



# Salem-Zion Mennonite Church

July 19, 2020

*“The Spirit Outpoured in Discernment”*

## GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Prelude Austin Unruh

Choral Call to Worship – *God is here among us* (HWB #16)  
Judy Graber, Hannah Miller, Austin Unruh

Welcome and Call to Worship Stacey Waltner

L: In the face of all our realities:

**P: We are the people who heal each other,**

L: Who grow strong together,

**P: Who name the truth,**

L: Who know what it means to live in community,

**P: Moving towards a common dream for a new heaven and a new earth**

L: in the power of the love of God,

**P: the company of Jesus Christ,**

**ALL: And the leading of the Holy Spirit.**

Opening Prayer

Opening Hymn – *Praise to God, immortal praise* (HWB #91)

Celebrating God’s Mission – Christian Peacemaker Teams

Children’s Story Paul Ortman

## HEARING GOD’S WORD

Hearing the Old Testament Isaiah 56:3-8

Special Music – *Nearer, My God, to Thee* (arr. Peery) Lisa & Amy Kaufman

Hearing the New Testament Acts 15:1-21, 30-32

Sermon – “Practicing Discernment” Corey Miller

## RESPONDING TO GOD’S CALL

Song – *One is the body* (SJ #72)

Sharing and Congregational Prayer

Benediction

Recessional

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

How does the church practice discernment? Whether deciding on carpet colors, curriculum or ethical issues, churches make decisions that affect the body of Christ. The early church discerned that grace was good to extend to the Gentile believers in Acts 15. We are glad that grace continues today. We are so glad you are here with us.

The offering that we are celebrating today is for **Christian Peacemaker Teams**. Christian Peacemaker Teams is an international organization set up to support teams of peace workers in conflict areas around the world. The organization uses these teams to achieve its aims of lower levels of violence, nonviolent direct action, human rights documentation and nonviolence training in direct action.

### THIS WEEK

**Wednesday** – ZOOM Devotional at 10:00 a.m. (I Corinthians 13). Lisa will send out the ZOOM link.

**Wednesday** – Board of Education meeting at church at 7:30 p.m.

### NEXT SUNDAY – July 26

Next Sunday we continue our study on the book of Acts that celebrates the work of the Holy Spirit. The theme is *“The Spirit Poured out in Prayer.”* The scripture texts are **Luke 5:12-13, I Thess. 5:16-25, Acts 16:11-15** and Pastor Corey will be preaching.

Offering next Sunday will be for **The Banquet**.

## Salem-Zion Prayer Requests & News

### Happenings over the past week:

- Gloria Preheim had back surgery for a ruptured disc last week and is recovering from that.

- Mary Waltner had total knee replacement on Monday in Sioux Falls. The surgery went well and Mary was able to return home already on Tuesday, where she will begin her season of physical therapy.

- A group of people from Salem-Zion served meals at The Banquet in Sioux Falls last Thursday. Of those who were helping, the youth group was represented. Thank you all who served!

### Remember to pray for:

- those who cannot be here today: Eva Goosen.

- Mary Waltner and Gloria Preheim as they recover from their surgeries in the days and weeks ahead.

- those who are organizing faith formation programs for the next school year and for those who will lead and teach, especially in these uncertain and unprecedented times.

**Remember to thank God for:**

- the beauty of South Dakota summers. The sunrises, sunsets, cool breezes and abundant fields give praise to our Creator!  
- all the healthy ways that our church has practiced discernment in listening for the Holy Spirit.

**Welcome back to church:** We've had about 35-40 people join us for worship at Salem-Zion and we are grateful for your presence in the sanctuary and for those who tune into the live-streaming service. We continue to ask that you sanitize your hands as you come in, wear masks into the sanctuary, and maintain social distancing in the pews. We continue to monitor what is best for our faith community during this challenging time of responding to Covid-19.

**Throughout 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 the Gospels this week. The background scriptures for July 19 are Mark 6:1-6 and Mark 7:1-23. 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!

**Forming our Faith during Covid:** If you work with children, youth or adults, please consider viewing the wonderful ZOOM meeting that Conference Minister Amanda Bleichty had this past week. You can go onto the Central Plains Mennonite Conference website and go to the recorded ZOOM session. Amanda offered helpful advice and we heard of some creative ways of teaching our church in these challenging times.

**Household Treasury Report 3rd Sunday of month** Balance: \$9,394.57  
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!

Everyone is invited to join the Jr. Sunday school department in giving **monetary donations to the Bethany Food Pantry.** An offering basket is

located in the narthex. If you are not at church you can send your gifts to the church office. Money will be collected through July 26. Thank you for your gifts.

If you are in need of a **face mask** or know someone, or an organization, who needs masks please contact Charity Ortman. If you are able to create masks to build up our supply for future requests please place donations in the narthex.

**Church office:** Lisa will be in the church office on Thursday mornings in July and by appointment as requested. Feel free to reach her by cell phone or e-mail throughout the rest of the week.

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### Community Connections

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**Rural Revival** will meet on July 27 at 8:00 p.m. in the Upper Meeting Room of the Et Cetera Shoppe in Freeman. All are welcome to attend.

The July edition of On the Level is now available from **Mennonite Disaster Service.** In our current issue, you can read how MDS volunteers helped Minneapolis residents clean up following the protests in the wake of the death of George Floyd. You can learn how MDS volunteers are racing the clock to restore homes in Alaska and bring wildfire survivors home. Read more at: <https://conta.cc/2ChyxXQ>.

**God's peace lived in us:** "It will take an expanding worldwide but grassroots culture reaching beyond national borders to fashion a body of Christian peacemakers to be an effective power to block guns and be part of transforming each impending tragedy of war."  
~ Gene Stoltzfus, founder of Christian Peacemaker Teams

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