

# The Coming Day

## WATCH: PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD

### ADVENT 2



## Salem–Zion Mennonite Church

*The Coming Day*

*Advent 2: Watch: Prepare the way of the Lord*

December 4, 2022

### GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Prelude  
Welcome  
Advent Candle Lighting  
*O Come, O Come* (VT #210) (congregation sings refrain)  
One: May prayer and worship bring peace to all the nations,  
**Many: in the Coming Day.**

Sheila Epp

Polly Waltner

Marlys & Duane Tieszen

Patrick Hofer

### Call to Worship

One: A branch will grow from the dead stump of Jesse's tree. It will grow until we can see the fruit hanging from it.

*Many: We will be ready when you invite us to pick the fruit that represents living, belonging, togetherness, and peace.*

One: Make our spirits new, stand to defend us, and shine as our guiding light.

*Many: Because you are our God you have made the road smooth and we can let our light shine to all people and to all nations,*

**All: We can rest in your goodness and mercy.**

### Opening Prayer

\* Hymn – *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*

VT #216

Greeting one another

Children's Story

Susan Schrag

Special Music – *Poor of the Earth*

Patrick Hofer

Celebrating our Offerings – Household Treasury

Items for Hygiene Kits-1 large bar bath soap (leave in wrapper)

Offertory

Child Dedication

*Today Earth Is Singing*

VT #510

Isaac James Graber born on Jan. 16, 2022 to Jon and Liz Graber

Zeppelin Rhae Benjamin born on Feb. 23, 2022 to Ashlyn Benjamin

Louisa Jane Friesen born on May 8, 2022 to Lance and Lacey Friesen

Silas Stanley Unruh born on May 20, 2022 to Austin and Lindsey Unruh

Jesse James Dick born on July 27, 2022 to Jared and Michelle Dick

### PROCLAIMING

Hearing the Old Testament

Isaiah 11:1-10

Ella Waltner

\* Hearing the Gospel

Matthew 3:1-12

Tim Eisenbeis

Sermon – "The First Word"

Nathan Epp

### RESPONDING

Sharing and Congregational Prayer

## Church Calendar

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

### TODAY

In a world where power holds sway, Jesus will judge differently. We are called to prepare the way for this new kind of ruler. This calls for repentance and truth-telling. We welcome Nathan Epp to the pulpit today and we are so glad you have chosen to worship with us in this Advent season.

The offering that we are celebrating today is for the **Household Treasury**.

- 9:30 a.m. – Sunday School for all ages
- 10:30 a.m. – Worship Service
- 2:00 p.m. – Fuente de Vida church service

**TODAY:** Christmas Open House at the Miller's Home 3:00-5:00pm.

We welcome everyone to come out to our home and enjoy some Christmas treats in a festive environment. Come and hear a very special Christmas Carol quartet! - Nancy and Corey

### THIS WEEK

**Dec. 7 (Wed)** – Youth Group at 6:30 p.m.

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

**Dec. 9 (Fri)** – Fuente de Vida church service at 7:00 p.m.

**Dec. 10 (Sat)** – Women's Advent study at 9:30 a.m.

### NEXT SUNDAY – Dec. 11

Next Sunday continues our Advent theme: "*The Coming Day*." The focus of the morning is "*Tell what you hear and see*." The scripture texts are Isaiah 35:1-10, James 5:7-10, Matthew 11:2-11 and Pastor Corey will be preaching. We will also be collecting items for MCC Hygiene Kits (1 nail clipper – good quality).

Next week the offering is for **Central Plains Mennonite Conference**.

### COMING EVENTS

**Dec. 18** – Choirs Christmas program at Salem-Zion at 7:30pm

**Dec. 24** – Christmas Eve Children's Program at Salem-Zion at 7:00pm

**Dec. 25** – Christmas Day Worship at Salem-Zion

## Salem-Zion Prayer Requests & News

### Happenings over the past week(s):

- Brother Nathan Schrag successfully (and safely) installed the video projector. Thank you so much Nathan!
- John Ortman had total hip replacement surgery on Tuesday. He is doing well and recovering at home.
- Brett and Kelsey Pidde welcomed Milo Alan last week, November 23, in Sioux Falls. Everyone is doing well and adjusting to their new life together. Consider signing up to take a meal to this new family.

### Remember to pray for:

- those who cannot be here today: Paul & Darlene Engbrecht.
- our young families as they raise their children in the way of Jesus and his kingdom.
- Kelsey, Brett and Milo as they begin their new life together.
- John Ortman as he heals and recovers from his recent surgery.

Our profound **gratitude** for your many expressions of empathy, caring & love during Anette's brief stay at the hospital & nursing home and these few weeks since she passed away. Your genuine words of concern and reflections on her life have been a great comfort to us. –Larry Eisenbeis family

Congratulations to Brett and Kelsey Pidde on the arrival of Milo Alan! As a church, let's show them our love and support by supplying some **meals** for them. To arrange a time to take a meal, contact Kelsey at 605-421-1318. If she can't answer her phone right away, please leave a message. Thank you!

Please take time to sign the **Christmas cards** on the table in the narthex. They will be available through Sunday morning, December 18.

Rachel Miller's November **MVS newsletter** was emailed with the bulletin and a hard copy is available on the bulletin board in the narthex.

**November Household Treasury Report** – Income: \$22,866.48; Expenses: \$11,772.04; Balance: \$23,035.29.

**November Offerings & Gifts:** Household Treasury - \$22,866.48; Deacon Sharing Fund - \$4,405.95; Outreach & Service - \$1,995.94; Student Tuition Sharing Fund - \$105.00; Banquet - \$60.00.

The December church **newsletter** is available on the table in the narthex.

## Community Connections

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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.

Freeman Academy elementary students will share their **musical program** on December 6 in the Pioneer Hall Dining Hall at 7:00 p.m. The 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade band students will share three selections and students in K-6 will present "The Light Before Christmas: A Musical About The Light of the World" by Dave Clark & Jayme Thompson. All are invited to attend. Refreshments will be served following the program.

Flower & Flame, a group of musicians and one actor, will perform "**A Christmas Carol**" on Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup> at 2PM at Freeman Academy in Pioneer Hall. Come and enjoy a show that everyone recognizes, but few have seen presented in this way. Tickets will be sold at the door for \$15. Kids 10 and under are free.

**Salem (South) Mennonite church is sponsoring** the holiday Senior Giving Tree for residents of Oakview Terrace and the Salem Home. Trees with gift tags and instructions are located at Jamboree Foods and Norm's Thrifty White. Gifts must be returned by Dec. 20 to ensure Christmas delivery. Thank you in advance for bringing joy to our senior citizens this holiday season!

**God's Peace in Advent:** "The message of Advent doesn't fit neatly into a sound-bite or vignette. It's too complex, too deep, to compete with glitter and noise; and it's a hard sell in a culture that would rather skip straight to the big finish. But Advent is too important to be forgotten, because it is this season that prepares us to encounter our Lord." - Kerry van der Vinne, *Advent: Let Every Heart Prepare Him Room*

### Pastor Corey Miller

Office Hours:  
Tues.-Fri. 8:00 a.m. - Noon  
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### Church Admin. Assistant:

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p.m. and by appointment as requested