



Salem-Zion Mennonite Church

“Christ among us, the New Covenant”

March 17, 2024

GATHERING TO PRAISE

Prelude – *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*
(arr. Dan Forrest) Mavis Ortman

Welcome and Call to Worship Elizabeth Janssen

Lighting the Peace Lamp

Opening Prayer

* Hymn of Praise – *Now the Green Blade Rises* VT #353

* Greeting each other

Children’s Story Jeremiah 31:31-34 Mary Mannes

Offering – Mennonite Church USA
Offertory – *Rejoice, the Lord Is King!* (arr. Dan Forrest)

HEARING GOD’S WORD

New Testament Scripture Reading Hebrews 5:5-10

Prayer of Confession (screen)

Song – *Thy Word Is a Lamp* VT #398, led by the Hofer family

* Gospel Reading John 12:20-33

Sermon – “We want to see Jesus” Corey Miller

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

Song of Response – *New Earth, Heavens New* VT #377

Sharing and Congregational Prayer

SENDING

* Song – *Spirit, Open My Heart* VT #636

* Blessing

Postlude

Church Calendar

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

TODAY

To have Christ within us, we must die to self, throwing off all the external things that get in our way. In order for a seed to produce anything, it has to die and then it will bear much fruit. Patiently and lovingly, God waits for us to surrender. Welcome to our time of worship! We are so glad that you are here with us.

The offering that we are celebrating today is for **Mennonite Church USA**.

9:30am – Sunday School for all ages

10:30am – Worship Service

2:00pm – Fuente de Vida church service

THIS WEEK

Mar. 18 (Mon) – Administrative Board meeting at 7:00pm

Mar. 20 (Wed) – Children’s Choir practice, 6:00-6:30pm

Mar. 20 (Wed) – Chancel Choir rehearsal, 7:00-8:00pm

Mar. 22 (Fri) – Fuente de Vida church service at 7:00pm

Mar. 23 (Sat) – Deacons meeting at 8:00am

NEXT SUNDAY – Mar. 24

Next Sunday continues our Lenten season’s theme, “*Christ Among Us, the Way of a Servant.*” On this Palm Sunday, we are invited to share our praise and worship to the One who comes riding in on a donkey. The texts are Psalm 118, Mark 11:1-11 and Philippians 2:5-11. Pastor Corey will be preaching.

The offering will be for Mennonite Disaster Service.

COMING EVENTS

Mar. 24-27 – Holy Week services at Hutterthal Church with **Michele Hershberger**

Mar. 27 – Chancel Choir rehearsal following the Holy Week service, approximately 8:20pm

Mar. 28 – **Maundy Thursday** meal, worship and communion at Salem-Zion at 6:30pm

Mar. 29 – **Good Friday** service with the children presenting “*The Three Trees*” musical at 7:00pm

Mar. 31 – **Easter Sunday** service at 10:30am; Breakfast from 9:00-10:00am

Salem-Zion Prayer Requests & News

Remember to praise God for:

- the conversations, fellowship, and goodwill among the crowds that celebrated Schmeckfest over the weekend.

Remember to pray for:

- those who cannot be here today: Bernie Koller.
- the Holy Week services that will begin next Sunday evening and go during the week.
- the faculty, staff and students at Freeman Academy and Hillcrest Academy.

Death of a CPMC Pastor: Martha Corpus Hernandez, pastor at Iglesia Menonita Centro Cristiano in Washington, Iowa, passed away Monday afternoon, March 11, at her home following a long journey with pancreatic cancer. The funeral was held on Saturday, March 16th at East Union Mennonite Church, Kalona, Iowa. Please pray for her husband, CPMC Hispanic Ministries Coordinator Ramiro Hernandez, their 3 adult children, grandchildren and extended family.

Join us at Hutterthal Mennonite Church for annual **Holy Week services** on March 24, 25, 26, and 27. Each year, local Mennonite churches in and around Freeman join together to worship as one community during this sacred time just before Easter Sunday. Each service will begin at 7 PM and will include familiar hymns, musical performances from our church members, a children's story for the young ones among us, and challenging and inspiring sermons from our guest speaker. Everyone is welcome. This year's guest speaker is Michele Hershberger, professor of Bible and Ministry at Hesston College. She has joyously served the church as a professor, author, pastor, conference youth minister, and speaker. This spring, she will finish her 24th year at Hesston College, where she teaches Bible and serves as one of the campus pastors. She has authored four books, including *Why Did Jesus Die and What Difference Does it Make?* and the official baptismal preparation book for Mennonite Church USA and Mennonite Church Canada, *God's Story, Our Story*. Michele is married to Del Hershberger, and they have three grown children.

An **Easter breakfast** will be served from 9:00-10:00 in the Fellowship Hall on Easter Sunday March 31. Check the east bulletin board for a sign-up sheet as to how you can help.

Increasing our Understanding of the Conflict in the Middle East: On Sunday April 7, in the Freeman Community Center, three speakers will give a presentation that outlines the religious significance of the Holy Land from the perspective of Islam, Judaism, and Christianity. The session will go from 2-4pm. Each speaker will offer a 20 min. presentation and then 10 min. of questions after. All are welcome to learn from these speakers.

150th Anniversary of the Swiss-Volhynian Mennonites in South Dakota – September 7-8, 2024: Please consider sharing your stories (or your family stories) with the committee that is planning the 150th Anniversary event. We are

looking for short stories that could be shared as children's stories, in Sunday School classes, in newsletters, and possibly a booklet that we hope to compile. Please give or send your written stories to Gwen Ortman or Marnette Hofer. Thank you!

Service Opportunity! First Fruits gardens are community gardens tended in Freeman to provide fresh produce for those who cannot afford it and benefit from the Bethany Food Pantry. Volunteers from area Mennonite churches plant, tend and harvest throughout the growing season. After Gary Graber has faithfully done Salem-Zion's part for the past several years, we now need someone else to be responsible for that, together with a few assistants. To volunteer or learn more about what is involved, please talk with Tim Eisenbeis.

Please see the bulletin board in the narthex for a **thank-you card** from the Heritage Hall Museum & Archives.

Swiss-Volhynian 150th Anniversary - The anniversary committee is seeking contributions to cover expenses for this celebration. We are channeling our finances through the South Church General Fund. Checks should be made to Salem Mennonite Church earmarked for the 150th Anniversary. Gifts may be given to any committee member (Corey Miller, Gwen Ortman, Marnette Hofer, Polly Waltner, Everett Waltner or Rudy Brockmueller).

Community Connections

The Sermon on the Mount Mennonite Church of Sioux Falls is organizing a **visit to Congressional offices** in Sioux Falls on Wednesday, March 27. We will be presenting MCC Health kits to the office staff to give to their Congressman. This is an alternative to spending U.S. money on weapons that Israel uses to fight in Gaza. We are inviting you to join us. More detailed information will be in next Sunday's bulletin. Mennonite Action, which was formed soon after the Palestine/Israel war began, is calling for these visits during March 25-29.

A Prayer for Peace: "Christ beside me, Christ before me, Christ behind me, Christ within me, Christ beneath me, Christ above me." - Saint Patrick

Pastor Corey Miller

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