



**Salem
Mennonite
Church**

A Congregation of
Mennonite Church USA

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December 1, 2019

Advent One: In Jesus' Name

I. WAITING FOR GOD

Prelude

“Comfort, Comfort Now My People” – arr. Leavitt

“Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying” – arr. Peters

Welcome & Call to Worship

blue HWB #714

Instrumental Invocation

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” – arr. Kinyon

Candle Lighting

“What are you waiting for?”

Children's Focus

Letters from Bethlehem

Shepherd

Carol

“Silent Night, Holy Night” blue HWB #193

II. RECEIVING GOD'S WORD

Hearing Scripture

Matthew 1

Names and more names

Pastoral Reflection

“Name Him Jesus”

III. RESPONDING TO CHRIST'S COMING

Response Hymn

“Hark! The Glad Sound” blue HWB #184

Congregational Sharing & Prayers

- ❖ We give God thanks for a **harvest nearly completed** and for the **blessing of a safe harvest** for the many operators in the fields and on the roads; may we now rest and trust in God's provision of daily bread, content regardless of whether we are in plenty or in want.
- ❖ We pray the hymn, ‘Comfort, Comfort Now My People’ for **Ashley (Graber) Julius & Dillon** as they grieve the death of Dillon's mother, **LouAnn Julius (59)**; may LouAnn's husband Robert and the rest of the family experience resilient hope in next Saturday's memorial.

- ❖ We pray for **perseverance and protection for Christians and their neighbors in war-torn or conflicted places** in the news like Syria, Ukraine, Hong Kong, Venezuela, Bolivia, Colombia and Chile; may the reign of Jesus, Prince of Peace come with haste to people who suffer.

Offering

Harvest Thank

“O Come, All Ye Faithful” – arr. Larson

IV. SENT WITH THE SPIRIT’S JOY

Benediction

Postlude

“Prelude on ‘The Ash Grove’” – arr. Sedio

Greeters: Bob & Cheryl Wollmann; **Musicians:** Debra Schmeichel (organ), Handbells; **Worship Leader:** Katelyn Graber; **Candle Lighters:** Jarrod, MeKayla & Casen Preheim; **Children’s Focus:** MeKayla Preheim; **Speaker:** Pastor Nick; **Nursery:** Janet Balzer; **Coffee:** Conf. Room Class

SUNDAY SCHOOL OFFERING

Adult S.S. Offering Today

Salem Sunday School

Offering Next Sunday

Members in Mission

Children’s S.S. Offering

Yankton Banquet

THE CHURCH AT WORK

TODAY

We welcome all who have come to worship with us this morning! Please take time to greet others, invite them to Sunday school, and grab some coffee.

There will be a Sunday school opening for the preschool-4th grade classes following worship.

12:30-2:00 –Christmas Eve program practice for children in grades 2-8.

THIS WEEK

Mon. (2nd), 7:00 p.m. – Deacon Board Meeting in the Conference Room

Tues. (3rd) – Day of Prayer & Fasting, **7:30 p.m.** – Prayer Meeting

Wed. (4th), 6:30 p.m. – Handbells, Youth Supper & Bible Study

7:30 p.m. – Chancel

8:30 p.m. – Men’s Choir, Ladies’ Ensemble

Sat. (7th) – Trustee Work Day

NEXT SUNDAY, December 8

Speaker: Pastor Nick; **Worship Leader:** Lee Brockmueller; **Musicians:** Sharon Waltner (organ), Ladies' Ensemble; **Greeters:** Bob & Cheryl Wollmann; **Offering:** Swan Lake Christian Camp; **Nursery:** Cheryle Gering; **Coffee:** Conf. Room Class

2:30 p.m. – South Church will lead the Oakview Terrace chapel service. It will be a half-hour of “Lessons & Carols” (nativity story scriptures and singing) with residents. All people interested in being part of our caroling group may join us there!

Annual meeting will be held at 6:00 p.m. We are asking everyone to bring a finger food to share for a light meal at 5:30.

COMING EVENTS

December 8 – Oakview Chapel, Church Annual Meeting

December 15 – South Church Choirs Program

SOUTH CHURCH NEWS & NOTES

Our group subscription to *The Mennonite* is now due. Please contact Amy by December 11 if you want to be included.

If you would like to donate a poinsettia in memory or in honor of a loved one during this holiday season, please contact Cheryl at 925-4204.

COMMUNITY & BEYOND

Mark your calendars for the Freeman Academy's 1-6th grade Christmas musical! **Thursday, December 5, 2019 at 6:30 pm** in the Dining Hall! Students in Miss Cutler's Science class are getting ready for their Christmas party with Beaker trying to make snow. While waiting for the snow, Miss Cutler takes the opportunity to tell them about the “Light of Christmas.” Refreshments will be enjoyed!

Swan Lake Christian Camp will be hosting Piano Night at the Lake on Saturday, December 7 at 6:00pm. A meal will be served while being entertained with music from area musicians. Reservations are required and a free will donation will be taken. Call 605-326-5690 or email campoffice@myslcc.com to make your reservation. A raffle is being held for a Christmas quilt. It is on display in the fellowship hall. Tickets are \$5 each and can be purchased by contacting Amy Waltner today (Dec. 1). The winner will be drawn at Piano night.

Sunday Morning Worship – 9:30am/ Sunday School – Following Worship
Office Hours – Wednesday – Friday 9:30-12:30; bulletin deadline – 9:30 a.m. Friday
Amy Waltner, Administrative Assistant (southchurch@goldenwest.net) 925-4553
Nick Stoddard, Pastor (nick.southchurch@goldenwest.net) 925-7106/940-7212
Bob Engbrecht, Pastor 648-3017/659-4331

WEEKLY DEVOTIONAL
What are we waiting for?

Advent means “coming or arrival”, a time of waiting. It begins four Sundays before Christmas. During Advent we focus our attention on two different periods of time—waiting for the Christ child, the Messiah to be born; and waiting for Jesus Christ to come again in glory.

The first period was the time of the Hebrew prophets who announced the restoration of Israel with the arrival of a Messiah. The Jews waited 400 years from the last prophecy until the birth of Jesus. Those who don’t believe Jesus is the promised Messiah are still waiting. Christians believe Jesus is the fulfillment of that period.

The second period began with the ascension of the resurrected Jesus into heaven and the promise of His return. We Christians live in the time between the advents of Jesus: Christmas and the Second Coming. Our celebration of Advent and the Christmas birth of Jesus is focused knowledge in the Easter joy of Christ’ Resurrection. We celebrate God who has already come into the world. Emmanuel (God with us) has shown us God’s Love and God’s Power of victory over evil and death. What are we waiting for? We have work to do. We have been given the assignment of the Great Commission to go out into all the world to share the Gospel. We “wait” in confidence of Jesus return. As we prepare for Christmas, in the security of God’s love, may we have renewed energy and be empowered to live, to love, to work for God’s kingdom sharing the “Good news”, our assignment.

~contributed by Dawn Stahl

