



Salem Mennonite Church

A Congregation of
Mennonite Church USA

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August 16, 2026

I. GOD CALLS US INTO PRAISE

Prelude

Call to Worship

Let us gather in the name of the LORD!

The Lord our God comes to those who seek him.

Let us offer our worship and thanksgiving to the Giver of all good!

The Lord gives life and mercy to overcome death and sin.

Offer God our faith, hope and love.

The Lord all-good, all-wise, is in our midst.

Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God,
be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Invocation Prayer

Opening Hymn

O Spirit of the Living God – HWB #361

Greeting and Welcoming Each Other

Confession of Sin and Assurance of Grace

Good and merciful God, we confess our sins and disobedience. We confess our sins committed in knowledge and our sins committed in carelessness, our sins of action and sins of inaction, our sins of resistance to you and sins of negligence toward you, our failure to love you and our failure to love our neighbors, in thought and intent, in word and deed. Pardon our transgressions, cleanse us of our iniquities, and restore the life of your Spirit in us, through Jesus Christ your Son, our atoning Lord and Savior. Amen.

The Lord is a forgiving God, with patience and mercy greater than our offenses, overflowing with lovingkindness.

Anthem

Hear I am Lord – Daniel L. Schutte

II. HEARING JESUS, THE LIVING WORD

Scripture Readings

Numbers 15:22-31 (NIV); 1Timothy 1:12-20 (NIV)
Matthew 18:10-20 (NIV)

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

Announcements and Offerings

- **Today's Worship offering:** AMBS/EMS
- **Today's Sunday school offering:** Freeman Ministerial Fund
- **Children's Offering:** Oyate Hope Academy

Congregational Sharing & Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Backpack Blessing for Students and Teachers

IV. RETURNING TO GOD'S SERVICE AS NEW CREATURES

Closing Hymn

Come, Come Ye Saints – HWB #425

Choral Benediction

Go Now in Peace – Natalie Sleeth

Postlude

Speaker: Spencer Bradford; **Worship Leader:** Everett Waltner; **Musicians:** Barb Yoder (pianist); Cadence, Reeslyn, Jamison, Kendric, Kerry, and Lori Hofer (special music); **Greeters:** Vernetta Waltner and Linda Graber; **Coffee:** David and Cindy Graber)

Today

Congregation Conversations during SS Hour followed by hamburgers and potluck.

THE CHURCH AT WORK

NEXT SUNDAY, August 23, 2026

Speaker: Spencer Bradford; **Worship Leader:** Paul Balzer; **Greeters:** Linda Graber and Vernetta Waltner; **Musicians:** Deb Schmeichel (organist); **Coffee:** Duane and Donna Ries; **Scriptures:** Numbers 6:22-27; 2 Chronicles 33:1-16; 2 Corinthians 2:2-11; Matthew 18:21-35

Worship Offering: Mennonite Disaster Service

Sunday School Offering: Salem Church Library

Children's Offering: Oyate Hope Academy

THIS WEEK

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

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

Friday, August 21, 2:00 p.m. – Legacy of Care at Salem Mennonite Home

COMING EVENTS

Tuesday, August 25, 7:00 p.m. – Christian Formation Team Meeting

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

Tuesday, August 25, 8:00 p.m. – Rural Revival at Freeman Public Library

SOUTH CHURCH NOTES

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.

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.

Family members of current or former Salem Mennonite Home residents are invited to sing at the legacy event on Aug. 21 at 2:00 pm. Anne Waltner and Clara Beseman are coordinating the special music for the program. Please contact them if you are interested in remembering your loved one in this way.

