



Salem-Zion Mennonite Church

November 24, 2019

Final Answer: God

“Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth?” - Job 38:4

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Prelude – *Fugue in C Major* Dietrich Buxtehude
 Choral Call to Worship – *Over My Head* African-American traditional
 Welcome and Call to Worship Steve Graber
 L: Praise to God, who has given us life.
P: Blessed be God, for the gift of love.
 L: Praise to God, who forgives our sin.
P: Blessed be God, who sets us free.
 L: Praise to God, who kindles our faith.
P: Blessed be God, our strength, our hope.

Opening Prayer

PRAISING GOD

* Hymn of Praise – *Praise the Lord, sing hallelujah* HWB #50
 Greetings and Announcements
 Children’s Story Meranda Van Ningen
 Offering our gifts – Freeman Academy
 Offertory – *Simple Gifts* arr. Dale Wood
 * Song – *Praise God from whom* (HWB #119) & Offertory Prayer

HEARING GOD’S WORD

Hearing the Text portions from Job 38
 Anthem – *How Can I Keep from Singing* arr. Taylor Davis
 Dan Graber, clarinet
 Hearing the Text portions from Job 39-40
 Sermon – “In the end....God” Corey Miller

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

Song – *He leadeth me* HWB #599
 Sharing and Congregational Prayer
 * Sending Song – *God be with you* (vv. 1,3) HWB #430
 * Benediction
 Postlude – *Now Thank We All Our God* arr. Paul Manz

* 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 2:00 p.m. Tuesday; salemzion@gwtc.net

TODAY

Near the end of the book of Job, God finally speaks. But are these words comforting or assuring to Job? With Job, we are invited to explore the profound mystery and power of God throughout God’s awesome creation. May it speak to our seasons of suffering and loss. We are so glad that you have joined us in worship. Welcome!

Greeters: Judy Rechnagel and Betty Albrecht; **Organist:** Dan Graber;
Special Music: Chancel Choir

9:15 a.m. – Sunday School

10:10 a.m. – Fellowship Time

10:30 a.m. – Worship Service

12:30-2:00 p.m. – Christmas Eve rehearsal at South Church

3:00-5:00 p.m. – Over 80’s Tea at Tieszen Home

The deacons are hosting another “*Over 80’s Tea*” in Marion at the Tieszen Home from 3-5pm. If you are over 80 and you weren’t able to attend our last one, you are welcome to join us in the Community Room.

“Celebrating Giving”

Freeman Academy infuses Christ’s call into all learning through Anabaptist principles, aiming to cultivate the unique, God-given gifts of all students in a safe, caring, and creative community. Thank you for supporting this ministry.

THIS WEEK

Nov. 27 (Wed) 7:00 p.m. – Children’s choir, Chancel choir

Nov. 27 8:00 p.m. – Ladies choir, Men’s choir

Nov. 27 9:00 p.m. – Combined Men’s choir

Nov. 28 (Thurs) 10:30 a.m. – Thanksgiving Day Service at Salem-Zion;
 Offering for MCC Meat Canner (please make checks out to Salem-Zion)

NEXT SUNDAY – Dec. 1

Next Sunday we will begin the season of Advent. The theme is “*Waiting and Wondering*” and the focus of the morning is “*Our Wait Begins.*” The texts are Isaiah 2:1-5, Romans 13:11-14, and Matthew 24:36-44. Pastor Corey will be preaching and in addition to our regular offering, we will have an opportunity to give gifts of cash and coins for our friends in Flandreau.

Greeters: Ellen Ortman and Dorothy Preheim; **Offering:** Household Treasury; **Organist:** Lisa Kaufman; **Special Music:** Ladies Choir

COMING EVENTS

Dec. 1 – Christmas Eve rehearsal from 12:30-2:00 p.m. at South Church

Dec. 4 – Children’s choir, Chancel choir at 7:00 p.m.; Ladies choir, Men’s choir at 8:00 p.m.

Dec. 14 – Board of Education meeting at 10:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall

Dec. 15 – Christmas Open House at Corey and Nancy Miller’s home from 2:00-5:00 p.m.

Salem-Zion Prayer Requests & News

Happenings over the past week:

- The MCC Meat Canner worked on Monday and Tuesday in Freeman canning chicken. We praise God for generous givers that enabled us to help feed people in the name of Christ.
- Kris Waltner was recently moved to room #222 at Oakview Terrace.
- At our annual business, the congregation affirmed the work of the selection committee, heard reports of our ministries, passed our budget and had a lively conversation on the *Voices Together* resource. A vote was called for and passed, so Salem-Zion will be purchasing these hymnbooks in 2020. More details will be coming from the Worship and Music committees. If you want to order a hymnal for personal use, **sign up today in the narthex.**

Remember to pray for:

- those who cannot be here today: Joyce Schrag.
- all the people who will receive the canned meat. May their bodies feel nourished and may their spirits feel renewed as they experience God’s love through this meat.

Remember to thank God for:

- all those who helped to can meat this past week in Freeman.
- the relationships in our congregations and in our conference that sustain us, guide us, and help us to see the Kingdom of God.

For our **annual Christmas choirs program** (Dec. 22), we are again planning a service of lessons and carols. All singers are welcome to join us. Adult singers are encouraged to sing with both chancel and men's or ladies since these three choirs will be seated together in the loft. The Wednesday evening rehearsal schedule will be listed in the bulletin each week, with a **dress rehearsal on Wednesday, Dec. 18 at 7:00 p.m.**

Due to Thanksgiving, this week’s **bulletin deadline** is Tuesday at 2:00 p.m. and the church office will be closed on Thursday.

Traveling Quilt: Swan Lake Christian Camp is selling raffle tickets for a Christmas quilt. It is on display on the table in the narthex. The winner will be drawn on December 7 at Piano Night at the Lake (you need not be present to win). Tickets are \$5 each.

Giving Opportunities during Advent: This year for Advent, we again will be receiving items for our friends in Flandreau that have immigrated to the US from various places south of our border. In this season as we remember that Mary and Joseph and baby Jesus were refugees, we want to help provide for these Hispanic families who arrive in Flandreau with just the clothes on their backs. In our Advent season, we will collect money during the first two weeks, which will help purchase gifts for 36 children in the community. The following three Sundays, we will collect items that will be helpful for the young families that have newborns. This is our own version of MCC’s “infant kits.” Please consider reaching out in love to the needs that are very pressing in Flandreau.

Dec. 1 and 8 – cash and coins for the children’s Christmas party

Dec. 15 - Infant gowns/sleepers (flannel or similar warm, soft material) undershirts/onesies (short or long sleeves)

Dec. 22 - receiving blanket (lightweight fleece or flannel, minimum 30 in x 30 in, larger sizes preferred)

Dec. 29 - 1 large bar mild soap (leave in wrapper), 1 pair of socks, 1 cap

Advent Devotionals: If you are interested, you can download an Advent devotional booklet for this year. "*Waiting and Wondering*," this year’s Advent At Home booklet for families and people of all ages, is available now at mennoniteusa.org/resource/advent-at-home.

On Thursday, November 28, when we gather as two churches to celebrate Thanksgiving, we will be accepting the following **food donations for the Marion School and Freeman Public School:** Granola bars, protein bars, peanut butter and crackers, mixed nuts, almonds, and cash for yogurt and string cheese. These items will be distributed by the school counselors to kids who need a snack to get through their day. Please place your donations in the baskets in the narthex and Thank You from the Salem-Zion Outreach and Service Committee on behalf of Bearcat Avenue and Freeman Public School.

Tonight (Nov. 24) starting at 5:30pm, you are invited to South Church’s Fellowship Hall for a Nepali-inspired supper and time of learning about **Megan Eisenbeis’ MCC SALT experience.** Megan will share about her work related to diet, nutrition and sustainable food choice. A love offering will be received for the meal and for MCC nutrition programs.

Community Connections

The Sioux Empire Brass is presenting their Holiday Concert today, November 24, 4:00 pm at Our Savior's Lutheran Church, 909 W 33rd St, Sioux Falls. The Sioux Empire Brass is directed by Rolyn Beard. The Sioux Empire Brass is a 35-piece brass choir made up of musicians from Sioux Falls and surrounding communities. Katrina (Schmidt) Gordon from our congregation is a member of the group. A freewill offering will be taken.

Rural Revival will meet on November 25 at 8:00 p.m. in the Freeman Public Library. All are welcome to attend. The education topic for this month is hobby beekeeping presented by Bob Engbrecht.

Every child deserves a gift this holiday season and the Courier, in partnership with the Freeman Food Pantry, invites you to join us in filling a **community toy box for local kids**. Please consider spreading some holiday joy to those less fortunate this holiday season. Giving is easy as 1-2-3: 1. Purchase a gift in the \$10-\$25 range. 2. Bring unwrapped gifts to the Courier office at 308 S. Main Street, Freeman and help fill our toy box. 3. Be entered into a drawing for \$100 Freeman Bucks. One entry per person. Drop off your gifts by Thursday, December 5.

Swan Lake Christian Camp will be hosting **Piano Night at the Lake** on Saturday, December 7 at 6:00 p.m. A meal will be served while being entertained with music from area musicians. Reservations are required and a free will donation will be taken. Call 605-326-5690 or email campoffice@myslcc.com to make your reservation.

Living God's Peace:

"When I say it's you I like, I'm talking about that part of you that knows that life is far more than anything you can ever see or hear or touch. That deep part of you that allows you to stand for those things without which humankind cannot survive. Love that conquers hate, peace that rises triumphant over war, and justice that proves more powerful than greed."

- Fred Rogers

Pastor Corey Miller

Office Hours:

Tues.-Fri. 8:00 a.m. - Noon
corey.miller@gwtc.net
Cell phone: 319-930-7320

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Church Admin. Assistant:

Lisa Kaufman
Tues. & Thurs. 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
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