



Salem-Zion Mennonite Church

February 6, 2022

God is Light

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Prelude – *Rhosymedre* (Vaughan Williams) Sherilyn Ortman

Welcome and Call to Worship Gloria Graber

L: In the beginning, when God created the heavens and the earth, God said, “Let there be light.”

P: And there was light and God saw that the light was good.

L: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

P: In the Word was life, and the life was the light of all people.

L: The light shines in the darkness,

P: And the darkness did not overcome it.

ALL: Praise be Christ, our light, who has come into the world!

Opening Prayer

* Hymn - *Here in This Place* VT #10

Greeting Each Other and “Passing the Peace”
“*The Peace of Christ be with you. And also with you.*”

Lighting the Peace Lamp *Christ, You Are Light* #271

Celebrating our Mission with the Household Treasury

Children’s Story Lacey Friesen

PROCLAIMING

* Hearing the Gospel John 8:12-14

Song – *Let There Be Light* #714

Hearing the New Testament I John 1:5-2:6

Song – *Kyrie eleison* #796

Hearing the New Testament I John 2:7-17

Sermon – “Living in the Light” Corey Miller

RESPONDING

Sharing & Congregational Prayer

* Sending Song – *Longing for Light* #715

Blessing

Postlude – *O Christ, Who Art the Light and Day* (Boehm)

Musicians: Lacey Friesen, Judy Graber, Mark Ortman, LeRoy Epp, Lynelle Hofer (violin)

Church Calendar

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

TODAY

We begin a new month by reading I John together. In this letter, we hear that God is Light and we are invited to walk in the light. May God’s Spirit fill us with Light as we worship Christ in Spirit and in Truth. Welcome to our worship!

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

9:00 a.m. – Zoom Adult Sunday School

9:30-10:15 a.m. – Jr. Dept. Sunday School

9:30 a.m. – Sunday School for adults

10:30 a.m. – Worship Service

THIS WEEK

Feb. 9 (Wed) – *Feeding Our Faith* (FOF) with supper and activities planned for all ages. The adult study will focus on “*Fellowship*.” Supper at 6:00pm and some fellowship activities will follow as we continue to live out our mission statement.

Feb. 12 (Sat) – “Comfort and Joy” in the fellowship hall at 9:00am

NEXT SUNDAY – February 13

Next Sunday we will continue our series on I John. Throughout the month, our worship will focus on the inspiring message of **I John**. We invite you to read over this letter prayerfully and to bring your Bibles to worship as we learn and grow together. Our theme is “*God is Love*.” The scriptures are I John 4:7-21 and Pastor Corey will be preaching.

Offering next Sunday will be for **Central Plains Mennonite Conference**.

Salem-Zion Prayer Requests & News

Happenings over the past week:

- A wonderful group of servants gathered on Wednesday night to practice our mission statement by serving. Eight Valentines boxes were assembled and six comforters were tied. It was an intergenerational experience of service, stories and mission!

- On Tuesday, Pastor Corey quietly celebrated his 5th year anniversary as pastor at Salem-Zion. Praise God, the giver of all good gifts!

Remember to pray for:

- those who cannot be here today: Mary Schmidt.

- willing participants to adult delegate session in Kansas City in May to review membership guidelines. Talk to any of the deacons if you are willing to serve in this capacity.

- those who continue treatments for cancer and those recovering from recent surgeries. Healing Lord, touch our bodies, minds and hearts.

- people who find themselves tired, hurting, and exhausted by the winter season, the concerns that weigh heavily, and the burdens that are difficult to bear. Oh Lord, have mercy upon us as we listen and care for each other.
- peace and safety for everyone in Burkina Faso and Ukraine, including MCC staff and partners.
- the good and peace-filled work of the Agape Peace Center and the Minnesota Peacebuilding Leadership Institute, both in Minnesota.

“Comfort and Joy” – February 12 at 9:00am

Come to a morning session of “comfort and joy” in the fellowship hall on Saturday, February 12th to tie comforters that will provide warmth for someone. Rosella Schwartz has prepared 12 comforters and last Wednesday night, six were successfully tied. We need willing helpers to come on out and help finish the job.

The elective course “*No Cure For Being Human (and Other Truths I Need to Hear)*” by Kate Bowler will be led by **Beth Bontrager and Tim Graber**. The other course, “*Healing Haunted Memories*” by Ched Myers and Elaine Enns, will be led by **S. Roy Kaufman**. Sign up ends February 7.

Yearbook Update: Charity Ortman has accepted the position of Mennonite Women Executive Committee Chair. She joins Jami Dubs and Lori Ortman. Elizabeth Janssen has agreed to fill the open position of Bridal Shower committee. Please inform Elizabeth of any upcoming weddings. Also, if you are willing to help serve at a shower or showers, Elizabeth would welcome your help. Thank you!

Mennonite Church USA is holding a Special Session of the Delegate Assembly in Kansas City from May 27 – 30, 2022. At this gathering, the delegates will vote on a resolution to retire the Membership Guidelines as the active polity in Mennonite Church USA. Resources can be found at <http://www.centralplainsmc.org/mc-usa-delegate-resources.html>. **Salem-Zion is seeking delegates for this Special Session.** Please talk to one of the deacons if you are interested or have further questions.

January Offerings & Gifts: Household Treasury - \$24,381.42; Ross Richers - \$500.00; Deacon Sharing Fund - \$1,000.00; Student Tuition Sharing Fund - \$1,400.00; Bienvenidos - \$100.00; The Banquet - \$200.00; Bearcat Avenue - \$400.00; Outreach Fund - \$3,766.13; Music Fund - \$200.00.

January Household Treasury Report – Income: \$24,382.67; Expenses: \$20,519.21; Balance: \$33,067.41.

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

Community Connections

Freeman Academy - Job Opportunity: Do you or someone you know want to impact the lives of high school teens and have the opportunity to learn from them as well? Freeman Academy is seeking a new Resident Director for our on-campus boarding students. Primary responsibilities include building relationships with students and overseeing life at the dorm, including preparing the evening meal, coordinating student activities and communicating with parents. This rewarding position also includes salary, health insurance, retirement, room and board. For more information, visit <https://freemanacademy.org/employment/> or contact Nathan Epp, Head of School, nepp@freemanacademy.org or 605-925-4237.

MDS OPPORTUNITY: February 14 - 18 will be another MDS work week at the Pine Ridge volunteer center. Tasks will include cleaning the floor before applying the floor finish: then we can install stools, vanities and sinks. We can also paint baseboard and trim before mounting them. If you can help for any part of that week, call Dennis Ries at 925-7788 to arrange travel and lodging.

The **annual meeting of Swan Lake Christian Camp** will be held March 13, 2022 at 4:00 pm. Diane Gubbles, a quilter from Coleridge, NE, will be sharing “Stories of Inspiration.” As her beautiful quilts unfold, so do the stories that lead to their creation. As a talented designer and applique artist, Diane allows her creative spirit to speak through her quilts. Following the presentation will be the camp business meeting and supper. Please RSVP to campoffice@myslcc.com or 605-326-5690 by March 10.

God’s Peace at Work: “You can visualize God’s light each day and send it to someone who needs help. Your divine nature must reach out and touch the divine nature of another. Within you is the light of the world, it must be shared with the world.” - Peace Pilgrim

Praying our Mission:
 “As followers of Jesus Christ, our purpose is to live and share the good news of Christ’s kingdom, welcoming all as we worship, study, fellowship, and serve others together.”

Pastor Corey Miller
 Office Hours:
 Tues.-Fri. 8:00 a.m. - Noon
corey.miller@gwtc.net
 Cell phone: 319-930-7320

Church Admin. Assistant:
 Lisa Kaufman
 (605) 951-1871 ~ salemzion@gwtc.net
 Office hours: Thursdays 9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. and by appointment as requested

Zoom Adult Sunday School

<https://zoom.us/j/97667382194?pwd=NHNieHZ6a29ZMGpZSHJpczlibUxtdz09>; Meeting ID: 976 6738 2194; Passcode: 523139

Livestream link for Sunday morning worship

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCX8KyFIZChK0Ef-rlBAaS3A>