



Salem-Zion Mennonite Church

“Salt and Light”
February 5, 2023

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Prelude	Sheila Epp
Welcome	Tim Graber
Lighting the Peace Lamp	
Call to Worship (from Psalm 27)	
L: The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?	
P: The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?	
L: When evildoers assail me and an army encamp against me,	
P: My heart shall not fear. I will be confident.	
L: One thing I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after:	
P: To live in the house of the LORD all the days of my life.	
<i>ALL: To behold the beauty of the LORD and inquire in his temple.</i>	
Prayer of Invocation	
* Hymn – <i>In Thy Holy Place We Bow</i>	VT #40
Greeting each other	
Children’s Story	Charity Ortman
Offering – Household Treasury	
Offertory	Sam Friesen
Hymn of Thanksgiving – <i>God, We Pause This Moment</i> (sing 2 times)	VT #756
HEARING GOD’S WORD	
* Gospel	Matthew 5:13-16
* Song – <i>You Are Salt for the Earth</i>	VT #297
* Gospel	Matthew 5:17-20
Sermon	Kate Friesen
RESPONDING TO GOD	
Song – <i>Renew Your Church</i>	VT #717
Sharing and Congregational Prayer	Tim Graber
* Sending Song – <i>As You Go Out from Here</i>	VT #841
* Benediction	
Postlude	

Church Calendar

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

TODAY

As the days lengthen and the temperatures slowly warm, we celebrate God’s Light and Love! We are grateful to have Kate Friesen bring the message today as we ponder Jesus’ words from Matthew 5. We are blessed that you are joining us for worship. Welcome!

The offering that we are celebrating today is for our **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: Pastor Corey and Nancy are attending Randall Koehler’s ordination service this morning at Hutterthal Mennonite Church. Corey has served as a mentor to Randall over the past two years and will be involved in the service.

THIS WEEK

Feb. 7 (Tues) – Deacons meeting at 7:00pm

Feb. 8 (Wed) – *Feeding Our Faith*. Supper at 6:15pm and study and children’s programming for all ages at 7:00pm. We are continuing our study on understanding how Jesus responded to diversity. We will dive into various texts in Luke and reflect on what law, cultural construct, or societal norm was in tension with Jesus’ teachings and actions. Come and participate in these conversations.

Feb. 10 (Fri) – Fuente de Vida church service at 7:00pm

NEXT SUNDAY – Feb. 12

Next Sunday the theme is “*Persuasive Love*” and we will be looking at the book of **Philemon**. Pastor Corey will be preaching.

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

Salem-Zion Prayer Requests & News

Happenings over the past week:

- Judy Rechnagel was able to return home on Monday from her recent surgery at Sanford.

- Amanda Bleichty, our Conference Minister for Faith Formation, resigned effective March 1, 2023. Conference Minister Nathan Luitjens writes: “I am deeply grateful for Amanda’s passion for the church and the wisdom and energy she brought to her role as a conference minister in Central Plains. She has challenged our conference to think about what it means to continue to grow into faith regardless of the stage of life we find ourselves in. She has worked hard at intercultural development work and made space for many of us

in leadership to think more deeply about how we engage our own culture of origin and other cultures around us. We will miss her gifts here at CPMC but we wish her well as she begins a new role as co-director of Crooked Creek Christian Camp.”

Remember to pray for:

- those who cannot be here today: Paul and Darlene Engbrecht.
- Judy Rechnagel as she recovers from her surgery and regains her strength.
- Kerwin Graber as he continues to regain strength in his ankle and leg.
- Amanda Bleichy as she concludes her season as conference minister and prepares for the next ministry setting.
- an end to mass shootings, an end to police brutality, an end to senseless violence on the streets, in houses of worship and in the malls, an end to school shootings, an end to America’s addiction to violence. Oh Lord, help us to live and walk in the way of peace. Help us to vote and advocate laws that will protect and give life.
- Randall Koehler, pastor of Hutterthal Mennonite Church in Freeman, SD, who is being ordained today. Pray for God's blessing on the ministry that Randall and Hutterthal share.

There is a sign-up sheet for **Schmeckfest workers and food donations** in the narthex. We appreciate your willingness to help! If you have any questions, please contact Polly Waltner with food questions and Sheila Epp with worker questions.

Rachel Miller’s monthly **MVS newsletter** has been posted on the bulletin board in the narthex.

January Household Treasury Report – Income: \$21,071.29; Expenses: \$32,971.51; Balance: \$6,814.54.

January Offerings & Gifts: Household Treasury - \$21,071.29; Deacon Sharing Fund - \$5,958.00.

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

Community Connections

FA Noodle Making Days Planned: Join the volunteer crew to make noodles for the 2023 Schmeckfest meal and Country Kitchen on Saturday, February 11 in the Pioneer Hall dining room. Plans are to begin at 9:00 a.m. Snow date is Monday, February 13. A great time of work and fellowship for folks of all ages! A pizza lunch will be provided. Watch the *Courier* or Freeman Academy websites for weather cancellation.

Bearcats Kids Club: Children ages 4-10 are invited to an evening of glow in the dark fun and creative drum activities on **Monday, February 13th, 5:45-7:15pm**. Join us near the Sterling Hall gym on the Freeman Academy campus for this exciting time of fun and games! Space is limited. Please RSVP to Elizabeth, eanderson@freemanacademy.org, by February 10th.

Freeman Academy invites interested families to **Discovery Day** on Feb. 20 beginning at 9:50am. Guests will experience chapel, classroom activities, and a free lunch while getting to know teachers and students. Parents and their children ages 4 through current juniors are welcome to attend. Please register at FreemanAcademy.org or by contacting Enrollment@freemanacademy.org by noon on Feb. 16.

Cheese Pocket Making Days Planned for Schmeckfest: Cheese pockets for the 2023 Schmeckfest Country Kitchen will be made on Friday afternoon and Saturday, February 17 & 18 and February 24 & 25, in the Pioneer Hall Dining Room. Plans are to begin at 3:30 p.m. on Fridays and at 9:00 a.m. on Saturdays. Please bring a sack lunch on Saturdays. Join the volunteer crew for a great time of work and fellowship and learn how this ethnic favorite is made. Watch the *Courier* or Freeman Academy websites for weather cancellation.

Jesus Teaches and Lives Peace: *"For I was hungry and you cut my food stamps. I was a stranger and you deported me. I was sick and you denied me healthcare. I was a child afraid to go to school, and you voted with the NRA (National Rifle Association)."* - Matthew 25:35-36, New Hypocritical Version