



Salem Mennonite Church

A Congregation of
Mennonite Church USA

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January 12, 2020

Epiphany Season: Don't Be Afraid

I. GATHERED IN CHRIST'S LIGHT

Prelude

"Eternal Father, Strong to Save" – arr. Smith
"Variations on 'Melita'" – Joseph

Gathering Hymn

"As With Gladness Men of Old" blue HWB #218

Welcome & Call to Worship

Isaiah 35:1-10

¹The desert and the parched land will be glad;
the wilderness will rejoice and blossom.
Like the crocus, ² it will burst into bloom;
it will rejoice greatly and shout for joy.
The glory of Lebanon will be given to it,
the splendor of Carmel and Sharon;
they will see the glory of the LORD,
the splendor of our God.
³ Strengthen the feeble hands,
steady the knees that give way;
⁴ say to those with fearful hearts,
"Be strong, do not fear;
your God will come,
he will come with vengeance;
with divine retribution
he will come to save you..."

Song of Praise

"10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)" – Redman & Myrin

Children's Focus

When you're scared

II. RECEIVING GOD'S WORD

Remembering Scripture

excerpts from Matthew 1-2 & Luke 1-2

Response Song

"Don't Be Afraid" green SJ #105

Sermon

"Stop fearing: the news is good"

III. RESPONDING TO THE CHRIST, OUR LORD

Song of Faith

“In Christ Alone” – Townend & Getty

Congregational Sharing & Prayer

- ❖ We pray for Christ’s peace to be upon **Harriet, Don, Sue & Jill** following the death of **Elrod Kaufman** this week; may the Holy Spirit fill them with trust in God, who *“in great mercy has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade”* (1 Peter 1:3-4).
- ❖ We pray for God’s healing and strength for the mind, body and spirit of **Arlen Miller** as he enters a season of cancer treatment; may Arlen, Florence and their family be *“given not a spirit of timidity or fear, but of God’s power, love and self-control”* (2 Tim. 1:7).
- ❖ I pray **in repentance for the spirit of fear** I’ve let infect and possess me; may Christ deliver us from our fears and bring peace *“having disarmed the powers and authorities, making a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross”* (Col. 2:15).

Offering

Mennonite Mission Network (MMN)

“Air from Rinaldo” – Handel

IV. SENT WITH A HOLY SPIRIT OF POWER

Benediction

Postlude

“Sarabande” – Handel

Greeters: David & Cindy Graber; **Musicians:** Sharla Unruh (organ), Treyton Waltner (vocal), Sonja Waltner (accompanist); **Worship Leader:** Cal Graber; **Speaker:** Pastor Nick; **Nursery:** Erika Detweiler; **Coffee:** North East #18

SUNDAY SCHOOL OFFERING

Adult S.S. Offering Today

Camper Scholarships

Offering Next Sunday

Freeman Academy

Children’s S.S. Offering

Community Gardens

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.

THIS WEEK

Wed. (15th), 7:30 p.m. – Chancel Choir

8:30 p.m. – Men's Choir

Thurs. (16th), 9:30 a.m. – Early Bulletin Deadline & Printing

NEXT SUNDAY, January 19

Speaker: Pastor Nick; **Worship Leader:** Crystal Nelson; **Musicians:** Debra Schmeichel (organ), Chancel Choir; **Greeters:** David & Cindy Graber; **Offering:** AMBS/EMS; **Nursery:** Elizabeth Anderson; **Coffee:** North East #18

COMING EVENTS

January 12 & 26 – Helping with Hutterthal Children's Church

January 17-19 – Junior High Retreat at Swan Lake

January 24-25 – Senior High Retreat at Swan Lake

SOUTH CHURCH NEWS & NOTES

Go Visit the Ross-Richers in Ecuador this March! Time is short to decide, but you can go be part of a CPMC delegation for a significant Ecuador Partnership 20th Anniversary celebration and learning trip, March 4-14. Time will be spent in the mountainous capital, Quito, and also traveling to the rainforest. If you are a hearty soul up for a trip down the river and a few days in the jungle, contact Chris Eisenbeis, CPMC Outreach & Service Chair, or pastor Nick ASAP!

COMMUNITY & BEYOND

The Great Winter Warmup event is coming! Who wants to be a part of something BIG? Et Cetera Shoppe is sponsoring an old-fashioned "quilting bee" of sorts, sometimes known as a "comforter blitz", on Saturday, January 18, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the gymnasium of the Freeman Community Center (snow date – January 25). During this time, we will join volunteers at over 40 locations across the U.S. and Canada, who will come together on this date to attempt to tie 6500 relief comforters for Mennonite Central Committee in just one day! MCC distributes these comforters to people in disaster situations in the U.S. and around the world who lack basic necessities. Recipients use comforters as bed covers, room dividers, carpets, curtains, wraps, mattresses and more. This is a "come and go" event, so drop in at any time and stay for as little or as long as you like. You do not need to know how to sew, or know anything about the comforter-making process, to join in the fun! Please consider helping to meet a tremendous need by volunteering some of your time on this day. If you cannot join us, but would like to make a monetary donation toward the cost of comforter materials, please call the Et Cetera Shoppe at 925-7098.

New Year's Blessings from the Freeman Ministerial Association! Thank you for your support of Freeman's local church leaders as we minister in Christ's name. The Ministerial group gathers monthly for collaboration, sharing and prayer for our churches and community. We also maintain a Traveler's Benevolent Fund available to those in need passing through out town. Your contributions go toward administering this. We have also been privileged to organize the Community Baccalaureate Service in recent years. **This year's officers include** president Shane Van Meveren (pastor, Bethany MC), vice president Terry Makelin (pastor, St. Paul Lutheran), and treasurer Corey Miller (pastor, Salem-Zion/North). You can reach the Freeman Ministerial by contacting Shane at homileticsboy@hotmail.com/605-940-2728 or by mail at 509 S. Juniper Street, PO Box 396, Freeman, SD 57029.

You are invited to a Freeman Academy Creative Arts Feature on Sunday, January 26, 2:00 p.m. at the North Church. Dr. Russell Svenningsen, vocal, and Dr. Anne Waltner, piano, collaborate on Franz Schubert's song cycle Winterreise (Winter Journey). Schubert's compositional artistry is on display in the beautifully interwoven conversation between piano and voice. An admission fee of \$15 will be charged at the door and includes a dessert reception. Doors open at 1:30.

SCHMECKFEST NOTES

The Freeman Academy Auxiliary will be making noodles for the Schmeckfest Country Kitchen and meals on Saturday, January 18 and Tuesday, January 21 in the Pioneer Hall kitchen starting at 9 a.m. If a "snow date" is needed, we will also make noodles on Tuesday, January 28. Cancellations will be announced on the *Courier* and Freeman Academy websites. Volunteers to help make noodles would be greatly appreciated. Bring a friend and enjoy the fellowship.

Schmeckfest signup sheets for food and workers have been put out in the fellowship hall and will be there through January. Please sign up for the food items you would be willing to bring and also where you would like to work preparing the meal. Cash donations for groceries would also be appreciated. Schmeckfest is March 20-21 and 27-28. Thank you! South Church Schmeckfest Food Committee

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