Brian Paff, will provide a school update during your worship service that Sunday. During this harvest season, we are grateful to the alumni and friends of Freeman Academy and ask you to consider making a gift to the school's general fund. Committee members will be available at a table on Oct. 20th and Oct. 27th to receive your donations. If you are not in church those Sundays and would like to participate, self-addressed envelopes will be available on a table for your convenience, or you can make your donation online at freemanacademy.org.

The South Church Mission & Service team is planning this year's **Harvest Mission Sunday** on October 27 with the North Church as our guests. Steve and Kristi Martin (brother and sister-in-law to Angie and Brent Brockmueller) will be with us to share about their ministry, Anistemi (ah-nest-amy,) meaning "to raise up". This ministry partners with three communities in Africa (Nairobi, Kenya; Kumel, Uganda; and Uvira, Congo) to raise people up and out of poverty by providing access to resources like education, vocational training and small business loans. The Martins will share during the worship service at 9:30 and again with the adults and children during Sunday school time. Our church will be providing the noon fellowship meal.

September Offerings and Gifts: Cemetery Fund - \$1,000.00; Deacon Sharing Fund - \$2,850.00; Household Treasury - \$9,555.00; MCC Ukraine - \$4,041.00; MCUSA - \$1,364.00; SLCC - \$1,015.00; Student Tuition Sharing Fund - \$2,332.00.

The Household Treasury **monthly report** is posted in the narthex.

Community Connections

The **Freeman Network for Justice and Peace** will meet Wednesday, October 9 at 11:30 A.M. in the Freeman Public Library. All are welcome.

Freeman Academy will be hosting a special **Indigenous Peoples' Day** event on Wednesday, October 16, 9:00-10:30am in Sterling Hall. We will be welcoming South Dakota Secretary of Tribal Relations Dave Flute to speak and will also enjoy performances of native songs and dances from the Dakota Dance Club. We are inviting members of the Freeman community as well as students from surrounding districts to attend this event. This event is sponsored by Dr. Rolf Olson and Dr. Anne Waltner, as well as Shane Vetch with Modern Woodmen, and is free to attendees.

Mennonite Disaster Service (MDS) volunteers are in western North Carolina responding to the impacts of Hurricane Helene with equipment to move debris, mud, and downed trees. MDS is accepting donations for the recovery effort at MDS.org. Checks can be mailed to Mennonite Disaster Service, 583 Airport Road, Lititz, PA 17543. Write "Hurricane Helene" on the memo line.

Responding to the crisis in Lebanon and Gaza: Up to a million people in Lebanon have been displaced in the last few days due to increasing military attacks. And the grave humanitarian crisis in Gaza continues. You can donate and provide relief today. MCC continues to respond to the needs of displaced people in Lebanon and Gaza. MCC is providing relief to recently displaced people in Lebanon with food, hygiene, bedding and psychosocial support. Please pray for an end to the violence and for a just peace in Israel and Palestine. Donate online at mcc.org/palestine-israel.

God comes near to us: *"Christianity can be confusing, but the way of Jesus was pretty clear. Move toward the poor. Empower the woman. Create space at the table. Throw parties. Widen the family boundaries. Poke holes in oppressive systems. Don't retaliate with violence. Forgive your enemy. Don't store up wealth. Be present with people. Heal. Announce. Push back darkness. The kingdom of God is near."* – Dan Sadlier

Pastor Corey Miller
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