



Salem Mennonite Church

A Congregation of
Mennonite Church USA

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southchurchsd.org

March 12, 2023 – Lent 3

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

Musical Call to Worship

“When Jesus Wept” – Eithun

Call to worship (*based on Psalm 95:6–7*)

Leader: Come, let us bow down in worship.

People: **Let us kneel before the Lord our maker;**

Leader: for the Lord is our God,

People: **we are the people of God’s pasture,**

All: ***we are the flock under God’s care.***

Opening Prayer

Opening Hymn

“O Come, Loud Anthems let us Sing” – HWB #68

Welcome & Greeting One Another

II. HEARING GOD’S WORD

Scripture

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Sermon

“An Invitation to Extend Forgiveness”

Worship Music

“Lonesome Valley” – Angerman

III. RESPONDING TO JESUS CHRIST

Announcements & Offerings

- Today's **Worship offering** is for Mennonite Mission Network
- Today's **Sunday school offering** is Camper Scholarships
- **Children's Offering** is for Sioux Falls Children's Home

Congregational Sharing & Prayer

IV. SENT WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

Closing Hymn

"My Jesus, I Love Thee" – HWB #522

Spoken Benediction

Like water poured out on a thirsty land, may the Lord pour out the Holy Spirit on us. May we blossom with new life. May we bring refreshment and joy to others.

Postlude

"Allegro Deciso from Tuba Concerto" – Gregson

Greeters: Brent & Angie Brockmueller; **Musicians:** Heather Haggerty (organist), Seth Balzer (tuba); **Special Music:** Bells; **Worship Leader:** Brad Carlson; **Speaker:** Gene Miller; **Coffee:** Class #18

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.

4:30 p.m. – The Mission and Service Team invites you to participate in a monthly conversation and prayer time with our Ecuador Mission Partners, the Ross Richers. You can join by entering the Waterford Mennonite Church website, waterfordchurch.org. Then click on Worship, then Online Prayers, then scroll to Ecuador Prayers and click on video or dial in. Or in your Zoom app put in the Meeting ID: 853 3848 4428 and Passcode: 274788.

THIS WEEK

Wed. (15th), 6:30 p.m. – Youth Group

7:30 p.m. – Chancel Choir

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

NEXT SUNDAY, March 19

Speaker: Jane and Jerrell Ross Richer; **Worship Leader:** Lois Preheim; **Musicians:** Sharon Waltner (organist); **Special Music:** Ladies' Ensemble; **Greeters:** Brent & Angie Brockmueller; **Coffee:** Class #18

Worship offering is for General Fund

Sunday school offering is for Members in Mission

Children's Offering is for Sioux Falls Children's Home

Jane and Jerrell Ross Richer will be here to share with us about their recent time in Ecuador as well as bring us the morning message. They will be going to the North Church as well. The North Church will have a potluck dinner with Jane and Jerrell and we are invited to be their guests.

4:00 p.m. – Anabaptist Bible Study Intro Meeting

COMING EVENTS

March 23 – Early Bulletin Deadline

March 24 & 25 – Schmeckfest

March 29 – Youth Group

April 2-5 – Holy Week Services at Bethany

SOUTH CHURCH NEWS & NOTES

The Trustees are accepting bids for mowing the church grounds this summer. The job includes mowing and trimming all grass areas around the church, parsonage and cemetery. If interested please submit your written bid to Rodney Waltner by April 26, 2023.

Please think about **young people** in your congregation who have demonstrated Jesus's way of love and peacemaking. This year the Central Plains Peace and Justice Task Group is doing the *Peace Mug Award* a little differently. We are seeking **young** nominations for the Conference's *Peace Mug*. We are looking for an **emerging** peacemaker. This can be anyone **in their teens and twenties** that you have seen doing small acts of peacemaking and kindness or who has spoken out in the face of injustice. Whom do you see as an **emerging** peacemaker in your congregation? Send names and a brief description of why you are nominating them to Jane Y-S (wilmajane17@gmail.com). We need them by Wednesday, March 22!

There is still time to sign up for the Anabaptist Bible Study sessions. There are four sessions. The first one, scheduled for March 19 at 4:00 p.m., is an introductory session. The times for the next 3 sessions will be determined by the group for meeting in April and May. The deadline for reporting our commentary is June 1. Ideally, we would like several groups of 8, with a scribe designated in each group so we can combine the commentary from all groups. Each participant will receive a participant guide to use before each group session.

COMMUNITY & BEYOND

Rural Revival Education: Learning to make kombucha (fermented tea). Free tasting. Saturday, March 18, 2023 2-3 PM at the Freeman Prairie Arboretum Visitor Center. Free admission.

SCHMECKFEST NOTES

Heritage Hall Museum & Archives will be buzzing during Schmeckfest 2023. The museum will be open from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday, March 24 and 25. Craft demonstrations in the museum and programming at the Bethel Church begin at 1. The popular Heritage Pickers are returning with 10-minute presentations scattered throughout the museum both afternoons that offer quick history lessons about specific artifacts located in the museum. And visits with local experts about exhibits and areas of interest in the museum, archives and at the Deckert house are planned.

The model train, a 20-question exercise and the hands-on rope-making demonstration are among highlights planned for children. The museum is extending its regular admission to two days during Schmeckfest, which enables people to come and go as they please both Friday and Saturday. Museum wristbands, which will serve as admission tickets, are available for sale now.

A complete schedule of events can be found online at <https://heritagehallmuseum.com/news-%26-events>.

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
Gene Miller, Interim Pastor, 330-749-1290
Bob Engbrecht, Pastor 648-3017/659-4331

Prayer List for March

During this time of Lent continue to pray this prayer written by St. Ephrem, a saint in the Eastern Orthodox Church in the 4th century.

***O Lord and master of my life,
take from me the spirit of sloth, despair, lust of power,
and idle talk,
but give rather the spirit of chastity, humility, patience,
and love to thy servant.
Yes, O Lord and king, grant me to see my own sins
and not to judge my brother.
For blessed art Thou unto the ages of ages.
Amen.***

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

We express praise and gratitude this Lenten season for Christ's sacrifice, suffering, death and resurrection that brings us life and hope through God's grace.

- ◆ We give thanks for those in our church who have experienced healing and restoration of both mind and body.
- ◆ We give praise for the ongoing Women's Bible Study in Freeman. Giving thanks for the lives that have been touched by this ministry.
- ◆ We give thanks for a positive report on the colon surgery on Joe Hanten, husband of Paulena, who is a close friend of Kaye Waltner. Pray for continued healing for Joe during his long recovery period and for God's guidance for Kaye as she continues to provide support and encouragement to them.
- ◆ We give thanks for the Ross-Richer's safe return from Ecuador. Pray for guidance as they discern the direction for their ministry there and as they give reports about their ministry to their supporters in America.

Prayers of Petition

- ◆ Pray for the Holy Week services that are being planned. May all be strengthened and encouraged as we reflect on the Passion Week.
- ◆ Pray for unity of purpose for South Church members despite differences of opinion on a variety of issues. May we forgive and forbear with one another for being strong minded and zealous when we have beliefs and opinions that are different from others. During Lent, may we ponder the Lord's willingness to drink a cup of suffering.
- ◆ Pray for the Deacons as they look at setting goals for our church and look for ways to bring unity among our members.
- ◆ Pray for the Search Team as they continue looking for a leader for our church.
- ◆ Pray for the ministries of Pastors Gene and Bob as they offer leadership and guidance to us.
- ◆ Pray for the young people who are preparing for Baptism. May they take seriously their commitment to Christ and the church.
- ◆ Pray for sufficient volunteers to work with MDS at Red Lake, MN, as work begins on repairing over 70 homes that were damaged by hail last summer.
- ◆ Pray for Oyate Concern School as they are faced with moving out of their current building by June 1st. May they receive enough volunteers to facilitate the move and pray that God will guide them as they begin this new chapter in the life of their school as Hope Academy.
- ◆ Pray for Swan Lake Christian Camp as they provide a Christ based camping experience for a broad range of campers, many of whom are not from a Mennonite background. May God guide them in this changing, challenging, yet exciting time.
- ◆ Pray for the upcoming Schmeckfest event and all the volunteers that work to make this happen.

Prayer list offered by Duane and Lois.