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March 5, 2024 – Lent 3 Christ among Us, Showing Us Justice

I. GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

- 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 "O Lamb of God All Holy" — arr. Bach, Hillert, Pachelbel

Call to Worship (Psalm 69:30-34)

Leader: I will praise the name of God with a song;

Congregation: I will magnify him with thanksgiving.

Leader: This will please the LORD more than an ox

or a bull with horns and hoofs.

Congregation: When the humble see it they will be glad; you who seek God, let your hearts revive.

Leader: For the LORD hears the needy

and does not despise his own people who are prisoners.

Congregation: Let heaven and earth praise God,

the seas and everything that moves in them.

Opening Prayer

Opening Hymn

Welcome & Greeting One Another

"Unto Thy Temple, Lord"—HWB #4

Confession of Sin (from Psalm 69)

Leader: Save me, O God! For the waters have come up to my neck.

People: I sink in deep mire, where there is no foothold; I have come into deep waters, and the flood sweeps over me.

Leader: I am weary with my crying out; my throat is parched.

My eyes grow dim with waiting for my God.

People: O God, you know my folly; the wrongs I have done are not hidden from you.

Leader: Let not those who hope in you be discouraged through me, O Lord GOD of hosts; But as for me, my prayer is

to you, O LORD.

People: Deliver me from sinking in the mire; let me be delivered from my enemies and from the deep waters. Let not the flood sweep over me, or the deep swallow me up, or the pit close its mouth over me.

Leader: Answer me, O LORD, for your steadfast love is good; according

to your abundant mercy, turn to me.

People: Hide not your face from your servant, for I am in distress; make haste to answer me. Draw near to my soul, and redeem me.

Leader: At an acceptable time, O God, in the abundance of your steadfast love, answer me in your saving faithfulness.

II. HEARING GOD'S WORD

Worship Music "Like a River in My Soul" – arr. Osiek

Children's Time

Scripture 2 Samuel 7:1-17; Ephesians 2:11-22; John 2:13-22

Sermon "House of God's Name, House of Peace"

Hymn of Response "Built on the Rock" – HWB #309

III. RESPONDING TO JESUS CHRIST

Announcements & Offerings

- Today's Worship offering: General Fund
- Today's Sunday school offering: Salem Sunday School
- Children's Offering: Hope Harbor

Congregational Sharing & Prayer

IV. SENT WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

Closing Hymn "Christ is Our Cornerstone" – HWB #43

Benediction

Go in Christ who makes peace, who is our peace, who joins us together into a dwelling for God by the Spirit. Amen.

Postlude

Greeters: Brent & Angie Brockmueller; **Worship Leader:** Brent Mutchelknaus; **Musicians:** Debra Schmeichel (organist); **Special Music:** Ladies' Ensemble, Heather Haggerty (accompanist); **Speaker:** Pastor Spencer; **Children's Time:** Jeri

Butkus; Coffee: Class #10

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 during coffee time. Parents, please tell and/or help your child use these cups.

Remember to use name tags to help Pastor Spencer & Renée put names to faces. They are by the offering plates in the narthex.

THIS WEEK

Tues. (5th) - Monthly Day of Prayer & Fasting, 7:30 p.m. - Prayer Meeting

- https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85365395504
- Meeting ID: 853 6539 5504 Passcode: prayer2020
- One tap mobile +13462487799,,85365395504# US (Houston)
- Dial by your location +1 312 626 6799 Meeting ID: 853 6539 5504

Wed. (6th), 6:30 p.m. - Handbells; 7:30 p.m. - Men's Choir

Thurs. (7th), 7:30p.m. - Church Council Meeting

NEXT SUNDAY, March 10

Speaker: Pastor Spencer; **Worship Leader:** Cheryle Gering; **Musicians**: Barb Yoder (pianist); **Special Music:** Men's Choir; **Greeters:** Brent & Angie Brockmueller;

Coffee: Class #10

Worship Offering: AMBS/EMS

Sunday school Offering: Camper Scholarships

Children's Offering: Hope Harbor

COMING EVENTS

March 11 - Deacon Board Meeting

March 14 - Early Bulletin Deadline

March 15 & 16 – Schmeckfest

March 17 – Fellowship Hall Reserved

March 21 - Early Bulletin Deadline

March 24-27 – Holy Week Services at Hutterthal

SOUTH CHURCH NEWS & NOTES

Ruth Strasser's older brother Ken Friesen of Grand Island, Nebraska passed away on February 18. Funeral services will be March 16. Thank you for your prayers for the family.

We rejoice in the birth of August David on February 24 to Ashley (Graber) and Dillion Julius. David & Cindy Graber are his grandparents and Gertie Graber is Great Grandma.

Swiss-Volhynian 150th **Anniversary** - The anniversary committee is seeking contributions to cover expenses for this celebration. We are channeling our finances through the South Church General Fund. Checks should be made to Salem Mennonite Church earmarked for the 150th Anniversary. Gifts may be given to any committee member (Corey Miller, Gwen Ortman, Marnette Hofer, Polly Waltner, Everett Waltner or Rudy Brockmueller).

Pastor Spencer will be in the office Monday through Thursday and Friday a.m. (for now). If you want to stop for a visit, please call (919-808-2024) to make sure he is in.

If anyone from Salem Mennonite Church has a project that could benefit from the Endowment Fund, the Endowment Fund Team will be accepting Grant Applications during the month of March. Application forms may be obtained by asking any Endowment Fund Team member or the church office. Please consider this opportunity to further the outreach of our church. Total 2023 Endowment Fund earnings were approximately \$29,000. We would like to retain some of the 2023 earnings to help recover 2022 Endowment Fund losses. Therefore total funds available for distribution in 2024 are anticipated to be in the \$20,000 to \$25,000 range. Janver Stucky, Endowment Fund Team Chairman

COMMUNITY & BEYOND

An open house to honor Mary Anderson's years of service will be held at Swan Lake Christian Camp on Sunday, March 10 from 2-4pm. The annual meeting will follow at 4:00pm. No meal will be served because of the open house. Please RSVP by calling the camp office at 605-326-5690. We hope to see you there!

It is with sadness that I let you know that Martha Hernandez's cancer has spread. She is the wife of Ramiro Hernandez the Hispanic Ministries coordinator for Central Plains Mennonite Conference. She is currently at the University of Iowa Hospital but will soon be headed home on Hospice care. Please pray for Martha, that her platelets would come up so she and her family can experience some good time together. Please pray for Martha, Ramiro and their whole family as they enter this stage of their journey. Nathan Luitjens, Executive Conference Minister

MCC Material Resources Center in North Newton <u>critically low</u> on inventory: An MCC kit cannot be distributed until each item for the kit is assembled, but some supplies in the Material Resources Center are so low that kits cannot be processed for shipping. You can help by filling the following needs: <u>new infant sleepers</u> (6-12 month sizes); <u>bath towels</u> (dark colored, light to medium weight); <u>laundry soap</u> (such as Fels Naptha or Zote brands); <u>shampoo</u> (20 oz min) and <u>spiral notebooks</u> (70 sheets). Buy online and ship it to MCC or bring items to MCC in North Newton (121 E. 30th St, North Newton, KS 67117). Questions are always welcome, please contact <u>brociamueller@mcc.org</u> or 316.283.2720. A full list of MCC kit contents can be found at mcc.org/kits.

COMING! Commemorating 500 Years of Anabaptism in Zurich + Swiss Alps 9-Day Tour in May 2025. Tour sites: Lake Geneva, Murren — the Swiss mountain village accessed by cable car, and Mennonite heritage in Bern and the Emmental Valley. On May 29 we will join Anabaptists from around the world in Zurich in worship and celebration of the 500 Year beginning of Anabaptism. Details and registration coming soon. Preview the tour at www.tourwithweldon.com To join the "Interested List" contact Weldon Martens at weldon.martens@gmail.com / 402-202-9276.

SCHMECKFEST NOTES

Thank you to those who helped with setting up and making noodles and cheese pockets for this year's Schmeckfest. We packaged a total of 293 pounds of noodles to be served at the meal and sell in the Country Kitchen. We also made 406 dozen cheese pockets! The number of intergenerational volunteers who showed up was wonderful! Thanks again. Beth Bontrager

Donations sought for Schmeckfest Country Kitchen: The Schmeckfest Food Committee is asking for donations of food items for March 15 and 16. Poppyseed rolls, fruit pockets, kuchen, pumpkin rolls, caramel rolls, jams, horseradish and summer savory sell especially well. Donated food items for the Country Kitchen may be brought to Sterling Hall and should be labeled. Thank you!

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 Spencer Bradford, Pastor 919-808-2024/spencerbradford42@gmail.com Bob Engbrecht, Pastor 648-3017/659-4331

HOUSE OF PEACE

Jim Croegaert

You have brought us so very far, in so short a time, In spite of our weaknesses, in spite of all our crying.

You are worthy of everything, every word of praise, Every song we will ever sing, fountain of all grace:

Our High Priest,

Make us a house of peace.

Like the sun on a mountain top, a city on a hill, Like a river that never stops, let our love reveal,

That You are worthy of everything, every word of praise,
Every song we will ever sing, fountain of all grace:
Our High Priest,
Make us a house of peace.

In the cold of the winter's night, in the summer's day, In the changes we often fight, let us learn to say,

That You are worthy of everything, every word of praise, Every song we will ever sing, fountain of all grace: Our High Priest, Make us a house of peace.