



Salem Mennonite Church

A Congregation of
Mennonite Church USA

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May 17, 2026

I. GOD CALLS US INTO PRAISE

Prelude

Call to Worship

Let us pray with joy to Christ at the right hand of God, saying:

You are the king of glory!

Arise, O Lord, in your strength. We will praise you for your glory!

You have raised the weakness of our flesh.

Heal us from our sins, and restore to us the full dignity of life.

You are the king of glory!

May our faith lead us to the Father as we follow the road you trod.

You are the king of glory!

You have promised to draw all people to yourself;

let no one of us be separate from your body.

You are the king of glory!

Grant that by our longing we may join you in your kingdom

where we may be glorified along with you.

You are the king of glory!

You are true God, and you will be our judge, so keep us in your mercy.

You are the king of glory!

Invocation Prayer

Opening Hymn

Jesus Christ, God's Only Son – HWB # 40

Greeting and Welcoming Each Other

Hymn of Confession

God is Here Among Us – HWB #16

II. HEARING JESUS, THE LIVING WORD

Scripture Readings

Ecclesiastes 5:10-6:2(NIV); James 4:13-16(NIV)

Special Music

I'd Rather Have Jesus – arr. Martin

Scripture Reading

Matthew 6:19-34(ESV)

III. RECEIVING THE SPIRIT, JOINED IN CHRIST'S BODY

Offertory Doxology – HWB #119

Announcements and Offerings

- **Today's Worship offering:** Central Plains Mennonite Conference
- **Today's Sunday school offering:** Heritage Hall Museum and Archives
- **Children's Offering:** Weekend School Lunch Bag Program

Congregational Sharing & Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

IV. RETURNING TO GOD'S SERVICE AS NEW CREATURES

Closing Hymn

Blessed Savior, We Adore Thee – HWB #107

Benediction

Your heavenly Father knows all your needs. So strive first for the kingdom of God and God's righteousness, and all your other needs will be satisfied also. Go in peace.

Postlude

Speaker: Spencer Bradford; **Worship Leader:** Brent Mutchelknaus; **Musicians:** Barb Yoder (pianist); Ladies Ensemble (special music) Heather Haggerty (accompanist); **Greeters:** Carolyn Preheim and Brad Carlson; **Coffee:** Class #10

THE CHURCH AT WORK

NEXT SUNDAY, May 24, 2026

Speaker: Spencer Bradford; **Worship Leader:** Cal Graber; **Greeters:** Brad & Kris Carlson; **Musicians:** Heather Haggerty (organist); Freeman Academy Students (special music); **Coffee:** Class #10; **Scriptures:** Numbers 11:10-30; Zephaniah 3:1-13; James 1:19-27; Matthew 7:15-29

Congregation Conversation in the Fellowship Hall during Sunday School with Potluck Lunch following. See the announcement about food details.

Worship Offering: Mennonite Mission Network

Sunday School Offering: Salem Church Library

Children's Offering: Weekend School Lunch Bag Program

COMING EVENTS

Monday, May 25, 6:30 p.m. – SLCC Worship Center Dedication

Tuesday, May 26, 8:00 p.m. – Rural Revival at the Freeman Public Library

Monday-Friday, June 1-5, 9-1:15 – Daily Vacation Bible School

Wednesday, June 10, 9:00 a.m. – Church Work Day

Thursday-Sunday, June 25-28 – Central Plains Conference/Mt. Lake, MN

SOUTH CHURCH NOTES

For our Congregational Conversation potluck on May 24, we will be having an indoor picnic. Please bring either 2 dozen sandwiches or a salad. A special dessert is being provided, and you'll definitely want to save room! Paper products and lemonade will be provided as well. Please stay and be part of this time of fellowship!

On 5/31/26 there will be a short congregational meeting after the worship service to approve the slate of delegates to Central Plains Mennonite Conference. Delegates that are being presented by the council are as follows. Gregg Waltner, Brent Mutchelknaus and Pastor Bradford. Nominations from the floor will be allowed, but people nominating individuals should have their approval before doing so.

The Trustees are planning a Church Work Day, June 10 starting at 9:00 AM. We are asking for the congregations help. Tasks will be general spring cleanup around the church and parsonage. Further updates coming.

It is time to renew our group subscription to Anabaptist World. The publication will update the group recipient list on June 1st. If you would like to continue receiving Anabaptist World or would like to be added to the list please contact Lee Brockmueller in the next several weeks. Also, let him know of any address changes. The cost is \$54 per subscription. Our group subscription is \$10 cheaper than subscribing independently.

This year's VBS, #KidsConnect, will take place at North Church on **June 1-5 from 9-1:15 each day**. Snacks will be provided but children should bring their own sack lunch! Paper registration is available in the Narthex and online registration can be done here: <https://forms.gle/gfZ3o9SvaWH5LepSA>. VBS Superintendents are also hoping to collect items to decorate the church that fit the puzzle theme. These may include Legos, puzzles, building blocks, or other games/toys - especially if they are in used condition or may be missing a few pieces! Let Bailey Carlson, Sonja Waltner, Lacey Friesen, or Kelsey Pidde know if you have something to provide.

Take note of new books on the narthex display rack that will be helpful resources in preparation for our upcoming Congregation Conversations on May 24.

Worship music scheduling underway: With choir season coming to an end, the music team will now be scheduling special music for our Sunday worship services. This is the time to offer your musical talents and share your gifts with the congregation. If you are willing to provide a solo, duet or organize a small group, either vocal or instrumental, please contact Kathy Kleinsasser or any of the music team members. Any suggestions of musicians to contact would be appreciated. We will have occasional congregational singing to fill in on Sundays as needed.

COMMUNITY & BEYOND

SLCC Worship Center Dedication with Eli Gable will take place on Monday, May 25. The doors will open at 6:00 p.m. with the worship and dedication beginning at 6:30. At 7:30 p.m. Eli Gable will perform. Tickets are free! However, we are asking that you register for this event at the following link.

<https://ticketbud.com/events/0d445242-2c8c-11f1-a4c6-42010a71700b>

2026 Peace Mug Nominations – Please think about people in your congregations who have demonstrated Jesus’s way of love and peacemaking. The Peace and Justice Task Group is seeking nominations for the annual Peace Mug Award. This can be anyone you have seen doing small acts of kindness or someone who has spoken out in the face of injustice. Who do you see as a peacemaker in your congregation and your community? Send names and a brief description of why you are nominating them to Luke Hertzler (luke.hertzler43@gmail.com). We need them by Monday, May 11.

Sunday Morning Worship – 9:30am/Sunday School – Following Worship
Vernetta Waltner, Administrative Assistant (southchurch@goldenwest.net) 925-4553
Spencer Bradford, Pastor 919-808-2024/spencerbradford42@gmail.com

