



Salem-Zion Mennonite Church

**“The Kingdom of God”
September 29, 2024
10:30am**

“The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near.” - Mark 1:15b

GATHERING TO PRAISE

Prelude – *Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart*
(Frederica Atkinson/arr. Keveren)

Mavis Ortman

Welcome

Beth Bontrager

Call to Worship (Carol Penner)

L: God of grace, we come with all we have; bodies, souls, minds, all here to worship you.

P: We have come for a glimpse of your kingdom of kindness--

L: a world where love rules over all,

P: a world where enemies embrace,

L: distinctions between friend and foe evaporating in the light of your love.

P: We dedicate this hour of worship to you

ALL: and to your kingdom come. Amen.

Opening Prayer

* Singing our Praise – *Renew Your Church*

VT #717

* Greeting each other

Children’s Story

Clara Beseman

Lighting the Peace Lamp

Offering – Student Tuition Sharing Fund

Offertory – *Take My Life, and Let It Be* (Lowell Mason)

HEARING GOD’S WORD

* Hearing the Gospel

Mark 1:14-15; 12:28-34

Sermon – “Citizens of God’s Kingdom”

Pastor Bob Engbrecht

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

Song – *Beyond a Dying Sun*

VT #416

Sharing and Congregational Prayer

Tim Graber

SENT OUT TO PROCLAIM GOOD NEWS

* Song – *The Love of God*

VT #162

* Benediction

Postlude

Church Calendar

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

TODAY

We are citizens of God’s Kingdom before we are citizens of any other nation state. As we ponder our citizenship this morning, we rejoice in being able to worship God in spirit and in truth. We welcome Pastor Bob Engbrecht to our pulpit today. We are so glad that you have joined us! Welcome!!

The offering that we are celebrating today is for the **Student Tuition Sharing Fund.**

9:30am – Sunday School for all ages

10:30am – Worship Service

2:00pm – Fuente de Vida church service

THIS WEEK

Oct. 2 (Wed) – Youth Group at 6:30pm

Oct. 4 (Fri) – Fuente de Vida church service at 7:00pm

NEXT SUNDAY – Oct. 6

Next Sunday the theme is “*A God Who Looks Like Jesus: Healing.*” The text is from Matthew 9:2-8 and Pastor Corey will be preaching. We will also be invited to the communion table on World Communion Sunday.

The offering will be for the Household Treasury.

COMING EVENTS

October 6 – World Communion Sunday

October 27 – Harvest Mission Festival at Salem Mennonite. Worship at 9:30am, Additional Presentation at 10:30am.

Salem-Zion Prayer Requests & News

Happenings over the past week:

- Corey and Nancy were able to enjoy a few days away this past week in Minnesota and in Kansas. They will return back home on Sunday evening.

- John Schwartz was dismissed from the Freeman Hospital on Tuesday and is now receiving hospice care in his and Rosella’s apartment in Marion.

- Reed Schrag was dismissed on Wednesday from Avera in Sioux Falls and is now in swing bed at the Freeman Hospital.

Remember to praise God for:

- God’s grace that surrounded Maria in her surgery this past week.

Remember to pray for:

- those who cannot be here today: Paul & Darlene Engbrecht.
- John and Reed in their respective health journeys.
- CPMC ministry staff as they travel throughout the conference, that they would be safe on the road and that they would give and receive blessings wherever they go.

It is the season to be preparing to host the **MCC Mobile Meat Canner** and crew but we have been notified that no meat will be canned in the Freeman / Marion community this year. MCC has simply not found enough guys to fully staff the canner this time. So canning will take place only in select communities. Please think carefully about the young men within your sphere of influence who could serve for 2 years in this way and encourage them to consider it.

The October church **newsletter** is available on the table in the narthex.

Community Connections

The **Freeman Network for Justice and Peace** will meet Wednesday, October 9 at 11:30 A.M. in the Freeman Public Library. All are welcome.

Mark your calendars for the annual **Swiss Mennonite Cultural & Historical Association Banquet**. This year we will celebrate on Thursday, October 10 at 6:00 pm at Faith Mennonite church in Newton, KS. We will be featuring an ethnic German buffet style meal catered by the Breadbasket. A return of our 'bohne beroggi' made by authentic Schweitzer cooks will occur again. At this event we will focus on thanking those that coordinated the 150th anniversary of Schweitzers coming to the United States. Dale Schrag will be our speaker for the evening discussing the future. We invite you to come to the banquet on the 10th, enjoy good food, learn who we are and were, learn what SMCHA is doing and planning, have a great time fellowshiping with friends old and new, and continue our celebratory mood from the 150th. The cost of the annual banquet is \$25 to be paid at the door. RSVP to Nancy Stucky by October 7 with a text or phone call to 620-532-5693. After contacting Nancy, you are welcome to pay online on www.swissmennonite.org. Come and enjoy!

God comes near to us: *“Pay attention to the people God puts in your path if you want to discern what God is up to in your life.”* – Henri Nouwen

Pastor Corey Miller
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