



Salem-Zion Mennonite Church

“Christ among us, the Way of a Servant”

March 24, 2024

GATHERING TO PRAISE

Prelude – *All glory, laud and honor* (arr. Alexandre Guilmant) Ken Mannes

Welcome and Call to Worship (screen) Malynda Penner

Lighting the Peace Lamp

Opening Prayer

* Hymns of Praise – *Hosanna, Loud Hosanna* VT #313
Jesus is Coming Children’s Choir

* Greeting each other

Children’s Story Jeremy Waltner

Offering – Mennonite Disaster Service
Offertory – *Praise to the Lord* (Johann Walther)

HEARING GOD’S WORD

New Testament Scripture Reading Philippians 2:5-11 VT #335

Anthem – *A Prayer for Tomorrow* (Allen Pote) Children’s Choir

* Gospel Reading Mark 11:1-11

Sermon – “An Upsidedown King” Corey Miller

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

Prayer of Confession (screen)

Instrumental Response

Sharing and Congregational Prayer

SENDING

* Song – *Christ is King! Let Earthly Powers* VT #410

* Benediction

Postlude – Improvised on *Fairest, Lord Jesus*

Church Calendar

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

TODAY

Jesus came into Jerusalem riding an unbroken colt of a donkey in the midst of adoring crowds. Christ has come among us in the way of a servant, an upsidedown King! As we join in the “*Hosanna’s*” today, may we recognize that Jesus brings forth a different Kingdom. Welcome to our worship!

The offering that we are celebrating today is for **Mennonite Disaster Service**.

9:30am – Sunday School for all ages

10:30am – Worship Service

2:00pm – Fuente de Vida church service

THIS WEEK

Mar. 24-27 (Sun-Wed) – Holy Week services at Hutterthal Church at 7:00pm with Michele Hershberger; Livestream information was emailed

Mar. 27 (Wed) – Children’s Choir rehearsal, 6:00pm-6:45pm

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

Mar. 28 (Thurs) - Children’s Choir rehearsal prior to the Maundy Thursday service, 5:30pm-6:15pm

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

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

NEXT SUNDAY – Mar. 31

Next Sunday celebrates the highpoint of the church year, Easter Sunday! We will celebrate the joyous hope of Christ’s resurrection through music, visuals, colors, singing, and proclamation. The texts are Psalm 118, Isaiah 25:6-9, John 20:1-18 and Acts 10:34-43. Pastor Corey will be preaching and the choir will be singing! Consider inviting a friend to join us in worship at this special service.

The offering will be for Mennonite Mission Network.

COMING EVENTS

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 moisture that has come to the dry ground in our community.
- the opportunity to worship together with our Mennonite friends during Holy Week.

Remember to pray for:

- those who cannot be here today: Rachel Miller.
- our Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services, that they may draw us more deeply into Jesus' saving love.
- Central Plains congregations that are in the midst of pastoral searches. Pray for search committees and for candidates looking for churches, that God may guide the search process according to God's will.
- Bethsaba & Dale Nafziger, serving with Mennonite Mission Network in Nepal, as they prepare for their retirement at the end of March 2025.

To Salem-Zion Members and Regular Attendees,

Pastor Corey, the Board of Deacons and the Pastor Congregation Relations Committee (PCRC), would like to remind everyone that these two groups, along with Pastor Corey, are tasked with caring for the welfare and guiding the spiritual life of the Congregation. This care includes hearing any joys, sorrows, questions and concerns you may have. If at any time, you have any items you wish to share, you are invited to seek out Pastor Corey or a member of one of these groups. We believe that open communication is a vital part of maintaining healthy relationships in any congregation.

In Christ,

The SZ Board of Deacons: Gwen Ortman, Tim Graber, Polly Waltner, Mary Mannes, and Nathan Epp

The SZ PCRC: Beth Bontrager, LeRoy Epp, and Andre Eisenbeis

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.

The flower committee invites anyone to purchase an **Easter lily** to share with the church on Easter Sunday and then take home that day. The flowers will be delivered to the church on Easter morning. Please contact Mary Mannes (605-695-0743) to put in your order.

Next Sunday an **Easter breakfast** will be served from 9:00 to 10:00 in the Fellowship Hall. A sign-up sheet is posted on the east bulletin board. Please have food delivered to the kitchen on Saturday or no later than 8:45 Sunday morning March 31. We appreciate your help. - *Hospitality Committee*

Information on how to fold a simple **cross** with a palm strip is available at: https://youtu.be/wpjO_S99fEA?si=jVV1eiRAfbHLGpOL.

The church website has a new addition! Salem-Zion has a significant archival collection of documents and artifacts, some with important historical information dating back to the early 19th century. As part of the Library Committee, Roy Kaufman on behalf of the Library Committee has prepared an **annotated catalogue of the contents of the church's archives**. The catalogue includes all the items entered into the archives by the Church Historian, LaNae Waltner, from 1987 to 2010, and continued by Lois Kaufman since then. The annotated catalogue is posted in two PDFs with an identical content. The first PDF lists all the items in the archives by their entry into the collection. The second PDF has the same content only organized in terms of subject matter. This latter PDF would be the one most useful to the casual browser or researcher. Church members or others interested in researching church or family history are free to browse these PDFs. Go to the church website (www.salemzion.com), click on "MORE", then "Historical Archives Catalogue". Many of these items are in the library or somewhere else in the church, but if someone wishes to examine any of the documents kept in the safe, arrangements to do that may be made with Roy Kaufman, serving on the Library Committee.

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.

Dale and Bethsaba Nafziger share the following with us: "...our retirement from Mennonite Mission Network is firmly set for March 31, 2025. We want to express how meaningful this partnership-in-mission has been. One of several churches that "top the list," in terms of faithfulness over the years, includes all of you at Salem-Zion Mennonite. Please thank the congregation, from the bottom of our hearts. It is our intent to continue living and serving here in Nepal following retirement." Further information and prayer requests from Dale and Bethsaba have been posted on the bulletin board in the narthex.

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!

Community Connections

The Sermon on the Mount Mennonite Church of Sioux Falls is organizing a **visit to our South Dakota Congressmen’s offices** in Sioux Falls on Wednesday, March 27. Mennonite Action, a national organization, is asking Mennonites to visit their local congressional offices during the week of March 25-27. The theme of the visit is "Send Aid, Not Bombs". The U.S. has been supplying Israel with weapons since October 7, 2023 in its war against Hamas in the Gaza Strip. Over 30,000 Palestinians have been killed and much of the Gaza infrastructure destroyed. Presently, Palestinians are being starved to death. Non-government organizations have not been allowed by the Israeli government to bring them adequate amounts of food. We invite Mennonites to join us in Sioux Falls to deliver symbolic MCC health kits to the office staff, asking them to give these kits to their congressperson and calling for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza. Plus, to spend U.S. tax dollars on non-lethal aid, such as food, shelter, clothing and medical/health supplies. We will be gathering at the Downtown Public Library, 200 N. Dakota Ave. at 10:30 A.M. on Wednesday March 27. Parking is available in the library parking lot. From there we will be walking a couple blocks to Senator Mike Round’s office at 320 N. Main Ave. Next we will be walking to Congressman Dusty Johnson's office, about 5 blocks, at Suite 307, 230 S. Phillips Ave. Next we will go back to our vehicles and drive to Senator John Thune’s office at 5015 South Bur Oak Place. This is off 57th. St. between Western and Louise Avenues. You are welcome to make or bring signs and wear Mennonite caps or sweatshirts sporting logos of MCC, MDS and Mennonite Church. We will be singing as we gather at each office. We ask you to join us in this public witness to stop the war in Gaza. Please call Beth Yoder at 937-844-9175 for additional information.

The March edition of **On the Level** is now available from Mennonite Disaster Service at <https://conta.cc/4adqxsS>. In our current issue: Kevin King explores where we would see Jesus in disaster responses, get the latest on the damage left by the Midwest tornadoes, and learn how a remote electrician is adding a spark to an MDS project. Plus, check out the volunteer opportunities for this summer and fall.

Spring has finally sprung! As you dive into spring cleaning, please consider donating your high-quality items to **Et Cetera Shoppe**. We have an extremely important mission right here in our own community: providing affordable clothing and home items for low-income and fixed-income community members. Many of our customers *depend* on Et Cetera Shoppe to furnish their homes and closets. We accept donations of clean, folded clothing, working household items, and good condition furniture pieces on Monday – Friday from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m., and on Saturdays from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. A thrift store can only be as good as the donations it receives, so help us to be the best we can!

Rural Revival will meet on April 1 at 8:00 p.m. at the Freeman library. All are welcome to attend.

A Prayer for Palm Sunday: “So let us spread before his feet, not garments or soulless olive branches, which delight the eye for a few hours and then wither, but ourselves, clothed in his grace, or rather, clothed completely in him.” - Andrew of Crete

Pastor Corey Miller

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