



Salem Mennonite Church

A Congregation of
Mennonite Church USA

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July 6, 2025

I. GOD CALLS US INTO PRAISE

Prelude

Call to Worship (from Jeremiah 31:24-28)

The days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will sow the house of Israel and the house of Judah with the seed of humans and the seed of beasts, to flourish and thrive. Just as I have watched over them to pluck up and break down, to overthrow, destroy, and bring loss, so I will watch over them to build and to plant, says the LORD. Those in cities shall dwell there together, and the farmers and herdsmen wandering with their flocks. For I will satisfy every weary soul, and all who are faint I will replenish.

Invocation Prayer

Opening Hymn

"God of the Earth, the Sky, the Sea" – HWB #53

Greeting and Welcoming Each Other

Hymn of Confession

"Breathe Upon Us, Holy Spirit" – HWB #28

II. HEARING JESUS, THE LIVING WORD

Scripture Reading

1 Peter 1:13-25 (ESV)

Anthem

*"All hail the power of Jesus' name; He Leadeth me;
Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"*

Scripture Reading

Luke 8:4-18 (ESV)

Sermon

"Rooted to Hear"

RECEIVING THE SPIRIT, JOINED IN CHRIST'S BODY

Hymn of Response *"Almighty God, Thy Word is Cast"* (Kingsfold tune)

1 Almighty God, your word is cast like seed into the ground;
now let the dew of heav'n descend and righteous fruits abound.
Let not the sly satanic foe this holy seed remove,
but give it root in ev'ry heart to bring forth fruits of love.

2 Let not the world's deceitful cares the rising plant destroy,
but let it yield a hundredfold the fruits of peace and joy.
So when the precious seed is sown, life-giving grace bestow,
that all those souls the truth receive its saving pow'r may know.

Announcements and Offerings

- **Today's Worship offering:** Freeman Academy
- **Today's Sunday school offering:** Salem Sunday School
- **Children's Offering:** Freeman Community Garden

Congregational Sharing & Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Dedication of Zelda Rae Waltner

HWB #791

Blessing for High School Graduates

III. RETURNING TO GOD'S SERVICE AS NEW CREATURES

Closing Hymn

"O God, Your Constant Care"

HWB #481

Benediction

HWB #752

Postlude

Speaker: Pastor Spencer; **Worship Leader:** Brent Brockmueller; **Greeters:** Cindee Mutchelknaus and Vernetta Waltner; **Musicians:** Barb Yoder (pianist); Cheryle and Sam Gering; **Coffee:** Classroom #10

THE CHURCH AT WORK

TODAY

We welcome all who are worshiping with us this morning! Coffee is available in the fellowship hall following the worship service.

THIS WEEK

Monday, July 7, 7:00 p.m. – Worship Team Meeting

July 8-12 – MC-USA Conference in Greensboro, North Carolina

NEXT SUNDAY, July 13, 2025

Speaker: Kate Friesen; **Worship Leader:** Lois Janzen Preheim; **Musicians:** Debra Schmeichel (organist); Victoria Boese & Friends (special music); **Greeters:** Cindee Mutchelknaus and Vernetta Waltner; **Coffee:** Classroom #10

Worship Offering: General Fund

Sunday School Offering: Salem Sunday School

Children's Offering: Freeman Community Garden

Coming Events

Wednesday, July 16, 11:30 a.m. – Freeman Network for Justice and Peace

Wednesday, July 16, 7:30 p.m. – Deacons Meeting

Thursday, July 17 – Serving at the Banquet in Yankton

Saturday, July 19 – SD MCC Relief Sale in Freeman

July 20-August 17 – South Church Summer Study Series

SOUTH CHURCH NEWS & NOTES

Serving at the Banquet in Yankton is scheduled for Thursday, July 17. A sign-up sheet for workers, bars and cookies is located in the narthex. Cash donations for groceries may be given to Lee Brockmueller.

South Church Summer Study Series: "Prayer - Opening Our Hearts and Offering Our World." On four Sunday afternoons at 4:30 pm, Pastor Spencer will lead presentations and discussions regarding prayer's purpose and practice, in scripture and in the life of Christians across history.

July 20 - The Lord's Prayer and New Testament Prayer in Jesus' Name
July 27 - Praying the Psalms and Other Scripture
Aug. 3 - Hours of Prayer & The Jesus Prayer
Aug. 17 - Prayer in Private and Public, with Heart and Mind

There is a signup sheet located on the table in the narthex for children's Sunday School teachers for the September 2025-May 2026 school year. Please consider serving as a teacher assisting our children in their faith journey. If you have any questions contact Linda Graber or Rachel Waltner. Thank you!

Upcoming MCC school kit drive – During the month of July, South Church Mission & Service team will be participating in MCC's School Kit Challenge. School kits are MCC's most requested item and their goal is to collect a total of 25,000 kits. A list of items is available on the narthex table. Monetary donations can be given to Lee Brockmueller for school kits or purchase supplies at your convenience. Thank you!

COMMUNITY & BEYOND

Freeman Network for Justice and Peace will meet on Wednesday, July 16 at 11:30 a.m. in the Freeman Public Library. All are welcome.

MCC Relief Sale reminders:

Consider making a theme basket with family, friends or S.S. class – need an idea, go to Google. Plan now for what you can donate to the **bake sale**.

Get ready for the bike ride to raise money to help small farmers in Haiti – helmets required; pre-registration is helpful.

My Coins Count at South Church- start saving your coins for MCC. This year our theme is food; improving nutrition for mothers and malnourished children under 5 in Ethiopia. \$76 will provide nutritional supplements for one child for a year. There is a container in the Narthex to collect coins over the next few weeks. You can also save coins at home and bring to the sale on July 19th. Thank you for supporting MCC.

Our church is responsible for:

- 6 pies
- 3 people to help set up for the Sale on Friday evening (July 18) at 6 pm. Pizza provided.
- 3 people to help take down after the Sale
- 10 pounds frozen hamburger meat (from those of you who have meat butchered)
- Baked goods donated are always appreciated for the Bake Sale

Sign-up sheets are in the narthex along with other information about the Sale. Questions – ask Marilyn Brockmueller or Cindee Mutchelknaus

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 July

Far be it from me that I should sin...by failing to pray for you. (1 Samuel 12:23). This was the verse for July 1 in the Our Daily Bread devotional. Samuel said this when he was disappointed by the people's choice of a monarchy. Samuel thought that the best way to deal with his disappointment was to continue to pray for his people, and even more so, it would be a sin not to continue in prayer. Are you disappointed with things happening in the church and around you? Join us in continuing to being faithful in prayer.

Praise: Call to mind God's good character: love, power, faithfulness, mercy.

Thanksgiving:

- For safe travels during vacations in June and the rest of the summer
- For reunions of family, classes, congregations, especially the Freeman Academy 60th class reunion
- For abundant rain

Things on our minds:

- The well-being of grieving families we know: Lynell Hofer, Elaine Glanzer, John Gering, Lorene Kaufman, Eric Deckert
- The community garden's success
- Preparations for MCC Sale, the Banquet, MCUSA meeting in North Carolina
- Freeman Academy leadership needs
- Oyate Hope Academy's building project
- SS teachers for the fall
- Pastor Spencer's ministry and the ministries of other pastors in our community
- Central Plains leadership transitions and the well-being of other congregations in the conference
- That we not be blind to the well-being of the poor in our nation and the world when we consider finances
- That we continue to pray for just immigration policies
- That our peace is not the only peace we care about

Praying for and with the congregation: Dennis, Duane, and Lois