Salem-Zion Mennonite Church

"Palm Sunday"
March 29, 2026

GATHERING TO PRAISE

Prelude/Gathering Music — Kaye Waltner
"O Worship the King *with* Come, Now is the Time to Worship" (arr. Tornquist)
"Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us" (arr. Tornquist)
"You Are My All in All *with* My Faith Looks Up to Thee" (Jernigan, arr. Tornquist)

Welcome and Call to Worship — Andre Eisenbeis

P: We gather to worship God and to look back on where we've been;
L: we see old hopes, plans, and dreams, remembered "Hosannas!" and all these weeks of Lent.
P: We gather to worship God and to look at where we are now,
L: at Jesus re-defining triumph; and the king on the cross instead of a throne.
P: We gather to worship God and to wonder at this mystery,
L: of salvation that comes so strangely; of life that comes through death; of brokenness meeting grace.

Prayer of Invocation
* Singing our Praise – *Hosanna, Loud Hosanna* — VT 313
Sharing the Peace
Special Music – "The Lord is my Shepherd"
"This Little Light of Mine" — K-2nd Grade
Gospel Reading — John 12:12-27
Children's Story — Jeremy Waltner
Offering – Mennonite Mission Network
Offertory – *Sonata- Opus 49. No. 2* (Beethoven)

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Drama
* Hearing the Gospel Story — John 19:16b-22
Sermon – "Not Your Ordinary Parade" — Corey Miller

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn – *Ride On, Ride On in Majesty* — VT 316
Confessional Poem — (on screen)
Sharing and Congregational Prayer/"God Be In My Head" (3rd-7th Grade)

SENT OUT TO PROCLAIM GOOD NEWS

* Sending Song – *We, Your People, Sing Your Praises* — VT 849
* Benediction
Postlude

Church Calendar

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

TODAY

Palm Sunday embodies dissonance completely. At Jesus' triumphal entry, the crowds hail Jesus to be King of Israel and shout "*Hosanna,*" but by the end of this week, the crowds call for Jesus to be crucified. We both enter into the joy of claiming Jesus' royal rule in God's Kingdom while we understand that the cross is always on the horizon. May God's mercy hold us as we dwell in this dissonance. Welcome to worship.

The offering that we are celebrating today is for **Mennonite Mission Network**.

9:30am – Sunday School
10:30am – Worship Service
2:00pm – Fuente de Vida church service

THIS WEEK

March 29 – April 1 (Sun-Wed) – Holy Week services at Freeman Community Center at 6:30pm
Apr. 2 (Thurs) – Maundy Thursday service at 6:30pm; Light supper, worship, foot washing/hand washing (optional)
Apr. 2 (Thurs) – Men's choir brief rehearsal after the Maundy Thursday service
Apr. 3 (Fri) – Good Friday service at Salem-Zion at 7:00pm; Music, Scripture, and Communion

NEXT SUNDAY – April 5

Next Sunday is Easter Sunday as we celebrate the risen Christ among us. The focus of the morning is "*Death and Resurrection*" and we will trade our mourning with celebration in Christ. The texts include Psalm 118, John 20:1-18, and Acts 10:34-43. We will have special music, wondrous congregational singing, and inspired preaching by Pastor Corey. Please bring a friend to join us on this special day of worship!

The offering will be for the Household Treasury.

COMING EVENTS

April 1 and 8 – NO Children's Choir rehearsal
April 5 – On Easter Sunday morning, there will be an Easter Breakfast served in the fellowship hall from 9:00 - 10:00. Please come for a time to celebrate with everyone that "Christ is Risen." There will be NO Sunday School.
April 12 – There will be NO Sunday School on April 12. We will be having a fellowship time in the fellowship hall from 9:00 - 10:00 to welcome and visit with all of the guests that will be here for Schmeckfest.
April 15, 22, 29, and May 6 – Children's choir will have rehearsals, 6:15-6:45

Salem-Zion Prayer Requests & News

Happenings over the past week:
- Ted Ellinger had surgery on Wednesday at Avera to deal with a blocked intestine. The surgery went well and Ted was planning on coming home on Friday. May our prayers continue for Ted and his health journey.
- The Bethel College choir blessed us with a wonderful concert on Thursday night. Mary Mannes gave great leadership in feeding the choir and Gloria and Gary Graber coordinated the students' lodging for the night. Thanks be to God for all these gifts that nurture our lives.
- Duane and Marlys Tieszen moved to their new home in Marion. Their sale was held this weekend in Marion. Prayers for the Tieszens as they adjust to their new home in this season.

Remember to praise God for:
- this Lenten season that has invited us to hold the dissonance of Love and Suffering over these 40 days.
- all the ways that our community is working and serving together. May all our community events unite us as sisters and brothers in Christ.

Remember to pray for:
- those who cannot be here today: Delano and LaVonne Tieszen.
- increased awareness of the false narratives being spoken today that claim God's desire to obliterate the enemies of the United States. Sacrificial love, not violence, is God's response to wrongdoing.
- our Holy Week services this week. May these services draw us together and unite us under the Lordship of Jesus Christ, who lived, served, suffered and died so that we might find life.

House Church of Freeman to host Holy Week services March 29-April 1

The Mennonite Churches of Freeman invite the Freeman Community to attend Holy Week services being held at the Freeman Community Center from March 29 to April 1. Each evening will begin with a time of fellowship, cookies & coffee at 6:00 pm. The service will start at 6:30 pm each night. These services allow those gathered to fellowship and worship together with heartfelt singing, engagement with the scriptures and inspired preaching. This year's preacher is Suzette Shreffler and the theme is "God's suffering, Our suffering." Suzette Shreffler is the first enrolled member of the Northern Cheyenne Tribe in Montana to become an ordained pastor in the Anabaptist world. She and her husband, Scott, co-pastor the White River Cheyenne Mennonite Church. We will take an offering each evening, with all gifts going directly to White River Cheyenne Mennonite Church in Busby, MT. If you choose to write a check, please make it out to "White River Cheyenne Mennonite Church."

Summary **minutes** from the March 25 Deacons' meeting have been posted in the narthex.

Help needed! We are in need of **some classroom assistants/helpers for Bible School**. Please let us know if that is something you'd like to assist with! Bible School is June 1-5. Also, the registration forms for Bible School are in the narthex. Please fill one out and return it to Lacey Friesen or Kelsey Pidde or put it in our mailbox. If you have any questions please talk to one of us! Thanks!

Dear distinguished ladies and gentlemen of the ton! We cordially invite you to dress up a little extra this Easter for our **2nd Annual Easter Hat Sunday**. Ladies, if you have any Easter hats or fascinators, scarves or gloves, feel free to showcase those. Gents, if you have a special hat or vest, or want to wear your best tie, we invite you to do so. On Easter Sunday, why should the kids have all the fun in their cute outfits, let's join them! - Lori Hofer & Maria Paff, Co-chairs of the Fancy Hat Ministry

We are excited to announce that we will be creating a new **church picture directory**. This is a wonderful opportunity to help our church family stay connected and get to know one another better as we continue to be blessed with many new faces in our congregation. We invite all members and regular attendees to sign up to have their photo taken for the directory. Jeremy Waltner will be taking photos at church on April 12, April 19 and April 26 from noon-3:00PM. Please sign up for a 10-minute timeslot on the sign-up in the church foyer. If you have any questions, please contact Lori Hofer. We look forward to seeing everyone's smiling faces!

To give to Salem-Zion or the missions we support through Venmo, please use the attached QR code or go through your Venmo app and search (under charity) for Salem-Zion Mennonite Church. If you want your donation to go somewhere other than the household treasury, please put that in the notes. Thank you!

Community Connections

The **Freeman Network for Justice and Peace** will meet Wednesday, April 8 at 11:30 A.M. in the Freeman Public Library. All are welcome.

Jesus is Peace: "Christians can differ as to the proper role of state violence (eg. Rom. 13), but what we cannot do is try to act as if violence is somehow itself 'Christian.' As the authors of the Schleitheim Confession recognized, the sword is 'ordained outside the perfection of Christ.' The only place Jesus can be found in violent conflict is under the rubble." - Jon Carlson, moderator of Mennonite Church USA

Pastor Corey Miller
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