



Salem-Zion Mennonite Church

November 15, 2020
“Journey to God’s Reign”

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

- Prelude – *Sometimes I Feel Like a Motherless Child* (arr. John Carter)
Wayfaring Stranger (arr. Mark Hayes) Sherilyn Ortman
- Welcome and Call to Worship Jeremy Waltner
- Opening Prayer
- Opening Hymn – *For the fruit of all creation* (HWB #90)
Chorister: Josh Hofer
- Celebrating God’s Mission – Mennonite Church USA
- Children’s Story Susan Schrag

HEARING GOD’S WORD

- * Hearing the Gospel Luke 15:11-24
- Music – *All will be well* (SJ #98)
- Hearing the Old Testament Jeremiah 31:1-9, 16-17, 21
- Sermon – “Coming Home” Corey Miller

RESPONDING TO GOD’S CALL

- Song – *New earth, heavens new* (HWB #299)
- Sharing and Congregational Prayer Beth Epp
- Sending Song – *Don’t be afraid* (SJ #105)
- Benediction
- Postlude

Church Calendar

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

TODAY

Jeremiah finally gets to share some good news with Judah that she will be returning home. God invited Judah to return home to a place of peace and wholeness, just as God invites us to join in God’s Reign in the world. We are so glad you are joining us for worship.

The offering that we are celebrating today is for **Mennonite Church USA**. MC USA’s vision statement is: “*God calls us to be followers of Jesus Christ and by the power of the Holy Spirit, to grow as communities of grace, joy and peace, so that God’s healing and hope flow through us to the world.*” This mission inspires us to joyfully give to Christ’s church embodied in MC USA.

TODAY – Catechism and *Christ in Crisis* study at 9:30 a.m.

NEXT SUNDAY – November 22

Next Sunday we will conclude our focus of “**Road Signs & Guideposts**” through the prophet Jeremiah. The theme of the morning will be “*A New Covenant*” and the text will be Jeremiah 31:31-34. Pastor Corey will be preaching and we’ll be preparing for the upcoming Advent season.

Offering next Sunday will be for the **Deacon Sharing Fund**.

COMING EVENTS

- Nov. 22** – **Annual Congregational Business Meeting** at 4:00 in the sanctuary
- Nov. 26** – **Thanksgiving Worship Service at South Church**. You can worship in person or via Zoom. Worship begins at 10:30am.
- Nov. 29** – Advent begins
- Dec. 1** – Yearbook deadline

Salem-Zion Prayer Requests & News

Happenings over the past week:

- The Administrative Board met on Monday and reflected on an opportunity to become a partnering church sponsor to Jerrell and Jane Ross Richer as they serve in Ecuador with Mennonite Mission Network. More information will be shared at the annual business meeting.

Remember to pray for:

- those who cannot be here today: Hilda Kaufman.
- Mark Miller, and others who have tested positive for Covid-19 or remain hospitalized. Mark is still a patient at Sanford and was taken off the ventilator after being on it for six days. Pray for healing, strength and patience.

- Corey's father, Arlen Miller, continues to deal with an aggressive form of prostate cancer. He recently finished radiation treatment but the cancer continues to spread. More decisions lie ahead for Arlen and Florence and they request your prayers for wisdom, courage and faith.
- our schools and families as they make constant adjustments to Covid-19. Pray that healing hope surrounds all who are sick, suffering and stressed.
- the selection committee as they continue to pray for people to help fulfill our mission at Salem-Zion.
- the chaplains who are a part of CPMC. We give thanks for their flexibility during this difficult time of COVID, and for the ways in which they are present in people's lives, listening and sharing God's love.

Remember to thank God for:

- all the times when we've been welcomed home with gracious, forgiving and loving arms of love.
- opportunities to testify to God's Reign in our lives, community and world.

The Junior Sunday School Department has launched "**Faith from the HEART on Wednesdays**". There will be no in person Sunday school and no Zoom classes on Sunday mornings through the month of November.

Preschoolers - 3rd graders will meet 6:45-7:15

4th graders - 8th graders will meet from 7:15-7:45

Here is what is scheduled for the remainder of November:

*November 25 - Sheila will be sharing an activity and a Thanksgiving Story

We do want to encourage families to use the following facebook link to share lessons from the Shine Curriculum which we use for Sunday School classes at church. We will put the leaflets and classroom books in your family's mailbox at church so you can use them as well with your children.

<https://www.facebook.com/shinecurriculum/>

Best Practices for Children's Storytime webinar, Monday, Nov. 16, 2020, 7pm. If you are in charge of or occasionally present the children's story during worship services, join others in CPMC to learn and share best practices. Now with Zoom, prerecorded and live-streamed services, we have new opportunities for creativity. Stan Harder, chair of the Christian Formation Committee, will host this Zoom event to inspire your imagination and provide suggestions on making your children's times memorable and relevant. Find the Zoom link at centralplainsmc.org under "upcoming events."

Deacon meeting minutes from September and October are available on the bulletin board in the narthex.

The agenda and accompanying reports in preparation for the **annual congregational business meeting** are available in the narthex. If you would like to join the annual meeting via Zoom please email the church office and a link will be sent to you.

Please see the bulletin board in the narthex for the 2019 **Et Cetera Shoppe report**.

Church office: Lisa will be in the church office on Thursday mornings and by appointment as requested. Feel free to reach her by cell phone or e-mail throughout the rest of the week.

Community Connections

Peggy Waltner has set up a "Take Them a Meal" website for **Don and Sonja Waltner**; please go to www.TakeThemAMeal.com/LOUP6714 if you'd like to sign up. Any questions, contact Peggy Waltner 925-7647. Thank you.

Service Adventure is accepting applications for the 2021-2022 service term! Grow in leadership and faith as you spend a year serving and living in community with others your age and with unit leaders. Visit MennoniteMission.net/ServiceAdventure to learn more.

Praying for God's Peace:

"O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life." - Francis of Assisi

