



Salem Mennonite Church

A Congregation of
Mennonite Church USA

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August 2, 2026

I. GOD CALLS US INTO PRAISE

Prelude

Prayer of Notre-Dame – Boellmann

Come Thou Fount - Sadowski

Come Thou Fount – Bish

Call to Worship (from Hebrews 12)

You have not come to what may be touched, a blazing fire and darkness and gloom and a tempest and a voice you cannot endure, whose words made the hearers beg that no further messages be spoken to them. You have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel. See that you do not refuse him who is speaking.

**Let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken,
and so let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe,
for our God is a consuming fire.**

Invocation Prayer

Opening Hymn

Longing for Light – STJ # 54♥

Greeting and Welcoming Each Other

Confession of Sin and Assurance of Grace

STS #163 in unison and #164 responsively

Hymn

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence – HWB #463

II. HEARING JESUS, THE LIVING WORD

Scripture Readings

Numbers 9:15-23 (ESV); 2 Chronicles 5:11-6:11 (ESV)
Matthew 17:1-13 (ESV)

Sermon

Clouded Light on the Mountain of God

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

Announcements and Offerings

- **Today's Worship offering:** Central Plains Mennonite Conference
- **Today's Sunday school offering:**
- **Children's Offering:** Weekend School Lunch Bag Program

Congregational Sharing & Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Communion Prayer of Thanksgiving

Sharing Bread and Cup from the Lord's Table

IV. RETURNING TO GOD'S SERVICE AS NEW CREATURES

Closing Hymn

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise— HWB # 70

Benediction

HWB #784

Postlude

The Heavens Declare – Wetzler

Speaker: Spencer Bradford; **Worship Leader:** Brad Carlson; **Musicians:** Sharla Unruh (organist); **Greeters:** Vernetta Waltner and Linda Graber; **Coffee:** Karen Kaufman and Audrey Waltner

THE CHURCH AT WORK

TODAY

Bible Study on Evangelism meeting 12:30-1:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

NEXT SUNDAY, August 9, 2026

Speaker: Spencer Bradford; **Worship Leader:** Norm Kaufman; **Greeters:** Linda Graber and Vernetta Waltner; **Musicians:** Sharla Unruh (organist); **Coffee:** Craig and Jenelle Miller; **Scriptures:** Numbers 20:1-13; Hebrews 3:7-19; Isaiah 41:17-20; Matthew 18:1-9

Worship Offering: General Fund

Sunday School Offering: Oyate Academy

Children's Offering: Weekend School Lunch Bag Program

THIS WEEK

Tuesday, August 4, 7:30 p.m. – Prayer & Fasting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85365395504>

- **Meeting ID:** 853 6539 5504 **Passcode:** prayer2020
- One tap mobile +13462487799,,85365395504# US (Houston)
- Dial by your location +1 312 626 6799 **Meeting ID:** 853 6539 5504

COMING EVENTS

Sunday, August 16 – Conversations during SS Hour followed by Potluck

Monday-Thursday, August 17-20 – Turner County Fair Ice Cream Stand

SOUTH CHURCH NOTES

For our potluck on August 16, Sunday School Class #10 will be providing burgers, grilled by Brad! Everyone else is asked to bring a salad or dessert - and, if you like, a favorite burger topping (other than ketchup and mustard, which will be provided). Paper products and lemonade will be provided as well.

MCC SCHOOL KITS: MCC has challenged churches and individuals to donate 30,000 school kits this summer. Our church plans to participate in helping MCC meet this goal. As you are shopping in the coming weeks think about how you may contribute to this worthy cause. Following is a list of supplies for each kit: 4 spiral or perforated–page notebooks (70 sheets each), 8 new **unsharpened** pencils, 1 flat ruler (must indicate 30cm markings; inch markings optional), 12 colored pencils (in packaging), 1 large eraser, 4 new black or blue ball point pens, 1 small **all metal-no plastic parts** pencil sharpener (1 or 2 holes). Information and a list of kit items are on display in the narthex. Monetary donations can be given to Lee Brockmueller for school kits or purchase supplies at your convenience. Thank you for your support of this project!

COMMUNITY NOTES

The Freeman Network for Justice and Peace will meet Wednesday, August 12 at 11:30 A.M. at the Freeman Public Library. All are welcome.

THE COMMUNION OF THANKSGIVING

These are the gifts of God for the people of God. We come in grateful celebration of Jesus' cross and resurrection, giving from our receiving, inviting as we have been invited, serving as we are served, renewing our bond to the narrow way of Jesus. There is room at his table for all who follow Jesus in God's covenant of grace and obedience.

The Lord is God, compassionate and gracious, overflowing in loving mercy and steadfast kindness. Blessed be God, now and forever!

As the grain once scattered in the fields and the grapes once dispersed on the hills are now united on this table in bread and drink, so Lord, may we be made a true community of your Spirit as your Body on earth, and may your whole people soon be gathered together from across the earth in your Kingdom of holy peace.

Come, Lord Jesus! To you be glory forever!

Let us raise our hearts, and give thanks to the Lord our God.

We raise up our thanks and praise to the Lord, because he is good; his love is eternal.

Truly, it is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to offer our praise, worship, and thanksgiving to you, Almighty and Ever-living God. You created all things out of loving grace to reflect your glory, you sent redemption from slavery and sin when we rejected your grace, you sustained us with heavenly manna in the wilderness, and you call us into obedient love through your law, prophets, and apostles. So we sing with saints and angels,

Blessed be the Lord God, holy and mighty!

For your Son Jesus Christ, our healer and redeemer; for his call to faith and peace; for his showing the glory of your light and love, and revealing your living Word; for his death and resurrection to bring forgiveness while we were your enemies killing him; for life in his Spirit, free from sin and death; for our communion with him in his Body as Living Bread, and the promise of his return in your full kingdom.

Blessed are you, Creator Spirit, who makes all things new!

Come, Spirit of Christ, and fulfill the promise of your kingdom among us. For on the night that he was betrayed, during supper, Jesus took bread, and after blessing it, he broke the bread and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take and eat. This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks, he gave it to them, saying: "Drink from this, all of you, for this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." So in praise and thanksgiving, we offer to you ourselves and all these gifts, that we may be a holy and living sacrifice, dedicated to your service, in union with Christ's saving self-offering for us and the whole world.

We praise you, we bless you, we worship and thank you, O Lord our God.

Pour out your Holy Spirit upon this communion, on us gathered here and on these gifts, that the sharing of this bread and cup may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ. Sanctify and fill us with your true presence, that in all our lives we may be for the world the Body of Christ, redeemed by his blood, shining with his grace as your living letters. As we share your presence anew at this table of your giving, let us share your presence with the world in the giving of our lives and selves, in your service for all people. By your Spirit, make us one with Christ, one in fellowship with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until we feast together at your heavenly banquet with all your saints, when all will be filled and satisfied. Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

AMEN.