



# Salem-Zion Mennonite Church

**December 15, 2019**

**Advent 3: Trustful Waiting**

*“Be strong and do not fear! Here is your God!” - Isaiah 35:4*

## GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Prelude – *In Quiet Joy* arr. Dupre

The Prophet Calls Isaiah 35:1-10 Liam Ortman

Choral Call to Worship – *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* arr. David Cherwien

Welcome and Call to Worship Stacey Waltner

L: Oh God, our God, we cry out to you.

**P: Asking, when will I start rejoicing that you are coming?**

L: Will I trust your faithfulness to your creation?

**P: Can I be patient enough to trust in your time, instead of my own?**

**ALL: God, what am I waiting for?**

Opening Prayer

## OFFERING OUR PRAISE

\* Hymn – *Hark! The glad sound* HWB #184

Lighting Advent Candles

Children’s Story Malynda Penner & Susan Schrag

*Come, Light of the world* SS #3

Offering our gifts – Mennonite Church USA; Infant gowns/sleepers (flannel or similar warm, soft material) undershirts/onesies (short or long sleeves)

Offertory – *Lo, How a Rose is Growing* arr. Burkhardt

## PROCLAIMING GOD’S WORD

Hearing the Epistle James 5:7-10

Anthem – *Savior of the Nations, Come* arr. Richard Nance

\* Hearing the Gospel Matthew 11:2-11

Sermon – “What do you see?” Corey Miller

## RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

Silence and Confession

Song – *Helpless and hungry/What Child is this* SS #26/HWB #215

Announcements and Congregational Prayer

\* Sending Song – *Joy to the world* HWB #318

\* Benediction

Postlude – *Wachet auf* arr. Held

\* 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 8:30 p.m. Wednesday; salemzion@gwtc.net

### TODAY

As we continue in Advent, we wonder what we are waiting for and why we are afraid. We need God’s strength in our weakness and we desire to be filled with God’s courage. We long for an awakening and pray for patience in the coming of the Lord. Welcome to our worship. We are so glad that you have joined us.

**Greeters:** Stan and Gwen Ortman; **Organist:** Ruby Waltner; **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

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

7:30 p.m. – South Church Choirs Program

### THIS WEEK

Dec. 18 (Wed) 7:00 p.m. – Dress rehearsal for Christmas choirs program

### NEXT SUNDAY – Dec. 22

Next Sunday we will continue our Advent season. The focus of the morning is “*Worth the Wait.*” The texts are Isaiah 7:1-10, Romans 1:1-7, and Matthew 1:18-25. Pastor Corey will be preaching and in addition to our regular offering, we will have an opportunity to give items for Infant kits that will be given to our friends in Flandreau. We will collect receiving blankets (lightweight fleece or flannel, minimum 30 in x 30 in, larger sizes preferred).

**Greeters:** Hannah Miller and Rachel Miller; **Offering:** Deacon Sharing Fund; **Keyboardist:** Shelia Epp; **Special Music:** Men’s Choir

### COMING EVENTS

**Dec. 22** – Christmas Eve rehearsal from 12:30-2:00 p.m. at South Church

**Dec. 22** – Christmas choirs program at 7:30 p.m.

**Dec. 24** – Christmas Eve program at South Church

**Dec. 25** – Special Christmas morning worship service at 10:30 a.m. at Salem-Zion. There will be great music offerings, Christmas carol singing, scriptures proclaimed and praise offered. An offering will be received for “*The Banquet*” in Sioux Falls.

## Salem-Zion Prayer Requests & News

### Happenings over the past week:

- Last Sunday, Liz and Jon Graber welcomed their daughter Josephine Carol Graber into the world. They all were able to return home this past Monday and are doing well. The proud grandparents from Salem-Zion are Steve and Linda Graber. The rosebud on the organ celebrates Josephine's new life.
- A gift of \$500 from the Donna Brosz estate was given to Salem-Zion for our Sunday School room renovations.
- The selection committee filled the following ministry positions - Deacon: Stacey Waltner; 5<sup>th</sup> Usher: Kevin Albrecht; Worship committee at-large member to finish out Stacey's term: Mary Mannes. Thanks be to God!

### Remember to pray for:

- those who cannot be here today: Rita Graber.
- Dean Schrag as he continues to recover from his recent surgery.
- our farmers as they continue to plug along with the fall 2019 harvest.
- people who feel sadness because of loved ones no longer living on this earth. We pray that God's love will comfort and hold all who are grieving in this season of light.
- our sister churches in Eastern Iowa: First Mennonite of Iowa City, East Union, West Union, Wellman, and Kalona.

### Remember to thank God for:

- the safe arrival of Josephine Carol Graber into the lives of Jon and Liz, their family and our church.
- the joyous good news that is for all people, Christ our Savior has come!

**Please take time to sign the Christmas cards** on the table in the narthex. They will be available through December 16.

**It's time to renew our group subscription to The Mennonite.** If you would like to be added to the list of current subscribers, please contact the church office by Tuesday noon, Dec. 17. Further information is posted on the bulletin board in the narthex.

**A program of Lessons and Carols** will be given by our choirs on Sunday evening, Dec. 22, at 7:30 p.m. Come join us in worship and fellowship as we commemorate the sacred celebration of Christ's birth this Christmas season.

**Thank you,** everyone, for the cards, telephone calls and personal greetings for my 96<sup>th</sup> birthday. - Virginia Graber

It is time to share your love by **providing a meal for Jon & Liz Graber** who welcomed a daughter. Please look for the email about sharing meals

and follow the link to sign up. Those not comfortable with computers can call the church and speak with Lisa or leave her a message. People are encouraged to clearly label all containers to be returned.

**Flandreau Project:** Another delivery of donated items will be delivered to Flandreau on Wednesday night, December 18. Items needed at this time are **diapers** (sizes 4, 5 & 6) as well as **food items** (Corn tortillas, Rice, Tomato products, Dry beans or Canned beans). Please drop off your items by Tuesday evening, December 17 in Gary Graber's garage at 904 E. South County Rd in Freeman. **Monetary gifts** can be made out to: **"Bienvenidos a Brookings"** (Flandreau Project in memo) or to **"Brookings Foundation" 501(c)(3)** with (Bienvenidos a Brookings in memo) and mailed to **Tom Manzer, 929 4<sup>th</sup> St. Brookings, SD 57006.**

**It's not too late to share a poinsettia** with the church during this Advent season. Please contact Mary Mannes (925-7938 or 605- 695-0743) to reserve yours. Cost is \$19.00. Thank you!

**Christmas choirs program social: Men's choir** – 9 apples or clementines. Please wash and take stickers off. **Women's choir** – 4 dozen homemade candies or bars for cutting smaller; also could be cookies that are made smaller. Please, no fudge this year. Bring all fruit and goodies by Sunday morning, Dec. 22. **Attention to parents of children:** Again this year there will not be a children's room. Parents are in charge of their kids.

### Community Connections

Thinking of pastoral ministry? Be a **Service Adventure leader!** Live in a unit house with a small group of youth and offer support as they serve and live in Christian community. Age: 24+; term: 2 years. For more info, contact LaurenEH@MennoniteMission.net.

Experience the town of Jesus, meet its people, learn their language, join and experience local churches, and explore the rich and varied culture of Israel. Apply to join the **Nazareth Village Youth Venture** team at [www.MennoniteMission.net/Serve](http://www.MennoniteMission.net/Serve). Age 18+; term: 2–3 weeks.

**The Peace of Christ in Christmas:** "I truly believe that if we keep telling the Christmas story, singing the Christmas songs, and living the Christmas spirit, we can bring joy and happiness and peace to this world.

- Norman Vincent Peale

#### Pastor Corey Miller

Office Hours:  
Tues.-Fri. 8:00 a.m. - Noon  
[corey.miller@gwtc.net](mailto: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.  
(605) 925-7771 ~ [salemzion@gwtc.net](mailto:salemzion@gwtc.net)

