



Salem-Zion Mennonite Church

A God Who Looks Like Jesus: Peace

November 24, 2024

10:30am

“My people will live in peaceful dwelling places...” - Isaiah 32:18

GATHERING TO PRAISE

Prelude Anne Waltner

Welcome André Eisenbeis

Call to Worship

L: We come together in this time of worship our hearts wide open with love.

P: We come ready to nourish our spirits and renew our commitment to peace.

L: We come together as peace bearers and peacemakers.

P: May we bear peace in our hearts and be peacemakers in our communities.

L: Come, let us celebrate God’s presence among us, an unending source of peace and compassion.

All: Praise be to God, who calls us to pursue peace for the benefit of all creation.

Opening Prayer

* Singing our Praise – *God’s Glory Fills the Heavens* VT #197

* Greeting each other

Children’s Story Lillie Eisenbeis

Lighting the Peace Lamp

Offering – Northern Turner County and Bethany Food Pantries

Offertory

HEARING GOD’S WORD

Healing in the Old Testament Isaiah 32:15-20

Song – *The Kingdom of God* (VT #799) Song Leader: Rolf Olson

* Hearing the Gospel Matthew 26:47-56

Sermon – “A Peace Kingdom” Pastor Corey Miller

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

Song – *We Are People of God’s Peace* VT #797

Sharing and Congregational Prayer

SENT OUT TO PROCLAIM GOOD NEWS

* Song – *Rain Down* VT #703

* Benediction

Postlude

Church Calendar

Deadline for bulletin submissions is 8:00 a.m. Wednesday; salemzion@gwtc.net

TODAY

God desires peace with us, within our relationships, among the nations, and surrounding the cosmos. The Bible is God’s love story with humanity, chronicling the highs and lows of this journey toward a Kingdom of Peace. Thanks be to God for the gift of Jesus who shows us the way of non-violence and the way of peace. Welcome!

The offering that we are celebrating today is for the **Northern Turner County and Bethany Food Pantries.**

9:30am – Sunday School for all ages

10:30am – Worship Service

Noon – Sack lunch before the Annual Meeting; coffee will be provided

2:00pm – Fuente de Vida church service in the sanctuary

TODAY – Annual Business Meeting at 12:30pm: Everyone is invited to stay for our annual business meeting in the fellowship hall. Not only will we review the events of this past year, but we’ll also adopt a budget for the new year and look at constitutional changes resulting from the reconfiguring of certain committees and their responsibilities. Every voice is needed!

THIS WEEK

Nov. 26 (Tues) – Outreach and Service meeting at 7:30pm

Nov. 27 (Wed) – Children’s Choir, 6:00-6:30pm

Nov. 27 (Wed) – Joint Men’s Choir rehearsal at South Church at 7:30pm

Nov. 28 (Thurs) – Thanksgiving Service at Salem Mennonite at 10:00am

Nov. 29 (Fri) – Fuente de Vida church service at 7:00pm

There will be an **early bulletin deadline** this week: 8:00am Wednesday.

NEXT SUNDAY – Dec. 1

Next Sunday we begin the season of Advent with the theme: **Journey Toward Hope.** The texts are Luke 2:1-7, Isaiah 9:2-7, Titus 2:11-14. Pastor Corey will be preaching and we will be receiving items for MCC infant kits. Items that will be received during our regular offering will be: **gowns/sleepers (flannel or similar warm, soft material).** The offering will be for the Household Treasury.

COMING EVENTS

Dec. 1 – Yearbook deadline (final deadline due to printing schedule)

Dec. 1 – Advent one

Dec. 4, 11, 18 – Adult choir rehearsals (chancel at 7pm, men/ladies at 8pm)

Dec. 8 – Christmas Open House at the Miller’s Home from 3-6pm

Dec. 22 – Christmas Choirs Program at 7:00pm

Salem-Zion Prayer Requests & News

Remember to praise God for:

- God's relentless pursuit of peace in the world that God loves so much.
- our church on our annual business meeting as we celebrate all the things that God has accomplished through us and as we anticipate what we can do together in the new year!

Remember to pray for:

- those who cannot be here today: Bernie Koller.
- peace in our lives, our community, our country, and our world.

Advent Opportunities to Grow and Give! During this year's Advent season, we invite you to join in the timeless story of Jesus' birth. One way that you and your family can do this is by reading through the Gospel of Luke. If you read one chapter a day during the month of December, you'll cover the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. Let's dwell in God's Word together!

Also, with all the needs in the world, we are again receiving items for **infant kits** for Mennonite Central Committee. Each week during Advent through Epiphany, we are invited to bring items that will be received during the regular offering.

- Dec. 1 - 3 gowns/sleepers (flannel or similar warm, soft material)
- Dec. 8 - 3 undershirts/onesies (short or long sleeves)
- Dec. 15 - 1 receiving blanket [lightweight fleece or flannel, minimum 75 cm x 75 cm (30 in x 30 in), larger sizes preferred]
- Dec. 22 - 4 large, heavy-duty safety pins
- Dec. 29 - 1 large bar mild soap (leave in wrapper)
- Jan. 5 - 1 pair of socks, 1 cap

The Administrative Board is recommending an **amendment to the constitution** regarding the makeup of the Administrative Board. This will be discussed and voted on at the annual congregational meeting today.

Summary **minutes** from the October 24 Deacons' meeting and a **thank-you card** from the Marion School District have been posted in the narthex this week.

Thank you from South Church and the Martins: The South Church Mission and Service team thanks all of you who attended and supported our Mission Sunday event on Oct. 28. With generous giving from the South and North church, the offering for the Martins and Anistemi totaled \$6,687.00. The following is a thank you we received from the Martins: "We received the Mission Sunday offering check from Salem and Salem-Zion over the weekend. We want to thank you for allowing us to come and visit and giving us so much time to share. It was such a joy to be able to spend time with you all and have such a laid back setting in which to share and answer questions. We don't

typically get so much engagement and we felt honored and valued. We were shocked to open the check and see such a large amount donated to our work. What an incredible gift at this time of year and when we have so much need! We will use the funds wisely and they will help finish the third floor of the school in Kenya. Thank you again for working with us and inviting us to spend time sharing with you all. We would love to come back anytime!" - Kristi and Steve Martin for Anistemi

Community Connections

On Sunday, November 24 (this afternoon) the **Sioux Empire Brass** under the direction of Dr. Rolf Olson, will present "Veni Emmanuel" A Holiday Concert. 3:00pm at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Sioux Falls (3801 E. 26th St.). A free-will offering will be taken.

Rural Revival will meet on Monday, November 25 at 8:00 p.m. at the Freeman library. All are welcome to attend.

Looking for a unique Christmas gift idea? Stop into **Et Cetera Shoppe** this holiday season to give someone you love the gift of purchasing bees, chickens or ducks from Mennonite Central Committee, for families in need around the world. These animals are an invaluable source of both food and income. For a \$15 donation, you can choose an animal and receive a small gift card telling your special someone which animal was purchased for them. When you participate in this Christmas Giving Project, we'll place an animal ornament on our Christmas tree – hopefully, by Christmas, we'll have a tree covered with ornaments, and 30 animals headed to families who need them!

Mennonite Disaster Service's November edition of **On the Level** is now available at <https://conta.cc/4fWz7HD>. In this edition, learn about Bridging Together, a new partnership with Lutheran Disaster Response, read how hope is being renewed in Santa Cruz, plus get all the details for the upcoming 75th Anniversary Celebration.

The Work of Peace-Making: "Like the ancient prophets, we are dispatched back to the good work entrusted to us. It is the work of peace-making. It is the work of truth-telling. It is the work of justice-doing. It is good work, but it requires our resolve to stay at it, even in the face of the forces to the contrary that are sure to prevail for a season." – Walter Brueggemann

Pastor Corey Miller

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