



# Salem Mennonite Church

A Congregation of  
Mennonite Church USA

28103 443rd Ave  
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**December 6, 2020 – Second Sunday of Advent**

*“On the road to repentance”*

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## **I. GATHERING FOR WORSHIP**

(9:15-9:30) Gathering

- <https://zoom.us/j/278905019>
- Or phone call-in # (312) 626-6799 and Meeting ID: 278 905 019
- One-Tab Mobile (iPhone) +16699009128,,278905019#

**Prelude**

“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence” – arr. Heaps  
“Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying” – Bach

**Choral Call to Worship**

“Gaelic Alleluia” – arr. Courtneery (2018)  
Heather and Ryan Haggerty, accompanists

**Welcome & Greeting One Another**

**Responsive Call to Worship:**

Leader: Listen! A voice cries out in the wilderness:

**People: Prepare the way of the Lord!**

Leader: Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill made low.

**People: Prepare the way of the Lord!**

Leader: Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together.

***All: Prepare the way of the Lord!***

**Opening Prayer**

**Opening Hymn**

“It Came Upon a Midnight Clear” – HWB #195  
Vs. 1, 2 & 5

**Lighting of the Advent Candle**

“While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks”  
- Courtney (2014), Debra Schmeichel, accompanist

## **Confession and Words of Assurance:**

Leader: We hear John the Baptist's cry in the desert and are called to repentance.

**People: We will hear what God the Lord will say:**

Leader: The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, but is patient, not wanting anyone to perish.

**People: Revive us again, that we may rejoice in you, Show us your unfailing love, and grant us your salvation.**

Leader: Salvation is near to those who fear God.

**All: We receive this gift. Help us to walk in your way.**

## **II. HEARING GOD'S WORD**

### **Children's Time**

**Hearing the Word**

**Mark 1:1-8**

**Dramatic Monologue**

"John the Baptist Prepares the Way"

**Sermon:**

"On the road to repentance"

**Anthem**

"Joseph Dearest, Joseph Mine" – Helvey (2016)  
Heather Haggerty & Debra Schmeichel, accompanists

## **III. RESPONDING TO JESUS CHRIST**

### **Announcements & Offerings**

- Today's **Worship offering** is for Harvest Thank Offering
- Today's **Sunday school offering** is for Salem Mennonite Sunday School

**Congregational Sharing & Prayer**

## **IV. SENT WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT**

**Sending Hymn**

"Angels we have heard on High" – HWB #197  
Vs. 1 & 3

**Spoken Benediction**

*People of God, people on the road: something greater is coming – prepare the way of the Lord! Go forth, attuned to the Holy Spirit, making room for the light of the world.*

**Choral Benediction**

**Postlude**

"Valet will ich dir geben" – arr. Kaufmann

**Worship Leader:** Paul Balzer; **Speaker:** Pastor David; **Musicians:** Debra Schmeichel (organ), Ladies' Ensemble; **Monologue:** Brent Brockmueller, **Children's Time:** Megan Eisenbeis; **Candle Lighters:** Jenelle Miller and Pastor David

### **WORSHIP OFFERING**

Worship Offering Next Sunday (12/13)

Swan Lake Christian Camp

### **SUNDAY SCHOOL OFFERING**

Offering Next Sunday (12/13)

Members in Mission

Children's Offering

Oyate Concern Christian School

### **THE CHURCH AT WORK**

#### **TODAY**

**We welcome all** who are worshipping with us this morning both in person and on Zoom!

**Annual Meeting immediately** following the worship service.

#### **NEXT SUNDAY, December 13, Third Sunday of Advent**

**Speaker:** Pastor David; **Worship Leader:** Lois Preheim; **Musicians:** Brad Anderson (piano)

#### **COMING EVENTS**

**December 16** – Youth Bible Study

**January 7** – Zoom Deacon Board Meeting

#### **SOUTH CHURCH NEWS & NOTES**

**Pastor Nick & Erika Detweiler-Stoddard** were received into membership at the Washington Mennonite Church on November 29, 2020. The attached note said, "We know you miss them, but we are thankful for their service to Washington.

**The Christmas Day service** this year will be Zoom only starting at 10:30 a.m. There will be a greeting, prayer and possibly a scripture reading and then a recording of a South Church Christmas Concert.

**This Christmas season**, the Mission and Service Team will be reaching out to students and staff at Oyate Concern Christian School to send them Christmas gift bags. This has been a challenging year for families and staff at the school, and as a mission partner, we want to demonstrate God's love and show our support for the staff and students in need at Christmas. The school has 24 students in Grades Pre-K through 7th grade, and 6 instructors. If you are willing to help with this project, please put your monetary donations in the offering plate, earmarked "Oyate gift bags". Thank you! Mission and Service Team

**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.

**In the Proposed 2021 Budget** in the Annual Meeting Booklet, there is a line item for a Mission Partnership with the Ross Richers. This partnership commitment, through Mennonite Mission Network, will provide additional funding for Jerrell and Jane Ross Richer's ministry in Ecuador. As a supporting congregation, Salem Mennonite commits to prayer and financial support for the Ross Richer ministry over the next 3 years. We will, in return, receive regular news updates from the Ross-Richers and visits from them while they are on their "furlough" (or "North American Ministry"), since they divide their year evenly between the U.S. and Ecuador. You can learn more about the Ross Richer "two-way" ministry on the Mennonite Mission Network website, at <https://www.mennonitemission.net/workers/Latin%20America/Ecuador/Jerrell%20and%20Jane%20Ross%20Richer>

**Take Them a Meal** [www.TakeThemAMeal.com/LOUP6714](http://www.TakeThemAMeal.com/LOUP6714) was created by Peggy Waltner (on behalf of the deacons) for Don and Sonja Waltner; it will be Mon., Wed., and Fri. until Dec. 23. Go to the link to sign up to take them a meal. Contact Peggy if you have any questions.

**It has been suggested** that we remember the birthdays of our members who are in care facilities or those who need to stay in their home during this time.

### **December**

18<sup>th</sup> – Phyllis Reimer, PO Box 63, Freeman, SD 57029

## **COMMUNITY AND BEYOND**

**Rural Revival will meet** December 7 at 8:00 p.m. in the Salem Zion Mennonite Church Fellowship Hall in Freeman. All are welcome to attend.

**Parents of future Kindergarten through grade 11 students** are invited to an open house at Freeman Academy on Dec. 11 from 2:00-4:00pm. Families have two flexible visit options. Either drop in, visit with Enrollment Director Lynnelle Allison, and get grade-specific information OR [contact Lynnelle \(ljallison@FreemanAcademy.org\)](mailto:ljallison@FreemanAcademy.org) before Dec. 11 to arrange a personal tour and schedule visits with specific teachers. Masks are worn on campus. For more information call 605-925-4237.

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Sunday Morning Worship – 9:30am (in person & Zoom) No Sunday School at this time

Office Hours – Wednesday - Friday 9:30-12:30; bulletin deadline – 9:30 a.m. Friday

Amy Waltner, Administrative Assistant ([southchurch@goldenwest.net](mailto:southchurch@goldenwest.net)) 925-4553

David Erdman, Interim Pastor 605 350-7231

Bob Engbrecht, Pastor 648-3017/659-4331

