



Salem Mennonite Church

A Congregation of Mennonite Church USA

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May 10, 2026

I. GOD CALLS US INTO PRAISE

Prelude *For the Beauty of the Earth – Bish*

Call to Worship (Isaiah 66:12-14)

Thus says the LORD: “Behold, I will extend peace to my daughter Zion like a river,
and the glory of the nations like an overflowing stream;
and you shall nurse, you shall be carried upon her hip,
and bounced upon her knees.
As one whom his mother comforts, so I will comfort you, my people;
you shall be comforted in Jerusalem.”

**The hand of the Lord shall be known to his servants,
and our hearts shall rejoice!**

Invocation Prayer

Opening Hymn *For the Beauty of the Earth – HWB # 89*

Greeting and Welcoming Each Other

Hymn of Confession *Prince of Peace – HWB #534*

Special Music

II. HEARING JESUS, THE LIVING WORD

Scripture Readings Micah 6:8; James 4:11-12 (NIV); Matthew 7:1-14 (ESV)

Sermon *Blessed Are Your Eyes Because They See*

III. RECEIVING THE SPIRIT, JOINED IN CHRIST’S BODY

Offertory Doxology – HWB #119

Announcements and Offerings

- **Today’s Worship offering:** General Fund
- **Today’s Sunday school offering:** Children’s Home for Family Safety
- **Children’s Offering:** Weekend School Lunch Bag Program

Congregational Sharing & Prayer
The Lord’s Prayer (using debts & debtors)

IV. RETURNING TO GOD’S SERVICE AS NEW CREATURES

Closing Hymn *Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God – HWB #324*

Benediction

May the Lord bless you with counsel and instruct your heart.
May the Lord accompany you at your right hand and keep you secure.
May you set the Lord before you always, and rejoice in gladness.
May the Lord lead you in the path of life, and bring you fullness of joy.

Postlude *My Heart Rejoices - Paxton*

Speaker: Brent Brockmueller; **Worship Leader:** LaVonne Brockmueller;
Musicians: Sharla Unruh (organist); Sunday School Children (special music);
Greeters: Kris and Brad Carlson; **Coffee:** Class #10

THE CHURCH AT WORK

THIS WEEK

Wednesday, May 13, 7:30 p.m. – Ladies Ensemble
Saturday, May 16 – Fellowship Hall Reserved All Day

NEXT SUNDAY, May 17, 2026

Speaker: Spencer Bradford; **Worship Leader:** Brent Mutchelknaus; **Greeters:** Brad & Kris Carlson; **Musicians:** Barb Yoder (pianist); Ladies Ensemble **Coffee:** Class #10; **Scriptures:** Numbers 10:29-34; James 4:11-12; Matthew 7:1-14

Worship Offering: Central Plains Mennonite Conference

Sunday School Offering: Heritage Hall Museum and Archives

Children’s Offering: Weekend School Lunch Bag Program

COMING EVENTS

Sunday, May 24, during S.S. Hour - Congregation Conversation & Potluck

Monday-Friday, June 1-5, 9-1:15 – Daily Vacation Bible School

Thursday-Sunday, June 25-28 – Central Plains Conference/Mt. Lake, MN

SOUTH CHURCH NOTES

Pastor Spencer and Renee will be traveling May 4-13.

Renee invites anyone from the congregation to feel free to harvest some asparagus & rhubarb that is ready while they are gone. Both are located south of the parsonage. Please cut asparagus at ground level.

It is time to renew our group subscription to Anabaptist World. The publication will update the group recipient list on June 1st. If you would like to continue receiving Anabaptist World or would like to be added to the list please contact Lee Brockmueller in the next several weeks. Also, let him know of any address changes. The cost is \$54 per subscription. Our group subscription is \$10 cheaper than subscribing independently.

This year's VBS, #KidsConnect, will take place at North Church on **June 1-5 from 9-1:15 each day.** Snacks will be provided but children should bring their own sack lunch! Paper registration is available in the Narthex and online registration can be done here: <https://forms.gle/gfZ3o9SvaWH5LepSA>. VBS Superintendents are also hoping to collect items to decorate the church that fit the puzzle theme. These may include Legos, puzzles, building blocks, or other games/toys - especially if they are in used condition or may be missing a few pieces! Let Bailey Carlson, Sonja Waltner, Lacey Friesen, or Kelsey Pidde know if you have something to provide.

Take note of new books on the narthex display rack that will be helpful resources in preparation for our upcoming Congregation Conversations on May 24.

We are looking for 6 people to be Central Plains Delegates to be held in Mountain Lake from June 25th to 28th this year.

Responsibilities according to the church constitution are as follows.

- 1) To represent Salem Mennonite Church and its departments at meetings of the church conferences.
- 2) To be informed of the work of the conference and communicate this information with the congregation.

With the issue brought forth by the deacon board, we are looking for people that are willing to address this issue if placed on the agenda. We will have preparation for delegates on the issue prior to the conference.

If you are willing to represent our church in Mountain Lake, the deadline for persons to let the church or council know is May 10th. Thank you for your prayerful consideration.

COMMUNITY & BEYOND

2026 Peace Mug Nominations – Please think about people in your congregations who have demonstrated Jesus's way of love and peacemaking. The Peace and Justice Task Group is seeking nominations for the annual Peace Mug Award. This can be anyone you have seen doing small acts of kindness or someone who has spoken out in the face of injustice. Who do you see as a peacemaker in your congregation and your community? Send names and a brief

description of why you are nominating them to Luke Hertzler (luke.hertzler43@gmail.com). We need them by Monday, May 11.

The Search Committee is actively seeking applicants for the role of Executive Director for the Freeman Academy Non-Profit. The Executive Director collaborates with the board to envision a new mission for the campus space of Freeman Academy while overseeing the final steps of the closure of school operations. Interested applicants should send their resume and letter of intent to the Search Committee in care of Jeanne Zimmerly Jantzi at jjantzi@gmail.com by May 15, 2026.

Freeman Network for Justice & Peace will meet Wednesday, May 13 at 11:30 a.m. in the Freeman Public Library. All are welcome.

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

Prayer Seeds for May

Thanksgiving

For all lives well-lived, thanking you especially for Ruth Preheim and Marles Preheim

For Kristin Waltner's new job in Riobamba, Ecuador

For good weather and safety for spring planting

For Philip Balzer and Bethany Schrag's engagement

For pregnancies announced and new life coming into being

For ongoing healing in folks with chronic illness

For the onset of spring, flowers, returning birds, good rains

For young people continually growing into new chapters of life

Requests

For every thanksgiving, there are also hidden requests:

Comfort for families grieving the loss of a loved one

The need for clarity in decision-making and the release of anxiety when a disease announces itself

For good transitions for young people graduating, choosing new schools, going to camps, working summer jobs

For the well-being of Christian institutions—Freeman Academy Non-profit, Swan Lake Christian Camp, Oyate Hope Academy

For a good experience of Bible School in June

For delegates from our congregation to Central Plains Conference meeting in Mtn. Lake

For Pastor Spencer's ministry among us

For peace in the violent places of this world: the Middle East, the Ukraine, and we are sorry for our own country's engineering so much violence in these places

Above all, we thank you for your great love for us. Help us not to take your compassion and mercy for granted. May the eyes of our hearts be enlightened so that we can be clear and effective messengers of your love.

--Lois, Peggy and Derrold, and Duane

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