



# Salem-Zion Mennonite Church

June 28, 2020

*“The Spirit Outpoured in Evangelism”*

## GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Prelude Sheila Epp

Welcome and Call to Worship Janette Epp

L: Christ Jesus, You are Good News to all humanity in all places and in all times.  
**P: You give us life and breath, forgiveness and salvation, healing and hope!**  
L: Spirit of Christ, You invite us to share your Good News with everyone we see.  
**P: In our words, in our actions and in our lives, we bear witness to Your Good News.**  
L: Jesus our Lord, we celebrate Your transforming, healing, redeeming work in the world.  
**ALL: We praise You God for all Good News and we worship You with grateful hearts.**

Opening Prayer

Expression of Praise – *Praise, I will praise you, Lord* (humming) HWB #76

Celebrating God’s Mission – Mennonite Church USA

Children’s Story Pastor Corey

Special Music Judy Graber

## HEARING GOD’S WORD

Hearing the New Testament Scripture Acts 8:26-40

Sermon – “Sharing Christ on the Way” Pastor Corey Miller

## RESPONDING TO GOD’S CALL

Song – *Lord, you give the great commission* (SJ #63) Judy Graber

Sharing and Congregational Prayer

Benediction

Recessional Sheila Epp

Sending Song Outside – *Praise God from Whom*

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him all creatures here below; praise him above ye heav’nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Praise God from whom all blessings flow; in heav’n above and earth below; one God three persons we adore. To God be praise forevermore.*

## Church Calendar

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

### TODAY

We continue our study of Acts by remembering the acts of the Holy Spirit in the early church. Today Philip guides our focus on evangelism and sharing the Gospel with all. After not having a public worship service for over 3 months, we are glad to welcome you to this time of worship.

The offering that we are celebrating today is for **Mennonite Church USA**. Their mission remains: *God calls us to be followers of Jesus Christ and, by the power of the Holy Spirit, to grow as communities of grace, joy and peace, so that God’s healing and hope flow through us to the world.* As a part of that witness, there are nearly 90 new Mennonite Church USA church plants across the United States. That’s spreading the Good News!

### THIS WEEK

**Wednesday, July 1** – ZOOM Devotional at 10:00am (Matthew 5:1-12). The ZOOM link is the same every week.

**Thursday, July 2** – Outreach and Service Committee meeting at 7:30 p.m.

### NEXT SUNDAY – July 5

Next Sunday we welcome you to join us in worship at Salem-Zion Mennonite Church. The theme is **“Learning and Growing”**, the scripture text is Proverbs 4, and Gwen Ortman will be preaching.

Offering next Sunday will be for the **Household Treasury**.

## Salem-Zion Prayer Requests & News

### Happenings over the past week:

- Virginia Graber was admitted to the Freeman Hospital on Tuesday after a fall. She is recovering well there.
- Josie Epp and Rachel Miller started their summer ministry experience as camp counselors at SLCC.
- A summary of last week’s Central Plains Mennonite Conference was forwarded to us and you’ll see it in the insert of this week’s bulletin.

### Remember to pray for:

- those who cannot be here today: Rita Graber.
- Virginia as she recovers from her recent fall.
- all the campers who will be attending SLCC this summer. Pray for safety and for faith being formed.
- courage like Philip to share about the Good News of Jesus to whoever God brings into our lives.
- Larry Nail, pastor at Julesburg Mennonite Church in Julesburg, CO, who is being ordained today. Pray for God’s blessing on their ministry.

**Remember to thank God for:**

- the diligent work that the Ad Hoc committee has done to enable us to open up for public worship at SZ.
- the opportunity for us to gather safely to worship God in spirit and in truth.

**Welcome back to church**

Many prayerful discussions have led us to this time of opening our doors for worship once again at Salem-Zion. We have worked hard to minimize the threat of catching the Covid-19 virus in our worship space and we will continue to do so. We will also carefully monitor what the virus is doing in our country, our state and particularly in our county. We may have to adjust and adapt as we go along and as we do so, we pray that grace, mercy and love will follow us. We know that not everyone will feel comfortable in coming back to church, and that is perfectly fine. We also suspect that things will become clearer in the weeks and months ahead. We begin this new season with many unknowns but we do expect that God will continue to transform us and our worship times during this unusual time. God is with us wherever we are, and that is Good News.

**Starting in July, the Adult Zoom Sunday School class will begin at 9:00 a.m. and end at 9:50** to allow plenty of time for those who plan to attend the worship service at church to get there. We invite anyone who has access to Zoom to join us. The link is in the email with the link for streaming our worship services. We are studying Wisdom literature from Proverbs, the Gospels, and James. You may pick up a quarterly at the church. We have had great discussions, and it's wonderful to see the faces of our church family!

**Update on Serving at The Banquet:** *The Banquet* will **not** be opening the dining room but will continue to serve meals at the door in July. Because of this change we will only need 6 people to help prepare the meal and 8 people to serve at the door on **July 16**. Please sign-up or call Janette Epp or Lillie Eisenbeis by **July 5** if you can help with this ministry. Salem-Zion will still sponsor the cost of the meal which will be \$700-\$1000. You can send your donations to Lacey Friesen, Janette Epp or the church office. There is a scheduled church offering for *The Banquet* on July 26. *The Banquet* is a feeding ministry in Sioux Falls to help those individuals and families who struggle to put food on the table. Please call Janette Epp or Lillie Eisenbeis if you have questions.

**Josie Epp** would like to thank the congregation for all of the support that has been shown to her over the years. For those who would like to watch her Senior Piano Recital, taped June 20 at Salem-Zion, please go to <https://youtu.be/LtTh8bjYyj0>.

**Student Tuition Sharing Fund:** Parents, please contact John Epp or Polly Waltner by July 1<sup>st</sup> if your child is planning on attending Freeman Academy or a Mennonite College for the 2020-2021 school year.

**Kirsten & Jordan Ortman sent a thank-you card** to the church for the wedding gift that they received from Salem-Zion. Please see the bulletin board in the narthex for their words of gratitude.

Please see the bulletin board in the narthex for a **thank-you card from Tom Manzer** of Bienvenidos a Brookings. He sent the card and pictures as a thank-you to our Jr. Sunday school department.

**Youth Savings Week activities:** Youth Savings Week is designed to encourage children under age 18 to start saving early, while teaching them the advantages of saving money for short- and long-term goals. This year's Youth Savings Week, July 6 to 10, features the theme: Money Magic - save, share, spend through the credit union! Join our celebration online for Facebook Live events, activities, prizes and more! As extra encouragement to save - when a youth makes a deposit of \$15 or more in a new or existing savings account during Youth Savings Week, Everence will deposit an additional \$5 into their account. Plus, right now our youth savings account interest rate is 4.00% APY1 — a great rate to reward saving!

**Masks** have been donated through Krista Graber to South Dakota social service agencies that work around domestic violence, human trafficking, child safety, as well as other organizations and individuals. Donations of reusable face-masks are an ongoing request by non-profits around the state. Please add your donations to the basket located in the Narthex of church. Here are two links to mask patterns, a rectangular mask: <http://makespacesd.org/N95FilterCoverTutorialv2-1.pdf> and a mask with option of a pocket for a filter: <https://www.instructables.com/id/Olson-Mask-for-PPE-With-Filter-for-Personal-and-No/>

If you have questions about how to make a mask or are in need of supplies, Charity Ortman is serving as a contact person on behalf of Salem-Zion's Outreach & Service Committee.

**Seeking God's peace:** "Do not be daunted by the enormity of the world's grief. Do justly NOW. Love mercy NOW. Walk humbly NOW. You are not obligated to complete the work, but neither are you free to abandon it."  
~ unknown

**Pastor Corey Miller**  
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## Happenings at Central Plains Conference 2020

On Saturday we:

\*Installed a new Executive Conference Minister, Nathan Luitjens. If you want to wish him well in his new role, you can do that on our website--Blessings for Nathan.

\*Studied the Scripture around virtual tables, discovering what Jeremiah 29:5-7 has to say to us today. You can see what Nathan Luitjens had to say about this passage in the Worship Resources section of our Annual Meeting webpage.

\*Watched a powerpoint during the break that advertised many important things happening around CPMC. You can find a copy of that powerpoint here.

\*Voted on a bylaw clarification, the spending blueprint, and the discernment slate.

\*Shared stories of hope around our tables by asking the questions:

- 1. What new opportunities are there for your congregation to be the church given the changes that are happening around us?*
- 2. What does it mean for you to put down deep roots where you are planted and to "seek the peace and prosperity of the city?"*
- 3. How do the protests and unrest in society challenge us to think about what it means to work and pray for shalom in our communities? How does this affect our churches?*

How would those in your congregation answer these questions? In what ways might your congregation be prompted to see new opportunities in our present circumstances?

The last several months have highlighted the ongoing reality of racism and racial disparity in our society. We recognize that we have work to do in this area within Central Plains and we invite your feedback on ways that we can begin to work toward this. Conference ministry staff and committees will begin to work on these things in the coming months and we hope to highlight some of this at our next annual meeting in the Twin Cities next year.

There are many things happening around our conference that we weren't able to cover in our short meeting. You can find out more about what is happening at CPMC by reading our bi-monthly newsletter, *Scattered Seeds*; by subscribing to our monthly email, *The Sower*, ([centralplainsmc.org/subscribe-to-the-sower](http://centralplainsmc.org/subscribe-to-the-sower)); or by checking our website periodically to see what's new. The website is full of resources for congregational, mission, and formation leaders, as well as timely resources like our pages dedicated to COVID-19 and anti-racism. In addition, we (the staff of CPMC) are always willing to answer any questions you have, or at least point you in the right direction!

It was good seeing your faces on the computer screen! We hope to visit each of you in your congregations before our next Annual Meeting, and we're especially hopeful that we'll be able to see you all in Minnesota, June 17-20, 2021!



Central Plains Mennonite Conference