



# Salem-Zion Mennonite Church

August 11, 2019  
Envy/Contentment

*"I have learned to be content with whatever I have."* - Phil. 4:11

## GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Prelude Sheila Epp

Welcome and Announcements Janelle Ortman

Call to Worship and Gathering Prayer

L: We gather this morning to worship you, O God, and yet our attention is drawn elsewhere.

**P: We seek your face, your presence, your comfort, even though we think about those things that are missing.**

L: We gather together to worship, distracted as we may be.

**P: In this time of worship, settle our spirits, guide us nearer to you.**

**ALL: As we worship you, lead us from envy to contentment.**

\* Hymn of Praise – *All hail the power of Jesus' name* HWB #106

## DISORIENTED LOVE

Scripture readings Genesis 4:1-16, Mark 15:6-10

Homily – "I want"

Hymn – *God, fill me now* SS #63

## ORIENTED TOWARD GOD'S LOVE

Children's Time Gwen Ortman

Prayer of confession and words of assurance

L: Gracious God, when we see what others have, when we compare ourselves to others, we confess that it looks so good, and what we have seems lacking.

**P: We confess that more often than we'd like to admit, we see the grass of our neighbor as greener than our own.**

L: When we feel that we don't measure up to our neighbors; when our gaze is set on "keeping up with the Jones," open our eyes, generous God, to see all the bounty that's right in front of us.

**P: Forgive us. Focus our hearts, not on what's missing, but instead on where you're at work.**

**ALL: Invite our imaginations to consider how we can join in with your Holy Spirit in practicing your love, instead of scheming how to keep up.**

Hymn – *Help us to help each other* HWB #362

Congregational sharing and prayer

Special Music – *Brother James' Air* James L. Bain, arr. by Brian Dean

## NEWLY ORIENTED LOVE FOR DISCIPLESHIP

Scripture readings Philippians 4:10-13, John 6:1-11

Homily – "Content"

Offering our gifts – Central Plains Mennonite Conference/plastic rulers for MCC school kits

Offertory

\* Song – *Praise God from whom* (HWB #119) & Offertory Prayer

\* Song – *Heart with loving heart united* HWB #420

\* Benediction

Postlude

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\* Congregation please stand. If standing is difficult, please remain seated.

*The peace lamp is lit weekly as a reminder that there is violence and suffering in the world. We as a faith community pray for peace for all people and look for ways to be active in peacemaking and proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ.*

## Church Calendar

Deadline for bulletin submissions is Wednesday noon; salemzion@gwmc.net

### TODAY

Snakes and Ladders! Today the story of Cain and Abel reminds us of the sin of **Envy** and the apostle Paul reminds us of **Contentment**. It's all there in the B I B L E. We welcome you to this worship time as we rejoice in the Body of Christ.

**Greeters:** LeRoy & Janette Epp; **Special Music:** Ben Schwartz

9:15 a.m. – Sunday School

10:10 a.m. – Fellowship Time

10:30 a.m. – Worship Service

### **"Celebrating Giving"**

This morning the offering is received to further the ministry of Central Plains Mennonite Conference. The conference helps to facilitate a larger church family that supports each other through prayer and support of many ministries across the Upper Midwest. Thank you for supporting this ministry!

### THIS WEEK

Aug. 11-15 – Turner County Fair Grandstand Booth

Aug. 14 (Wed) – Early bulletin deadline (noon)

### NEXT SUNDAY – Aug. 18

Next Sunday we continue our *Snakes and Ladders* series (7 deadly sins and holy virtues) by reflecting on Lust/Chastity. The scripture texts will be II Samuel 11:1-27, I Cor. 6:19-20, and John 8:1-11. Pastor Corey will be preaching and we will be celebrating **communion**.

**Greeters:** Duane and Marlys Tieszen; **Organist:** Ruby Waltner; **Offering:** Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary; **MCC School Kits:** notebooks (spiral or perforated, with 70 sheets); **Special Music:** John & Beth Epp family

### COMING EVENTS

**Aug. 18** – Worship and Communion

**Aug. 24** – Ad. Board retreat on Stewardship with Lyle Miller at Salem-Zion (8:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.)

**Aug. 25** – Worship at Swan Lake Christian Camp with Lyle Miller

**Aug. 29** – Outreach and Service Committee meeting at 7:30 p.m.

## Salem-Zion Prayer Requests & News

### **Happenings over the past week:**

- The annual “washing down of the roof” of our church happened this past week by the roofing company.
- Over the past few weeks, Pastor Gloria Villatoro and her children have been driving to Ensenada, Mexico, where they will be reunited with Max. Recently, they have spent time with some churches in Pacific Southwest Mennonite Conference. PSC is developing a supporting partnership with Max and Gloria for ministry in Mexico. Gloria and her children will arrive tomorrow (Aug. 12<sup>th</sup>) in Ensenada.

### **Remember to pray for:**

- Those who cannot be here today: Rita Graber.
- The Villatoro family as they travel, as they are reunited, and as they begin their life once again together.
- The communities of El Paso and Dayton, as they grieve the senseless loss of loved ones and community members. As we pray, may we seek to model gracious love and steadfast peace to all those around us.
- The work of the interim Executive Conference Ministers, Firman Gingerich and Marcia Yoder Schrock as they each willingly lend their expertise and wisdom to the conference. We pray for the search process for the next Executive Conference Minister.

### **Remember to thank God for:**

- the opportunity to be a witness at the Turner County Fair. As we work the concession stand, may we be salt and light to all those around us.

**Thank You,** Salem-Zion, for coming to our BBQ last weekend. It was a lot of work but it was so rewarding to see our community of faith come together to fellowship, eat, play and share in life together. Special thanks to Tim Graber for his ice cream, Nathan Schrag for his sound system and our great

deacons who helped serve. A BIG thank you to my lovely wife Nancy, who makes everything come together. I’m so grateful. – Corey

Do the decisions we make about money matter to us as Christians? On Saturday, Aug. 24, area churches and Everence will host “**Finances God’s Way,**” with four exciting workshops for people of all ages. Save the date and plan to attend the event from 1-4 p.m. at Freeman Academy. More information to follow.

**Early Bulletin Deadline:** This week’s bulletin deadline will be Wednesday noon instead of 8:30 p.m. and Lisa will not be in the office on Thursday. Thanks for planning ahead with bulletin announcements this week.

REMINDER: according to our schedule on the bulletin board, North Church is responsible for the **community gardens** this week. If interested in helping, talk to Gary Graber.

Information about the Central Plains Mennonite **Women’s Retreat** (Sept. 21-22) is available on the bulletin board and in the August newsletter. Please sign up by September 9.

**Praying for the Holy Spirit:** “*Come Holy Spirit, Come. Fill the hearts of thy faithful people and kindle in us the fire of thy love.*”

## Community Connections

Please donate a pie or pies to the **Turner County Fair Pie Contest** that will benefit local food pantries. Prizes are awarded in four divisions. For more information check the poster on the bulletin board. Pies are judged on taste only, not appearance. Thank you, from the Pie Committee.

**Ray Neufeld** turned the big 7-0 so we thought we should mark the occasion! No gifts needed, just bring yourself and join us Sunday Aug. 11th from 2-4 p.m. in the South Church fellowship hall for food and conversation.

**Seeking God’s Peace in our Journey:** “The work of community, love, reconciliation, restoration is the work we cannot leave up to politicians. This is the work we are all called to do.” - Shane Claiborne

**Pastor Corey Miller**

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