



Salem-Zion Mennonite Church

March 21, 2021
Called to Deep Growth

"...I will write it on their hearts and I will be their God." - Jeremiah 31:33

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

- Prelude – *O Sacred Head* (arr. Kahnau) Ruby Waltner
- Welcome and Call to Worship Jay Penner
- Lighting the Peace Lamp instrumentation of *All Who Are Thirsty* (VT #49)
- Opening Prayer
- * Opening Hymn – *For the beauty of the earth* (HWB #89; VT #120)
Chorister: Ken Mannes

HEARING GOD’S WORD

- Children’s Story Elizabeth Janssen
- Hearing the Scriptures Jeremiah 31:31-34 and Hebrews 5:5-10
- Song – *I saw a tree by the riverside* (SS #116; VT #514)
- * Hearing the Gospel John 12:20-33
- Sermon – “Dying to bear fruit” Corey Miller

RESPONDING TO GOD’S CALL

- Confession
 - P: Deep calls to deep. We call to you from the depths of our hearts.**
 - 1: We confess our resistance to being planted into your aching earth, into the way of your covenant.
 - 2: We confess our need for you to plant within us the joy of your salvation, a willing spirit.
- Silence*
- Deep calls to deep. You call to us from the depth of your love.
- P: Calling us to deep relationship. We come to you, God.**
- Testimony Mary Mannes
- Missional Moment – Mennonite Church USA
- Congregational Prayer
- * Sending Song – *In the bulb there is a flower* (HWB #614; VT #670)
- Benediction
- Postlude – *Go to Dark Gethsemane* (arr. Held)

Church Calendar

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

TODAY

Like a seed that falls deep into the dark, rich earth, we are called to deep growth, releasing our attachments that prevent us from bearing and offering fruit. Welcome to our worship of God! We are so glad you are here with us.

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

9:30 a.m. – Adult Sunday School in the Fellowship Hall

10:30 a.m. – Worship Service

THIS WEEK

Mar. 24 (Wed) - Zoom Bible Study from Mark 14:26-72 – “*Jesus on Trial*” at 10 a.m.

- Faith From the Heart (Zoom) led by Sheila Epp at 6:45 p.m.

NEXT SUNDAY – March 28

Next Sunday we continue our Lent series “Deep Calls to Deep” and the focus of the morning is “*Called to deep hope*.” The Biblical texts are Isaiah 50:4-9, Psalm 118, John 12:12-16 and Philippians 2:5-11. Pastor Corey will be preaching.

Offering next Sunday will be for **Mennonite Disaster Service**.

Salem-Zion Prayer Requests & News

Happenings over the past week:

- Clara Graber was able to return home on Wednesday from the hospital in Sioux Falls. They drained some fluid off her lungs and she is feeling much better. Thanks be to God.
- Candace Schrag had successful back surgery on Monday where they worked on some bulging discs. Candace was able to return home the same day.

Remember to pray for:

- those who cannot be here today: Paul & Darlene Engbrecht.
- Clara and Candace as they recover from their recent hospitalizations.
- Tammy Benjamin as she anticipates her surgery this week on March 23rd. Lord, hear our prayers.
- The families and community of Atlanta in the recent senseless killing of eight people. Lord, have mercy.
- Our upcoming Holy Week services with Rachel Miller Jacobs held at our church March 28, 29, 30, 31.
- Prayerful discernment where we should use the generous gift from our friends at Shalom Mennonite in Eau Claire, WI.
- CPMC’s Partners in Mission, Philip Friesen and the Agape Peace Center.

Looking for Testimonies: I am still encouraging you to reflect on and write about your faith formation over the past year. Please forward them to me so I can rejoice with you in God's faithfulness. – Pastor Corey

Holy Week Services 2021: Salem-Zion will be hosting our annual Holy Week services, **March 28-31, beginning at 7:00pm.** Rachel Miller Jacobs, professor at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, will be our featured speaker/teacher. These services will be in person and they will also be live-streamed.

Household Treasury Report 3rd Sunday of month Balance: \$8,050.51
The household treasury pays for salaries, electric/heating bills, Sunday school materials, office supplies, etc. The average monthly expenses for the Household Treasury are around \$15,000. We greatly appreciate your giving and generosity towards these needs to keep our Salem-Zion community functioning! Thank you so much!

Community Connections

Spring Events at Freeman Academy: Find out more at FreemanAcademy.org
March – Leap Forward and Schmeckfest donation match continues – we appreciate your support

March 26-27 – Schmeckfest Drive-Thru (Open 1-6pm)

April 8 – Kindergarten Screening 3-6pm. Register for an appointment.

Now Open – Faith and Leadership Scholarship applications. Encourage your youth leaders to apply for this special opportunity and the 40% tuition discount.

The March edition of On the Level is now available from **Mennonite Disaster Service** at <https://conta.cc/3rYxwbR>. In our current issue: MDS needs volunteers to help with plumbing repairs in Texas, the Spirit of MDS Fund is offering another round of funding for congregations in Canada and the Summer Youth Program is accepting applications from youth volunteers.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!! Plan to attend the SD MCC Relief Sale on Saturday, July 10. It will be a very different event than you have experienced in the past and will be held outdoors during the evening hours at the Prairie Rose Arboretum. There will be entertainment, an auction, activities for children and more. We are excited to be able to raise funds for Mennonite Central Committee in this unique way. More details at a later date.

Seeking God's Peace:

I am determined not to allow the past and present circumstances of systemic oppression to make me feel powerless. For many in the white community, including our Mennonite family, my skin color is a barrier. It is a consideration that I can't easily set aside. But for many of you in MC USA, your race is not a barrier but rather an advantage you can use to dismantle racial injustice in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. We need your voice. We need to #BringthePeace.

-Glen Guyton, executive director of Mennonite Church USA

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

