Salem-Zion Mennonite Church

"Eyes of your heart Enlightened"
May 4, 2025

GATHERING TO PRAISE

Prelude – *Venite, Creator Spiritus* (Wilbur Held) — Ken Mannes

Welcome and Call to Worship — Elizabeth Janssen

L: Springtime changes are bursting forth around us.
P: The earth awakens from winter with a display of wondrous color.
L: The cycle of living and dying continues.
P: As it has for ages past and will for ages to come.
L: Lent has passed and the celebration of Easter Sunday is over.
P: But the message of new life, new awakenings, and new possibilities remains with us.
ALL: Glory to God! Alleluia!

Prayer of Invocation

* Singing our Praise – *Christ Is Our Cornerstone* — VT #4

Greeting each other

Children's Story — Brian Paff

Peace Lamp

Offering – Household Treasury
Offertory – *Gelobet seist du, Jesus Christ* (J.S. Bach)

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Hearing the Scriptures — Ephesians 1:15-23

Song – *Open My Eyes That I May See* — VT #738

* Hearing the Gospel — John 20:24-31

Sermon – "Seeing with your Heart" — Corey Miller

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn – *Longing for Light* — VT #715

Blessing of the Seed

Sharing and Congregational Prayer

SENT OUT TO PROCLAIM GOOD NEWS

* Song – *In the Bulb There Is a Flower* — VT #670

* Benediction

Postlude – *Improvised*

Church Calendar

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

TODAY

In this Easter season, we continue to look and listen for signs of resurrection hope around us. As we pray with Paul today "*with the eyes of our heart enlightened,"* we trust that our hope in God is secure. May God open our hearts to see, know, and experience God's immeasurable greatness. Welcome to our worship!

The offering that we are celebrating today is for the **Household Treasury**.

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

THIS WEEK

May 6 (Tues) – Worship Team meeting at 7:30pm
May 7 (Wed) – Children's Choir, 6:00-6:30pm
May 9 (Fri) – Fuente de Vida church service at 7:00pm
May 10 (Sat) – Graveside service for Janet Parnell at 2:00pm

NEXT SUNDAY – May 11

Next Sunday continues our series on Praying with Ephesians. The theme of the morning is: "*Immeasurable Riches of Grace*" and the text is Ephesians 2:1-10. Pastor Corey will be preaching.

The offering will be for Vacation Bible School.

COMING EVENTS

May 12 – Administrative Board meeting at 7:30pm
May 14 – Baccalaureate Service for graduates at Freeman Community Building at 7:00pm
May 25 – Worship and Baptism!

Salem-Zion Prayer Requests & News

Remember to praise God for:

- those sacred moments when the eyes of our hearts are softened, opened, and enlightened for Jesus' reign.
- this season where seeds are planted with the hopes of a harvest to follow. We praise God for seeds, soil, sun, rains, and this miraculous growing season!

Remember to pray for:

- those who cannot be here today: Eva Goosen.

- Jill Hofer and her ordination into ministry. Jill's ordination service is this morning with her Mennonite congregation, the House Church of Freeman.
- the youth who are completing their year-long faith exploration class. Pray for them as they discern about baptism and membership in the Salem-Zion congregation. The class members are: Armando, Alea, and Arianna Miller, Cadence Hofer, Solomon Ortman, Estelle Waltner, and Oliver Waltner.
- this planting season, for our farmers and gardeners.

May is Mental Health Month: The deacon's Mental Health Care fund was set up recently with funds that were returned to Salem-Zion from Wellspring. This new fund is specifically for mental health care for any Salem-Zion member or attender. If you need some assistance in helping to pay for counseling/therapy sessions, contact Pastor Corey or Gwen, our deacon chair. We want to help facilitate God's healing in your life through this fund.

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

Summary **minutes** from the April 23 Deacons' meeting have been posted on the bulletin board in the narthex.

The **Central Plains Mennonite Conference Annual Meeting** will be held June 26-29 in Rock Island, IL at the Holiday Inn Hotel and Conference Center. If you're interested in serving as a delegate, contact Gwen Ortman.

SD MCC Relief Sale information was placed in church mailboxes this week. Extra copies are also available in the narthex.

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 business) 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, May 14 at 11:30 A.M. in the Freeman Public Library. All are welcome.

Financial Choice (LSS) and Everence Webinar – Teach your teen money moxie: Parents of teens, get started with concepts and actions that help teens at each age build the skills they need to develop life-long money smarts. Learn

tools and concepts to help your teen understand the decision-making process behind budgeting, spending, goal setting and more. David Broomell of Everence Federal Credit Union will host this webinar presented by Kim Miller on Thursday, May 15 at 8 p.m. Sign up at everence.com/partners.

Financial Choice (LSS) and Everence Webinar – Money lessons for younger kids: Parents of children pre-K through middle school, get started with concepts and actions that help children at each age build the skills they need to develop life-long money smarts. Learn how to maximize money lessons for your kids, to set them up for success. David Broomell of Everence Federal Credit Union will host this webinar presented by Kim Miller on Tuesday, May 13 at 8 p.m. Sign up at everence.com/partners.

The **DALLAS BRASS** will be in Marion on Wednesday, May 7th at 6:30pm for a concert in coordination with local music students! The Dallas Brass will be teaching, coaching, and interacting with local music students on this day, and most importantly, sharing their love of music. Tickets cost $15 for general admission and $25 for limited seating.

Death and Resurrection: *"The Christian faith, while wildly misrepresented in so much of American culture, is really about death and resurrection. It's about how God continues to reach into the graves we dig for ourselves and pull us out, giving us new life, in ways both dramatic and small."* - Nadia Bolz-Weber

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