



Salem Mennonite Church

A Congregation of
Mennonite Church USA

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April 21, 2024

I. GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

Prelude "My Shepherd will Supply my Need" – arr. J. Harold Moyer
"Sheep May Safely Graze" – J. S. Bach

Musical Call to Worship "Rejoice, the Lord is King" – arr. Larson

Call to Worship (*from Isaiah 40:9-11*)

Leader: Go on up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good news;
lift up your voice with strength, and fear not!

People: **Behold, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his
arm rules for him; behold, his reward is with him!**

Leader: God will tend his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs
in his arms;

People: **he will carry them in his bosom, and gently lead mothers that
are with young.**

Opening Prayer

Welcome & Greeting One Another

Opening Hymn "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us" —HWB #355

Psalms 23 (unison reading) HWB # 814

II. HEARING GOD'S WORD

Worship Music "I Stand Amazed in the Presence" – arr. Childers

Children's Time

Scripture Reading Ezekiel 34:1-4; John 10:11-18

Sermon "Caution, Sheep Crossing Ahead"

Hymn of Response "Gentle Shepherd" – HWB #352

III. RESPONDING TO JESUS CHRIST

Announcements & Offerings

- Today's **Worship offering**: Mennonite Central Committee
- Today's **Sunday school offering**: Central Plains Mennonite Conference
- **Children's Offering**: Heifer International

Congregational Sharing & Prayer

IV. SENT WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

Closing Hymn

"The Lord's My Shepherd" – HWB #578

Benediction (from Revelation 7)

Leader: The Lamb on God's throne shelters us and will be our shepherd,
And he will guide us to springs of living water, and God will
wipe away every tear from our eyes.

People: **Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor
and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen**

Postlude

"Lamb of God, Our Saviour" – J. S. Bach

Greeters: Carolyn Preheim and Vernetta Waltner; **Worship Leader:** Stewart Hofer; **Musicians:** Debra Schmeichel (organist), Handbells, Sharla Unruh (piano); **Speaker:** Pastor Bob; **Children's Time:** Jeri Butkus; **Coffee:** Conference Room Class

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. There are small cups with lids for children to use.

THIS WEEK

Wed. (24th), 7:30 p.m. – Chancel Choir; **8:30 p.m.** – Ladies' Ensemble

NEXT SUNDAY, April 28

Speaker: Pastor Spencer; **Worship Leader:** Peggy Waltner; **Musicians:** Heather Haggerty (organist), Chancel Choir; **Greeters:** Linda Graber and Vernetta Waltner; **Coffee:** Conference Room Class

Worship Offering: Central Plains Mennonite Conference

Sunday school Offering: Camper Scholarships

Children's Offering: Heifer International

COMING EVENTS

May 9 – Church Council Meeting

May 10 – Fellowship Hall Reserved for Shad Tschetter Graduation Reception

SOUTH CHURCH NEWS & NOTES

Vacation Bible School is just around the corner! This year the joint North and South Church VBS will be held at the North Church on June 3-7 starting at 9:00 AM and ending at 1:15 PM. We are looking for classroom teachers as well as volunteers to help with snacks, music, rec, and drama. If you are interested and willing to help in any capacity, please talk to Bailey Carlson or Libby Miller. There are registration forms and a parent letter in the narthex.

I will be starting my thru-hike of the Pacific Crest Trail soon and I would love for you to follow along. I'll be posting videos on my YouTube channel: @kleenexhikes. Feel free to subscribe so you get all my videos. The PCT is a 2,650 mile hike from the Mexican border to the Canadian border through California, Oregon and Washington. I expect it to take around 6 months. My dad and sister will be sending some packages to me while I hike, so if you have something small or homemade that you'd like to send you can give it to them to send. They have a list of suggestions. In 2012 I hiked the Appalachian Trail for Swan Lake Christian Camp and I'm excited to take on this adventure. I ask for prayers along this journey. Thanks so much! ~ Renee Neufeld

Conference Delegates needed for Central Plains Conference Annual Meeting taking place in Wayland, IA at Sugar Creek Mennonite Church on June 20-23. Our church is allowed to take 7 delegates plus our pastor. If you are interested in attending as a delegate, please contact Vernetta by May 1.

Rolf Olson and Anne Waltner have requested and received a letter of membership transfer to Salem-Zion Mennonite Church.

COMMUNITY & BEYOND

Rural Revival will meet on Monday, April 22, 8:00 p.m. in the Freeman Public Library. All are welcome to attend.

The April edition of *On the Level* is now available from Mennonite Disaster Service. In our current issue: Kevin King shares a truly uplifting story of MDS work in Maryland, volunteers are transforming lives in Mississippi, and long-time project in Jennings, Louisiana comes to a close. Plus, check out the volunteer opportunities for this summer and fall.

Click on this link to read more: <https://conta.cc/3UjUriu>

May 26-31: Restorative Justice Peace Camp for young adults (Chicago, Illinois) -

This peace camp will dive into creative ways to implement justice in local communities. Learning from experienced restorative justice practitioners in Chicago, we will witness incredible ways that transformation is possible through restorative justice. Register today! mcc.org/events/restorative-justice-peace-camp

The Bethany Food Pantry serves the needy of Freeman, Menno, and Olivet. We are looking for volunteers to help for a couple of hours a month, on the first or third Friday. Below are the time slots where help is needed. Please contact Liza Larson, (605)660-0010 or Debra Schmeichel (605)648-3430 if you have questions.

First Friday – 10:30 – 12:30 – shelving, sorting boxes, trimming boxes, recycling
12:45 – 5:15 – assisting shoppers, recycling, locking up

Third Friday – 10:30 – 12:30 – shelving, sorting boxes, trimming boxes, recycling
12:45 – 5:15 – assisting shoppers, recycling, locking up

On Saturday, April 27, The Ortmen Piano Duo, consisting of Mory Ortman and Jordan Ortman, will perform a two-piano concert at 7:30 p.m. in Pioneer Hall. This is a rare opportunity for local music lovers to hear two grand pianos being played together - by two of Freeman's native sons, who are now professional musicians in New York City and Denver, respectively. No admission will be charged, but a freewill offering for Freeman Academy's Cultivate 120 campaign will be taken. A dessert reception will follow the concert. Plan to join us for this special treat!

The Freeman Ministerial Assoc. invites you to the 2024 **Community Baccalaureate Service** for Freeman High and Freeman Academy. It will be held on Sunday, May 5 at 4:00 pm, at the Freeman Community Center. Join us as we celebrate this milestone in the lives of our graduates, and invite God's blessing on their future endeavors. This year's speaker is Pastor Stuart Curry, of the Salem M.B. Church. If you are not able to join us in person, we invite you to join us online, as the event will be live streamed at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/@saalemzionmennonitechurch8051>.

Following the service, we extend a warm invitation for you to join us for a taco luncheon. It's a perfect opportunity to continue celebrating our graduates.

Sunday Morning Worship – 9:30am/ Sunday School – Following Worship
Amy Waltner, Administrative Assistant (southchurch@goldenwest.net) 925-4553
Spencer Bradford, Pastor 919-808-2024/spencerbradford42@gmail.com
Bob Engbrecht, Pastor 648-3017/659-4331