



Salem-Zion Mennonite Church

The Coming Day

Advent 1: Watch: The Day is almost here

November 27, 2022

The Coming Day

WATCH: THE DAY IS ALMOST HERE

ADVENT 1

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Prelude Sherilyn Ortman
 Welcome Corey Miller
 Advent Candle Lighting Brett & Kelsey Pidde
O Come, O Come (VT #210) (congregation sings refrain) Judy Graber
 One: May this holy candle fill us with hope,
Many: in the Coming Day.

Call to Worship
 One: O gentle shepherd, please listen to us.
Many: Come out from the hidden places so that we can see you clearly.
 One: It's time! We're watching and waiting!
All: Shine your face on us and we will be safe in your gracious love and kindness.

Opening Prayer
 * Hymn – *We Come* VT #225
 Greeting one another
 Children's Story Susan Schrag
 Celebrating our Offerings – Deacon Sharing Fund
 Items for Hygiene Kits-1 adult-size toothbrush (in manufacturer's packaging)
 Offertory

PROCLAIMING

Hearing the Old Testament Isaiah 2:1-5 LeRoy Epp
 Hearing the New Testament Romans 13:11-14
 Song – *Comfort, Comfort, O My People* VT #212
 * Hearing the Gospel Matthew 24:36-44
 Sermon – “The Advent of a New Day” Corey Miller

RESPONDING

Song – *We Dream of a Turning* VT #209
 Hope Story Teaching Peace Stan Ortman
 Sharing and Congregational Prayer
 * Sending Song – *For the Healing of the Nations* VT #705
 Blessing
 Postlude

Church Calendar

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

TODAY

Advent begins this week with an invitation for us all to watch for The Coming Day. We all need restoration as we wait for Christ's coming in our time, just as the world waited before the first incarnation. Welcome everyone to our worship!

The offering that we are celebrating today is for the **Deacon Sharing Fund**.

8:30 a.m. – Deacon meeting

9:30 a.m. – Sunday School for all ages

10:30 a.m. – Worship Service

2:00 p.m. – Fuente de Vida church service

THIS WEEK

Nov. 30 (Wed) – Chancel Choir rehearsal at 7:00 p.m. and Children's Choir rehearsal at 7:00 p.m.

Dec. 1 (Thurs) – Yearbook deadline

Dec. 2 (Fri) – Fuente de Vida church service at 7:00 p.m.

Dec. 3 (Sat) – Women's Saturday Morning Book Study at 9:30 a.m.

NEXT SUNDAY – Dec. 4

Next Sunday continues our Advent theme: "*The Coming Day*." The focus of the morning is "*Watch: Prepare the way of the Lord*." The scripture texts are Isaiah 2:1-5, Romans 13:11-14, Matthew 24:36-44 and Nathan Epp will be preaching. We will also be collecting items for MCC Hygiene Kits (1 large bar bath soap, leave in wrapper) and will have a child dedication service.

Next week the offering is for the **Household Treasury**.

COMING EVENTS

Dec. 4 – Christmas Open House at Millers. Nancy and Corey invite everyone to come out for some Christmas goodies at our home from 3:00-5:00pm. There may or may not be live carolers on location, so come and see!

Dec. 18 – Christmas Music program at North Church at 7:30 p.m.

Salem-Zion Prayer Requests & News

Happenings over the past week:

- A Celebration of Life service was held for Anette Eisenbeis on Tuesday at Salem-Zion.

- Work began to install the video projector in our sanctuary.

- A wonderful evening of worship happened on Friday night with the Swiss Choral presentation of "*The Messiah*." Special thanks to Dan Graber for directing and all others who made this worship time possible.

Remember to pray for:

- those who cannot be here today: Nita Engbrecht.

- Larry Eisenbeis and his family in the loss of Anette.

- those who are missing loved ones in this Thanksgiving season.

- all who have been directly affected by the number of mass shootings in recent weeks in our country. Whether in a school, a supermarket, or an LGBTQ club, all lives are sacred. Pray for all those grieving today and pray for changes in our hearts, lives, and laws to end senseless tragedies.

- our deacons as they listen to the needs of people and share hope through the Sharing Fund.

- conference ministers for all area conferences of MC USA and MC Canada as they prepare to gather in San Francisco later this week. We pray for safe travels and formative conversations. We pray also for our sister and brother congregations across MC USA, each in their own unique ministry contexts. Help each of us to be faithful followers of Jesus.

The 2021-2022 **Minn-Kota MCC Relief Sale** financial report is available in the narthex.

Community Connections

Freeman Academy's Music Departments will present their **Yuletide Dinners**, "A Tree-mendous Yuletide," Thursday, December 15 and Friday, December 16 at 6:30 p.m. in Pioneer Hall. Reservations are required for the event and are due Monday, December 5. Please call the Freeman Academy office to inquire about reservations at 605-925-4237.

God's Peace in Advent: "One of the essential paradoxes of Advent: that while we wait for God, we are with God all along. While we need to be reassured of God's arrival, or the arrival of our homecoming, we are already at home. While we wait, we have to trust, to have faith, but it is God's grace that gives us that faith. As with all spiritual knowledge, two things are true, and equally true, at once. The mind can't grasp paradox; it is the knowledge of the soul." - Michelle Blake

Living our Mission: "As followers of Jesus Christ, our purpose is to live and share the good news of Christ's kingdom, welcoming all as we worship, study, fellowship, and serve others together."

Pastor Corey Miller

Office Hours:

Tues.-Fri. 8:00 a.m. - Noon

corey.miller@gwtc.net

Cell phone: 319-930-7320

Church Admin. Assistant:

Lisa Kaufman

(605) 951-1871 ~ salemzion@gwtc.net

Office hours: Thursdays 9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. and by appointment as requested