



Salem-Zion Mennonite Church

**“Clothed in Love”
November 19, 2023**

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

- Prelude – *For the Beauty of the Earth*
Anne Waltner, piano; Maria Paff, flute
- Welcome and Lighting the Peace Lamp Malynda Penner
- Call to Worship – *Mountain of God* (VT #11) Children’s Choir
- Opening Prayer
- * Hymn – *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee* VT #103
- * Greeting each other
- Children’s Story Lillie Eisenbeis
- Child Dedication
Bella Grace Beseman, born March 7, 2023 to Billy and Clara Beseman
Willa June Eisenbeis, born August 12, 2023 to Andre and Lillie Eisenbeis
Elijah Dean Hofer, born July 14, 2023 to Patrick and Laura Hofer
- Worship Music – *We Are Children of Our God*
(Michael Jothen) Children’s Choir
- Sharing our Offerings – Mennonite Church USA
Offertory

HEARING GOD’S WORD

- Hearing the New Testament Colossians 3:1-17
- Sermon – “Clothed in Love” Corey Miller

RESPONDING TO GOD

- Song of Response – *O Christ, Impart Your Teaching True* VT #583
- Sharing and Congregational Prayer
- * Sending Song – *God, Be with Us* VT #613
- * Choral Benediction – *Go Now in Peace* (VT #835)
- Postlude

Church Calendar

Deadline for bulletin submissions is Tuesday noon; salemzion@gwtc.net

TODAY

Paul moves from theological teaching to ethics in Colossians 3. This morning, we are considering what it means to put on the garment of love. We are so glad that you have joined us in worship and pray that you also would be enveloped by God’s love this day. Welcome!

The offering that we are celebrating today is for **Mennonite Church USA**.

9:30am – Sunday School for all ages

10:30am – Worship Service

12:30pm – Annual Business Meeting

3:00pm – Fuente de Vida church service

Christmas Eve and Choirs program practice today during the Annual Meeting. **All children grades 1-8** will meet in the sanctuary to work on music and lines. Please bring a sack lunch to eat after church prior to rehearsing.

THIS WEEK

Nov. 21 (Tues) – Men’s Choir at 7:15pm; Combined Men’s Choir at 7:30pm

Nov. 22 (Wed) – Children’s Choir rehearsal, 6:00-6:30pm

Nov. 23 (Thurs) – Thanksgiving Worship Service at Salem-Zion together with Salem Mennonite at 10:30am. Offering will go for “Feeding South Dakota.”

Nov. 24 (Fri) – Fuente de Vida church service at 7:00pm

NEXT SUNDAY – Nov. 26

Next Sunday we will conclude our Worship Series on Colossians. The theme is “*Christ in our Homes*” and the text will be Colossians 3:18-4:6. All are invited to read through the entire chapter of Colossians 4 in preparation for our worship time.

Next week the offering is for Bethany Food Pantry and Northern Turner County Food Pantry.

COMING EVENTS

Dec. 1 – Yearbook deadline

Dec. 3 – First Sunday of Advent

Dec. 3 and 10 – Chancel and children’s choirs will practice for Christmas after church. Practice will start immediately following lunch and will conclude by 2 pm. We will enjoy a simple meal of soup and bread each week.

Dec. 17 – Christmas choirs program

Salem-Zion Prayer Requests & News

Happenings over the past week:

- Mennonite Church USA issued a statement that calls for ceasefire in the Israel-Hamas War in the Middle East. You can read about the statement, which

includes a lament, scriptures, a petition, and an invitation to make our voices heard about stopping the violence. I would encourage us all to read this and consider signing it. <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/uncategorized/ceasefire/>

Remember to praise God:

- for all the times we remember being clothed with God's love.
- for this season of Thanksgiving, where we see God's bounteous provision for us in so many tangible ways.
- for our church and our annual business meeting. For all that God has done in our church in 2023 and for all that we hope for in 2024, we say, "**Thanks be to God!**"

Remember to pray for:

- those who cannot be here today: Paul & Darlene Engbrecht.
- those who feel the loneliness of loved ones not being at the Thanksgiving table anymore.
- those who are healing from recent surgeries and procedures.
- Pastor Martha Corpus Hernandez, pastor of Iglesia Menonita Centro Cristiano and wife of CPMC Hispanic Ministries Coordinator, Ramiro Hernandez, who has been diagnosed with stage 4 pancreatic cancer. We pray for miraculous healing and hope and for God's love to surround Martha, Ramiro, their family and congregation this week and in the weeks and months to come.

A special "Thank You" to:

- *the moms of the children in choir for singing with us today.
- *Katie Janssen for teaching us sign language.
- *Maria Paff for playing flute and Anne Waltner for playing piano.
- *the children for sharing their voices in worship today!

The **Congregation/Pastor Review** summary and results have been posted on the bulletin board in the narthex.

There will be an **early bulletin deadline** this week. Printed announcements are due by Tuesday noon, but information that is received later in the week can be sent out by email, if requested.

Those who attend Salem-Zion are invited to receive *Anabaptist World*. The household treasury pays for a group subscription, and the subscription list is updated each year. Please contact the church office by November 30 if you'd like to be added or removed from the subscription list for 2024, or if you'd like any further information.

Community Connections

Rural Revival will meet on November 27 at 8:00 p.m. at the Freeman library. All are welcome to attend.

Swan Lake Christian Camp's **Piano Night fundraiser** will be held December 3 at 6:00pm. To RSVP, email campoffice@myslcc.com or call 605-326-5690.

Et Cetera Shoppe is in desperate need of someone who would be willing to tie the knots on the ends of our loom rugs. This is another one of those jobs that can be done in your own home, on your own time schedule, while watching TV or listening to music! Please call the shop at 925-7098 or talk to Kris or Anita if you'd be willing to help us out with this small but important task.

As the holidays approach, the Et Cetera Shoppe once again would welcome your **donations of traditional pfeffernusse (peppernut) cookies** made from the recipe of your choice. Every year, the sale of peppernuts at the shop greatly boosts our end-of-year giving to the work of Mennonite Central Committee. Making peppernuts can be a fun holiday activity to do with grandchildren, mentees, youth groups, extension clubs, and anyone else – so please consider making a batch and bringing them to the shop any time before Thanksgiving (and after, too)! You do not need to package them in any particular way – bringing them in Ziploc bags or ice cream pails is great.

Heritage Hall Museum & Archives is decorating the Bethel Church for the holiday season and we're inviting families, businesses, organizations and churches to bring a decorated tree to the historical church that's part of our museum. This would be a great project for Sunday school classes, youth groups, etc. We'll have the church decorated for the full month of December and would love to see it filled with trees. We're also planning a Christmas Carol Sing-Along at the church on Saturday afternoon, Dec. 2 starting at 2 p.m. Admission will be free and the church (and museum) will be open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. that day. To learn more about how you can bring a tree to the museum (there's no charge), stop in, call 605-925-7545 or visit us online at heritagehallmuseum.com/news-%26-events.

Looking for a gift for someone who doesn't need anything? Something small and easy to mail, but with real meaning? Consider purchasing an **MCC Thrift Christmas Giving ornament**, available at the front of Et Cetera Shoppe. For \$10, you can purchase a lovely handmade paper ornament that will provide families in need of nutrition and income, with the gift of a fruit tree! Your \$10 will provide a banana, passionfruit, papaya, mango, lemon, guava or pomegranate tree to a family in countries like Haiti, Mexico, Lebanon, Kenya, Bangladesh, and India. These fruit trees not only provide a new source of nutrition to families, but an opportunity for income, with fruit to sell. The extra fun detail? The paper ornaments are infused with seeds, so your gift recipient can plant the ornament and watch it grow into a bouquet of wildflowers! Go to <https://mccthrift.com/christmas-giving> to learn more about the fruit tree project, and stop in at the shop to pick up this meaningful gift option.

The November edition of **On the Level** is now available from Mennonite Disaster Service at <https://conta.cc/3G2x3xK>. In our current issue: Kevin King explains how MDS is an emulsifier; check out our new Annual Report; and we are now accepting registration for our Annual Celebration in Fresno in February.

God's Peace in the midst of War: "We acknowledge both the humanity and trauma of all (in the current war) and recognize that a solution requires a comprehensive peace process that strengthens the work of those already working to build bridges and find a just peace. We pray for the vision of peace of Micah, that 'everyone will sit under their own vine and under their own fig tree, and no one will make them afraid, for the Lord Almighty has spoken.' Micah 4:4"

-Statement from Mennonite Church USA calling for ceasefire in Israel-Hamas War

Pastor Corey Miller

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p.m. and by appointment as requested