



# Salem Mennonite Church

A Congregation of  
Mennonite Church USA

28103 443rd Ave  
Freeman, SD 57029-5840

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southchurchsd.org

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**April 7, 2024**

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## **I. GATHERING FOR WORSHIP**

- <https://zoom.us/j/278905019>
- Or phone call-in # (312) 626-6799 and Meeting ID: 278 905 019
- One-Tab Mobile (iPhone) +16699009128,,278905019#

### **Prelude**

#### **Call to Worship** (*from Isaiah 44:2-6*)

Leader: Thus says the LORD who made you, who formed you from the womb and will help you: “Fear not, my servant whom I have chosen.”

**People: Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts: “I am the first and I am the last; besides me there is no god.**

Leader: I will pour water on the thirsty land, and streams on the dry ground; I will pour my Spirit upon your offspring, and my blessing on your descendants.

**People: They shall spring up among the grass like willows by flowing streams.”**

### **Opening Prayer**

### **Welcome & Greeting One Another**

### **Opening Hymn**

“Thine is the Glory”—HWB #269

### **Confession and Reconciliation** (*from Psalm 85*)

Leader: Let me hear what God the LORD will speak, for he will speak peace to his people, to his saints; but let them not turn back to folly. Surely his salvation is near to those who fear him, that glory may dwell in our land.

**People: Restore us again, O God of our salvation, and put away your indignation toward us! Do not be angry toward us forever, nor prolong your anger for generations. Will you not revive us again, that your people may rejoice in you? Show us your steadfast love, O LORD, and grant us your salvation.**

Leader: LORD, you forgave the iniquity of your people; you covered all their sin. You withdrew all your wrath, and turned aside from hot anger.

**People: Steadfast love and faithfulness meet; righteousness and peace kiss each other. Faithfulness springs up from the ground, and righteousness looks down from the sky.**

*All: Yes, the LORD will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase. Righteousness will go before him and make his footsteps a way*

## II. HEARING GOD'S WORD

Worship Music

"All My Trials" – Leavitt

Children's Time

Scripture Reading

I John 3:11-24; John 20:19-23

Sermon

"Breath of Forgiveness, Breath of Life"

Hymn of Response

"Pour Down Thy spirit" – MH 452#

## III. RESPONDING TO JESUS CHRIST

**Announcements & Offerings**

- Today's **Worship offering**: General Fund
- Today's **Sunday school offering**: Salem Sunday School
- **Children's Offering**: Heifer International

**Congregational Sharing & Prayer**

## IV. SENT WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

Closing Hymn

"The Risen Christ" – STS (purple) #101

**Benediction**

Peace be with you, brothers and sisters.

The Peace of the Risen Christ rest upon you.

The Peace of Christ's Spirit live and breathe in you among all people,  
that as we have been forgiven, we may share forgiveness,  
for as the Father sent Christ,  
Christ now sends us with his peace.

**Postlude**

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**Greeters:** Linda Graber and Vernetta Waltner; **Worship Leader:** Jeri Butkus;  
**Musicians:** Barb Yoder (Pianist), Ladies' Ensemble; **Speaker:** Pastor Spencer;  
**Children's Time:** Pastor Spencer; **Coffee:** Conference Room Class

## THE CHURCH AT WORK

### TODAY

**We welcome all** who are worshipping with us this morning! Coffee is available in the fellowship hall following the worship service. There are small cups with lids for children to use.

### THIS WEEK

**Mon. (8<sup>th</sup>), 7:30 p.m.** – Deacon Board Meeting

**Tues. (9<sup>th</sup>), 7:00 p.m.** – Mission & Service Meeting

**Wed. (10<sup>th</sup>), 6:30 p.m.** – Handbells; **7:30 p.m.** – Chancel Choir  
**8:30 p.m.** – Men's Choir

**Thurs. (11<sup>th</sup>), 7:00 p.m.** – Christian Formation Meeting

### NEXT SUNDAY, April 14

**Speaker:** Pastor Spencer; **Worship Leader:** Brent Mutchelknaus; **Musicians:** Sharla Unruh (organist), Men's Choir; **Greeters:** Linda Graber and Vernetta Waltner; **Coffee:** Conference Room Class

**Worship Offering:** Camper Scholarships

**Sunday school Offering:** Freeman Academy

**Children's Offering:** Heifer International

### COMING EVENTS

**April 19-21** – CPMC Leader's Retreat (Pastor Spencer & Renee plan to attend)

**April 21** – Pastor Bob Will Be Preaching

### SOUTH CHURCH NEWS & NOTES

**Address Update:** James & Kathleen Miller, 213 W Well St., Freeman 57029

**Do any of the church departments or ministries** have an update to the Policy Handbook or their particular Ministry Description? If so, please contact one of the current Policy Team members James Unruh or Paul Balzer. Thanks to Chantel Hofer and Marilyn Brockmueller for the May 2023 comprehensive updates of the Policy Handbook and Ministry Descriptions that are now on the church website. We will attempt to make minor revisions to these website documents on a yearly basis.

## **COMMUNITY & BEYOND**

**The Freeman Academy Chamber Choir** traveled to Goshen, Indiana last week for the annual MSC Choir Festival. Their concert will be live-streamed on Sunday, April 7<sup>th</sup> at **2:00pm central time**. You can use the QR code on the poster on the bulletin board or this link. <https://www.bethanycs.net/apps/pages/choirfestival>

**You are invited:** The Bridgewater Cantata is singing “My King is Known by Love” on Sunday, April 7, 7:30 p.m. at Bridgewater Zion Bible Church.

**Increasing our Understanding of the Conflict in the Middle East:** On Sunday April 7, in the Freeman Community Center, three speakers will give a presentation that outlines the religious significance of the Holy Land from the perspective of Islam, Judaism, and Christianity. The session will go from 2-4pm. Each speaker will offer a 20 min. presentation and then 10 min. of questions after. Refreshments will be served. All are welcome to learn from these speakers.

**The Freeman Network for Justice and Peace** will meet Wednesday, April 10 at 11:30 A.M. at the Freeman Public Library. All are welcome.

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Sunday Morning Worship – 9:30am/ Sunday School – Following Worship  
Amy Waltner, Administrative Assistant (southchurch@goldenwest.net) 925-4553  
Spencer Bradford, Pastor 919-808-2024/spencerbradford42@gmail.com  
Bob Engbrecht, Pastor 648-3017/659-4331



Gratitude helps us to see what is there instead of what isn't.

Life brings simple pleasures to us every day. It is up to us to make them wonderful memories.

Small deeds done are better than great deeds planned.

## Prayer List for April 2024

*Pointing to his disciples, he said, "Here are my mother and my brothers. For whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother." Matt. 12:49-50*

Jesus invites us to think of the congregation as a new family that has an amazing potential for deep and abiding relationships.

### **We give thanks**

- For resurrection power and for the joy and beauty of Easter
- For Michele Hershberger's messages during Holy Week.
- For Pastor Spencer and Renee's coming. We pray for a fruitful ministry among us. We pray for health and strength for them as they use this year to settle in.
- Spring rains. We wish for timely rains so that spring planting will get done in a timely and safe manner.
- For the opportunity to learn more about the Middle East this Sunday and in coming months.

### **We ask in Your Name**

- For healing when we are ill
- For comfort when we lose loved ones
- For Your intervention in the wars in Ukraine and Gaza. We know You are and will be fair and just to all parties.
- For Your presence when towns in the nation experience the disasters of tornados and flooding.
- That you will enable us to think beyond our fears as we elect leaders for our nation in the fall.