



Salem-Zion Mennonite Church

December 8, 2019

Advent 2: Getting ready while we wait

“The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him.” - Isaiah 11:2

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Prelude – *Variations on Sussex Carol* arr. Haan

The Prophet Calls Isaiah 11:1-10 Jeremy Waltner

Choral Call to Worship – *O come, O come, Emmanuel* Children’s Choir

Welcome and Call to Worship Paul Ortman

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

P: Asking, when will you bring righteousness, defend the poor, deliver the needy?

L: When will you make harmonious creation?

P: When will you crush the oppressor?

L: When will your love, mercy, and justice rule us?

ALL: God, what are you waiting for?

Opening Prayer

OFFERING OUR PRAISE

* Hymn – *Breathe upon us, Holy Spirit* HWB #28

Lighting Advent Candles

Children’s Story Susan Schrag & Malynda Penner

Come, Light of the world SS #3

Offering our gifts – Central Plains Mennonite Conference (cash/coins in the Christmas Box for Flandreau friends)

Offertory – *Still, Still, Still* arr. Held

PROCLAIMING GOD’S WORD

Hearing the Epistle Romans 15:4-13

Anthem – *Hustle, Bustle, Hurry, Scurry* Julia Neufeld & Margaret Tucker

* Hearing the Gospel Matthew 3:1-12

Sermon – “Preparing” Corey Miller

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

Song – *Comfort, comfort, O my people* HWB #176

Silence and Confession

Song – *Create in me a clean heart* SS #62

Announcements and Congregational Prayer

* Sending Song – *To us a Child of hope is born* HWB #189

* Benediction

* Choral Benediction – *Go now in peace* Natalie Sleeth

Postlude – *Von Himmel hoch* 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

In our Advent season, we sometimes ask God, “**What are you waiting for?**” God hears our cries and calls us in return with words of hope. Can we hear God’s invitation? God calls us to repent, pay attention, and embrace the Lord’s vision for a new creation. Welcome to our worship. We are so glad that you have joined us.

Bulletin cover designed by Adaline Graber. Thank you, Adaline!

Greeters: Robin and Kerwin Graber; **Organist:** Ruby Waltner

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

THIS WEEK

Dec. 11 (Wed) 7:00 p.m. – Children’s choir, Chancel choir

Dec. 11 8:00 p.m. – Ladies choir, Men’s choir

Dec. 14 (Sat) 10:00 a.m. – Board of Education meeting

NEXT SUNDAY – Dec. 15

Next Sunday we will continue our Advent season. The focus of the morning is “*Trustful Waiting*.” The texts are Isaiah 35:1-10, James 5:7-10, and Matthew 11:2-11. 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 infant gowns/sleepers (flannel or similar warm, soft material) or undershirts/onesies (short or long sleeves).

Greeters: Stan and Gwen Ortman; **Offering:** Mennonite Church USA;

Organist: Ruby Waltner; **Special Music:** Chancel Choir

COMING EVENTS

Dec. 15 – Christmas Eve rehearsal from 12:30-2:00 p.m. at South Church

Dec. 15 – Christmas Open House at Corey and Nancy Miller’s home from 2:00-5:00 p.m.; South Church Christmas choirs program at 7:30 p.m.

Dec. 18 – Dress rehearsal for Christmas choirs program at 7:00 p.m.

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

Dec. 24 – Christmas Eve program at South Church

Salem-Zion Prayer Requests & News

Happenings over the past week:

- Dean Schrag had gallbladder surgery on Monday in Sioux Falls. He is hoping to return home on Thursday.

Remember to pray for:

- those who cannot be here today: Duane & LaVonne Schrag.
- Dean Schrag as he recovers from his recent surgery.
- Max and Gloria Villatoro as they adjust to life in Mexico and the ministries that God brings them into.
- the immigrant families in Flandreau as they experience their first Christmas in the states.
- our children as they prepare for the Children's Christmas Eve service. May we all enter this season with childlike eyes and faith like a child.
- Eugene Thieszen as he is installed as the Interim Pastor of Pastoral Care and Worship at Bethesda Mennonite Church in Henderson, NE.

Remember to thank God for:

- the hope that we have that God is working in the world, bringing peace and reconciliation.
- all the opportunities to give to ministries and needs in this season of giving.

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 4th St. Brookings, SD 57006.**

There is an update about **Max and Gloria Villatoro** on the bulletin board in the narthex.

The flower committee invites you to share a poinsettia with the church during this Advent season. Please talk to Mary Mannes today or call 925-7938 or (605) 695-0743 to reserve yours. Cost is \$19.00. We would like to get them up soon, especially for our choirs program, so if you want one please let me know ASAP. 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. No fudge this year (felt we needed more variety; too much fudge in past). 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.

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

November Mission Fund Offerings and Gifts: Mennonite Central Committee - \$2,800.00; MCC Meat Canning - \$3,704.09; Swan Lake Christian Camp - \$520.00; SD MCC Relief Sale - \$2,000.00; Mennonite Church USA - \$2,901.00; Freeman Academy - \$2,202.00; Mennonite Disaster Service - \$200.00; Central Plains Mennonite Conference - \$4,046.44; Mennonite Mission Network - \$620.00; Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary - \$720.00.

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.

Swan Lake Christian Camp **2020 Winter Retreats** are just around the corner. Make plans now to attend. Family Camp is February 28-March 1. Families with children, grandparents, singles and young married couples are all invited to attend this fun-filled weekend. Don't forget to sign your kids up for Winter Youth retreats. Dates are as follows: 5th & 6th Grade Retreat January 10-12, Junior High Retreat January 17-19 and Senior High Retreat January 24-26. Sign up online at www.myslcc.com.

Living God's Peace:

*The wolf did with the lambkin dwell in peace
His grim carnivorous nature there did cease
The leopard with the harmless kid laid down
And not one savage beast was seen to frown.
The lion with the fatling on did move
A little child was leading them in love.*

- Edward Hicks on Isaiah 11:6-8

Pastor Corey Miller

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

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