



# Salem-Zion Mennonite Church

February 23, 2020

Jesus Forgives

*“How often should I forgive? As many as seven times?...  
Jesus said, “seventy times seven.” - Mt. 18:22*

## GATHERING TO WORSHIP

- Prelude – *Jesus Lover of My Soul* arr. Gordon Young
- \* Gathering Song – *I owe the Lord a morning song* HWB #651
- Welcome and Call to Worship Charity Ortman
- Opening Prayer

## PRAISING GOD

- \* Hymn of Praise – *Come, we that love the Lord* HWB #14
- Greetings and Announcements
- Children’s Story Mark 2:1-12 Polly Waltner
- Offering our gifts – Salem Mennonite Home
- Offertory – *Nobody Knows the Trouble I've Seen* arr. Gilbert Martin
- \* Song – *Praise God from whom* (HWB #119) & Offertory Prayer

## HEARING GOD’S WORD

- Hearing the Gospel Matthew 6:9-15; 18:21-22
- Special Music – *The Time for Turning* Craig Courtney/Pamela Martin
- \* Hearing the Gospel Luke 23:32-43
- Meditation – “Forgiven and Free” Corey Miller

## RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

- Song – *Our Father who art in heaven* Ladies Choir
- Releasing and Congregational Prayer
- \* Congregational Sending Song – *Slowly turning, ever turning* SJ #23
- \* Benediction
- Postlude – *God of Grace and God of Glory* arr. Paul Manz

\* 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

Forgiveness is one of the most important words in a Christian’s vocabulary, and yet also very misunderstood. Today, we look at what Jesus said about forgiveness and how he lived it as well. Welcome to our worship. We are so glad you are here with us.

**Greeters:** Andre and Lillie Eisenbeis; **Organist:** Dan Graber; **Special Music:** Ladies Choir

- 9:15 a.m. – Sunday School
- 10:10 a.m. – Fellowship Time
- 10:30 a.m. – Worship Service
- Noon – Outreach and Service Committee meeting

### THIS WEEK

- Feb. 26 (Wed) 6:30 p.m. – Ash Wednesday service in the sanctuary
- Feb. 26 7:15 p.m. – Men’s choir rehearsal

### NEXT SUNDAY – March 1

Next Sunday we begin the Lenten series “*Show Us.*” The focus is “*Show us your hiding place in temptations.*” The scriptures are Gen. 2:15-17, Ps. 32, Rom. 5:12-19, Mt. 4:1-11 and Corey will be preaching.

**Greeters:** Burton & Eileen Kaufman; **Organist:** Ruby Waltner; **Offering:** Household Treasury; **Special Music:** Men’s Choir

### COMING EVENTS

- March 4, 18, 25** – Chancel Choir rehearsal at 7:30 p.m.
- March 9** – Administrative Board meeting at 7:00 p.m.

## Salem-Zion Prayer Requests & News

### Happenings over the past week:

- Former conference minister Tim Detweiler had successful heart surgery on Tuesday. He will be in the hospital for 5-7 days and we praise God that everything went well.
- Central Plains Conference has announced that **Nathan Luitjens** has been hired as our new Executive Conference Minister. He will officially join the Ministry Staff full-time on September 1, 2020, working out of the Ministry Staff offices in Kalona. Nathan has been pastoring at Sugar Creek Mennonite Church, Wayland, Iowa.

### Remember to pray for:

- those who cannot be here today: Duane & LaVonne Schrag.
- Tim Detweiler as he recovers from his surgery.

- relationships that still need to do the hard work so that forgiveness can someday be possible.
- our sister churches in Nebraska: Beemer, Bellwood, Bethesda, First Mennonite of Lincoln, Milford, Salem in Shickley, Wood River, and the Omaha Chin Christian Church, and pray also for the informal gathering of Mennonites in Omaha.

**Remember to thank God for:**

- the words, teachings and example of Jesus.
- Nathan Luitjens as he begins serving our Conference.
- the transformative power of forgiveness that frees us and heals in the name of Christ.

**Chancel choir** is scheduled to sing on March 22, March 29, and on Easter Sunday. Rehearsals will take place on the following Wednesdays: March 4, March 18, March 25, and April 8. Please come to the rehearsals when your schedule allows to prepare the worship music for the Lent and Easter seasons. We need you!!

**From Jessica Sun:** It was such a surprise to see a package came from Salem-Zion. It absolutely made my day!! I know it's for Valentine's Day, but I am so so glad that it got here a little bit early, because it's my birthday today!! I feel so blessed! Please help me say thank you to those who help packing all the snacks and also the church for such an amazing gift!! I can't thank them enough. It REALLY REALLY means a lot to me. Freeman is my second home!!

**Caring Group Update:** With the helpful leadership of our deacons, our Caring Group ministry has launched and most of the groups have gathered to meet. Currently there are five Caring Groups, comprised of 41 people, that have started at Salem-Zion. A list of the Caring Groups is on the bulletin board. There is always room for more at the table and we are expecting that new groups will form and existing groups might also grow. Right now, each group is getting acquainted with each other, discerning leadership and talking about the focus of their group. If you are interested contact Corey or Janette, our deacon chair.

In celebration of the upcoming wedding of **Jordan Ortman and Kirsten Carpenter**, we would like to have a **money-card shower** for the couple. Jordan and Kirsten are getting married March 8 in Estes Park, CO. You may give your money gift to Kelsey Pidde or Jami Dubs today, February 23. There is a card by the Mennonite Women bulletin board for you to sign.

Our fundraising has begun for the **Voices Together** worship books for Salem-Zion. In order to get our discount price, we'll need to pay the \$7,400 balance by May 1. Some funds from the Organ & Music Fund and the Mennonite Youth Fellowship Fund will be used to help pay for these worship resources. We invite you to also contribute to the cost of these worship resources. The ballot box will be in the foyer (with a "Voices Together" sign on it). Please write out checks to Salem-Zion Mennonite Church and earmark your checks "Voices Together." For those of you who signed up for a personal copy, the worship committee will soon be organizing a system for you to pay for your personal copy of the hymn book. - The Worship Committee

Information about upcoming **Everence webinars** is posted on the bulletin board in the narthex.

**Community Connections**

**Rural Revival** will meet on February 24 at 8:00 p.m. in the Freeman Public Library. All are welcome to attend. The education topic for this month will be presented by Lee Brockmueller. He will be discussing the use of small grains in farming crop rotations.

**Kuchen making** is rescheduled for March 6 (Tyndall) with March 13 as a snow date. Filling will be made on March 5. Baking will still take place on February 27, 28 and 29 in the Dining Hall kitchen. Please contact Debra Schmeichel if you are willing to help, 648-3430, [ssag@goldenwest.net](mailto:ssag@goldenwest.net). Thank you!

The **Swan Lake Christian Camp Annual Meeting** will be held March 8 at 4:00 p.m. Former camp director Denise Nickel who served at the camp from 1980-1992 will be sharing stories of her time at SLCC. The business meeting will be followed by dinner. Please make reservations for the meal by calling 605-326-5690 or email at [campoffice@myslcc.com](mailto:campoffice@myslcc.com).

**God's Peace from Forgiveness:**

"Forgiveness is the fragrance that the violet sheds on the heel that has crushed it." - Mark Twain

"Forgiveness doesn't excuse their actions. Forgiveness stops their actions from destroying your heart." - Karen Salmansohn

**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

**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)

