



Salem Mennonite Church

A Congregation of
Mennonite Church USA

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August 9, 2026

I. GOD CALLS US INTO PRAISE

Prelude

Suite Gothique – Boellmann

Call to Worship (from Isaiah 41:17-20)

When the poor and needy seek water, and there is none,
and their tongue is parched with thirst,
I the LORD will answer them; I the God of Israel will not forsake them.
I will open rivers on the bare heights, and fountains in the midst of the valleys.
I will make the wilderness a pool of water, and the dry land springs of water.
I will put in the wilderness the cedar, the acacia, the myrtle, and the olive.
I will set in the desert the cypress, the evergreen and the pine together,
that you may see and know, may consider and understand together:
The hand of the LORD has done this, the Holy One of Israel has created it.

Invocation Prayer

Opening Hymn

The Love of God – STJ #44

Greeting and Welcoming Each Other

Confession of Sin and Assurance of Grace

HWB #697

Anthem

Sanctus – Gounod

II. HEARING JESUS, THE LIVING WORD

Scripture Readings

Numbers 20:1-13 (NIV); Hebrews 3:7-19 (NIV)
Matthew 18:1-9 (ESV)

Sermon

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

Hymn of Response

Rain From the Clouds – STJ #40

Announcements and Offerings

- **Today's Worship offering:** General Fund
- **Today's Sunday school offering:** Oyate Hope Academy
- **Children's Offering:** Oyate Hope Academy

Congregational Sharing & Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

IV. RETURNING TO GOD'S SERVICE AS NEW CREATURES

Closing Hymn

O Healing River – HWB #372

Benediction

STJ #160

Postlude

Tocatta – Boellmann

Speaker: Spencer Bradford; **Worship Leader:** Norm Kaufman; **Musicians:** Sharla Unruh (organist); Barb Yoder (pianist); **Greeters:** Monte Waltner and Linda Graber; **Coffee:** Craig and Jenelle Miller

THE CHURCH AT WORK

NEXT SUNDAY, August 16, 2026

Speaker: Spencer Bradford; **Worship Leader:** Everett Waltner; **Greeters:** Linda Graber and Vernetta Waltner; **Musicians:** Barb Yoder (pianist); **Coffee:** David and Cindy Graber; **Scriptures:** Numbers 15:22-31; 2 Chronicles 33:1-16; 2 Corinthians 2:2-11; Matthew 18:10-20

Worship Offering: AMBS/EMS

Sunday School Offering: Freeman Ministerial Fund

Children's Offering: Oyate Hope Academy

THIS WEEK

Wednesday, August 12, 11:30 a.m. – Freeman Network for Justice and Peace at the Freeman Public Library

COMING EVENTS

Sunday, August 16 – Congregation Conversations during SS Hour followed by potluck. See details below in Notes

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

Mon. – Fri, August 17-21 – South Church's turn in the Community Garden

August 25, 7:30 p.m. – Mission & Service Team meeting

SOUTH CHURCH NOTES

We rejoice with Luke and Katelyn Hurley on the birth of Calvin Joseph on Tuesday, August 4! He joins sister Scottlyn. We praise God for this new life.

The trustees are looking for 1 or 2 4 drawer filing cabinets. If you have one you would like to donate to the church please contact Ben.

The Trustees are asking for financial help from the congregation. Four west windows on the church were broken in a storm earlier this year. Replacement costs will be about \$8,500. If you would like to contribute to this project, please give your donation to David G, one of the trustees or earmark it windows and give it to Lee B. Thankyou.

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

Are you a person who would enjoy doing a simple sewing task, in your own home (in the air-conditioning!), to benefit the work of Mennonite Central Committee? Et Cetera Shoppe has the perfect opportunity for you! We are seeking more volunteers to sew rug strips together, for our weavers to make into rugs. It's a very simple process that is quite similar to preparing a quilt binding. This can be done on your own time, however it fits into your own schedule - and provides the perfect opportunity to enjoy an audiobook, podcast, or movie in the background! If this sounds like something you'd be willing to try, please call the shop at 925-7098, or stop in, and talk to Kris or Anita.

Prayer Seeds for August 2026

Thanksgivings

- for the visible signs of Your love and grace all around us
- for Your sacrificial love and invisible presence
- for rains that come to nourish our crops, gardens, and lawns
- for births of babies;
- for marriages, both old and new
- for single people who bring their perspective of life to our community
- for volunteers who give of their time for worthy projects
- for schools, teachers and students
- for all the ordinary, routine structures of life

Requests: We are mindful of

- people in Spokane, WA who have lost their homes to fire and for people in North Carolina who also have lost homes to flooding; we pray for churches in Spokane and North Carolina as they help with recovery
- the immigration crisis in Morocco/Spain as people are desperate to get to a better place; we pray for churches in those countries that are near to the homeless among them
- we think about our own immigration issues; we pray about our own attitudes toward people who have come here seeking a better life than the one they had
- we pray for our congregation as we interact with the public at Turner County Fair; may we be cheerful and willing messengers of Your love
- we pray for people in Gaza, Ukraine, and Iran who have lost family, homes, and businesses due to war; we pray for Christians in all those places who must live in hope in the face of overwhelming need

And as we sit in silence thinking of this needy world, we recognize that our shelter, food, good crops, successful businesses are good gifts You have given us so that we will use these resources to spread Your love beyond us.

---Duane, Spencer, Peggy and Derrold, Lois