



Salem-Zion Mennonite Church

April 12, 2020

Show us resurrection power and love

“Suddenly Jesus met them and said, “Greetings!” - Matthew 28:9

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Prelude – *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross* Sheila Epp, Sherilyn Ortman

Gathering at the Tomb Matthew 28:1-10 Corey Miller

Welcome and Call to Worship Nathan Epp

L: The Lord is risen!

P: The Lord is risen indeed!

L: Let all the people of Salem-Zion declare:

P: The Lord is risen indeed!

L: Let all the earth declare:

P: The Lord is risen indeed!

ALL: Hallelujah!

Opening Prayer

PRAISING GOD

Hymn of Praise – *How Deep the Father’s Love* Josie Epp, Rachel Miller

Celebrating our Offerings – Central Plains Mennonite Conference

HEARING GOD’S WORD

Hearing the New Testament Acts 10:34-43

Special Music – *Jesus what a friend for sinners* Josie Epp

Meditation – “Do not be afraid!” Corey Miller

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

Affirming our Faith from Colossians 3:1-4

Because we have been raised with Christ, we will seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.

We strive to set our minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. For we have died, and our life is hidden with Christ in God.

When Christ who is our life is revealed, then we also will be revealed with him in glory.

Special Music – *Songs of Easter* Sheila Epp, Sherilyn Ortman

Congregational Prayer

Sending Song – *Lift your glad voices* HWB #275

Benediction

Postlude

Church Calendar

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

TODAY

“*Christ is Risen*” we always proclaim on Easter, but we also pray, “Show us one more time, the extent of your power over death. Show us how you can help us turn our present circumstances, world situations, and our hearts into the miracles of new life.” May the assurance of our resurrected Lord inspire us to see God at work.

Welcome to this time of worship. We are so glad that you have tuned in.

The offering that we are celebrating today is for **Central Plains Mennonite Conference**. Did you know that our conference ministers have been providing a ZOOM meeting every week over this past month to check in with pastors, to provide counsel, to offer resources and to pray for us? It is crucial for us to belong to a wider body of believers and this is why we joyfully support Central Plains Mennonite Conference. Please also read today’s e-mail attachment from Nathan Luitjens, CPMC Executive Conference Minister. One of the plans for the upcoming year is for conference ministry staff to travel together to visit every congregation in CPMC. A plan to replace the conference’s Honda Accord with a small, fuel efficient, all-wheel drive SUV to aid in carrying out conference work is additionally described in the attached letter.

THIS WEEK

Monday – Worship Committee ZOOM meeting at 7:00 p.m.

NEXT SUNDAY – April 19

Next Sunday the season of Easter continues. The theme is “*Gone Fishin*” and the scriptures are Acts 2:14a, 22-32, Psalm 16, 1 Peter 1:3-9 and John 20:19-31. Pastor Corey will be preaching AND he is inviting you to reflect on any **resurrection signs of hope** that you have experienced over this past month. Please mail, call, text or email your testimony that can be shared with our church. We need to find ways to stay connected to each other and sharing time in worship is one of those ways.

Offering next Sunday will be for **Freeman Academy**.

Salem-Zion Prayer Requests & News

Happenings over the past week:

- Collectively, we have read over the scripture texts during Holy Week and prayed for ourselves, others in need and the church around the world.

- It is likely that by now, some know of people who have been infected by the virus and these dear friends and loved ones are the ones we are praying for.
- On Thursday evening, we were blessed to listen/watch the “*Darkness in the Garden*” live-stream. Thank you, Will, for allowing us to be inspired by your talents and for Nathan Schrag, who helped to broadcast it.

Remember to pray for:

- all who have lost jobs or hours at their jobs.
- those who have become infected with coronavirus and their battle with this virus.
- the community of Sioux Falls and the hospitals there that will feel the brunt of COVID-19 in our state.
- physical, mental and spiritual health during these days of isolation and self-distancing.
- our children, teachers and schools as they struggle to adjust to this new way of learning.
- all who are giving of themselves to restore health to people: nurses, doctors, EMTs, police, and countless others. Let us pray for them as we face this together.

Remember to thank God for:

- all the people who have been involved in the worship services during Lent.
- resurrection hope that springs forth, especially in our time of trial and challenge.

Worship at Salem-Zion: We have been able to provide live-streaming services from Salem-Zion because of the license we purchased that gives us permission to put this on our website and because Nathan Schrag has graciously allowed us to use his gear. These services have happened because people have also volunteered their gifts. We want to be very sensitive to keeping our participants to around 5 people every Sunday, while we practice social distancing. If it becomes clear that we cannot put people at risk, then we will need to look at doing a ZOOM worship service, where we would still “go live” at 10:30am, but the service would be “broadcast” from my own home. I have heard that many have appreciated these live-streaming services (even going far beyond our SZ community), but we need to keep discerning what our practice will be in the next month. Pray for myself and our worship committee as we strive to create meaningful worship experiences in this unusual time. - Pastor Corey

Easter Season: The joyous Easter season begins on this Sunday and continues for 50 days until Pentecost. We all wonder what these next 50 days will bring, but we are invited to see how Christ’s Resurrection power will

proclaim its light. In these next several weeks, we will continue to celebrate the final victory of God – the triumph of good over evil and the promise of life beyond death. Through the drama of salvation, God’s love for the world is made known, and all creation waits in hope for the final redemption! May we proclaim resurrection hope in this time!

Offerings during this season: As you might suspect, our offerings for the ministries we have committed to support this year are down. It is important for us all to continue sending our tithes and offerings to the church, with your donations earmarked for the ministry of that week. These ministries need funds especially in these times, so we encourage you to make this a part of your spiritual practice. May God be glorified in our giving.

Office Hours for staff during this season: Because of the continued call for social distancing and staying at home, Lisa and Corey will not be keeping their normal office hours in the COVID-19 era. If you want to visit with Corey or Lisa, call their cell phone or send an email and they will get back with you. You will also notice that there is a small table in the foyer with disinfectant on it along with instructions. We want to make sure our facility helps to flatten the curve.

The **Comforter Blitz**, scheduled for April 18, is postponed until further notice due to recent postponements and cancellations. We will reschedule when it is safe to do so.

March Mission Fund Offerings and Gifts: Central Plains Mennonite Conference - \$1,247.00; Mennonite Church USA - \$325.00; Mennonite Disaster Service - \$555.00; Deacon Sharing Fund - \$100.00; Jr. SS - Flandreau Project - \$89.00; Salem Mennonite Home - \$70.00; MCC Meat Canning - \$20.00.

The **church library will remain closed** (no lock on the door) until further notice to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Please hold on to any material you may have checked out. Contact librarian Marlan Kaufman if services are needed.

The **trustees are accepting bids** for one housekeeper, one janitor, and one groundskeeper. Please contact any member of the trustees for more information. Bids are due April 15th.

Community Connections

Crisis agencies and our shelters in our state need **face masks** for their staff and residents. These services are essential services. Please help make masks. Here's a link to a mask pattern that a nonprofit in Spearfish is developing in consultation with Monument Health to stock their hospitals: <http://makespacesd.org/N95FilterCoverTutorialv2-1.pdf> There may be other patterns as well. Please make masks and we can let you know where to send them. Contact Krista at krista@sdnafvsa.com for more information.

Freeman Regional Health Services and Salem Mennonite Home are aware that we are likely going to need to conserve disposable face masks and are reaching out to our community for support. If you're interested in helping **sew masks**, please visit the link below for the pattern or contact Amanda Mettler at Amanda.mettler@freemanregional.com. We ask that this pattern from Avera please be used rather than any other patterns available. As we've received the first cloth face masks from our community members, we would share that we prefer the option of the elastic going around the ear, rather than around the head (the right photo rather than the left photo on p. 3 of the pattern). Avera came up with the project name of F.A.C.E (Faith And Community Engage): Masks and we think this is a wonderful name so we're adopting it too! We are asking for everyone to keep the faith and show our sense of community as we have been called to action on this urgent need. Avera F.A.C.E. Project website: <https://www.avera.org/balance/wellness-and-preventive-care/how-can-i-help-sew-masks-for-health-care-workers/>

Heritage Hall Museum & Archives is closed until further notice. We are working to reschedule the "Voices of Conscience" traveling exhibit and programming to a later date. Thanks for your understanding and your continued support during these uncertain times!

The **South Dakota MCC Relief Sale**, scheduled for July 11, has been canceled for 2020. The board is working on new and creative ways for you to still contribute to MCC through the relief sale. Details coming soon.

As we celebrate the new life given to us through Jesus' resurrection this Easter morning, we can't escape the realities of COVID-19. In a time of uncertainty and social distancing, we offer you a selection of **resources that MCC has prepared** over the years for congregations, families and individuals. We pray for the many who are dealing with COVID directly and the many others who are impacted by our collective attempt to stop the spread of this virus. From prayers to recipes and cooking videos, from coloring

pages to videos that give you a glimpse of life across the world, we hope we are able to offer something that may encourage or nourish you in an extraordinary time: mcc.org/covid-19-resources.

Easter Promise: Our Lord has written the promise of the resurrection, not in books alone, but in every leaf in spring-time. - Martin Luther

Pastor Corey Miller

Office Hours:
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Church Admin. Assistant:

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Tues. & Thurs. 9:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
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