



Salem Mennonite Church

A Congregation of
Mennonite Church USA

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September 21, 2025

I. GOD CALLS US INTO PRAISE

Prelude

"Abide with Me" – arr.Lorenz

Choral Call to Worship

"Come Unto Me" – Larry Nickel

Call to Worship (Isaiah 52:7-10)

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news,
who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness,
who publishes salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns."

The voice of your watchmen-they lift up their voice; together they sing for joy;
for eye to eye they see the return of the LORD to Zion.

Break forth together into singing, you waste places of Jerusalem,
for the LORD has comforted his people; he has redeemed Jerusalem.

The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations,
and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

Invocation

Opening Hymn

"I Owe the Lord a Morning Song" – HWB #651

Greeting and Welcoming Each Other

Hymn of Confession

"Come Down O Love Divine" – HWB #501

Anthem

II. HEARING JESUS, THE LIVING WORD

Scripture Reading

Deuteronomy 16:18-20 (ESV)

Anthem

"How Long?" – Pepper Choplin

Scripture Reading

Luke 6:37-42 (ESV)

Sermon

"Measure for Measure"

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

Announcements and Offerings

- **Today's Worship offering:** Mennonite Mission Network
- **Today's Sunday school offering:** Gideons
- **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

"Beloved, God's Children" – STJ #38

Benediction

STJ #157

Postlude

Speaker: Spencer Bradford; **Worship Leader:** Brian & Wendy Miller; **Greeters:** Brad and Kris Carlson; **Musicians:** Heather Haggerty (organist); Lacey Friesen, Judy Graber, Kerwin Graber, LeRoy Epp (special music), Sonja Waltner (flute); **Coffee:** Classroom #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.

THIS WEEK

Tuesday, September 23, 7:30 p.m. – Rural Revival at the Freeman Library

Saturday, September 27, 9:00 a.m. – Work Day at South Church

Please consider helping the trustees clean and improve our church grounds on Saturday. Some projects planned are scraping, priming, and painting the church garage, planting a tree by the bell tower, landscape maintenance, water spigot repair, and other facelifts around our church.

NEXT SUNDAY, September 28, 2025 - Worship at the Graber Barn

Speaker: Spencer Bradford; **Worship Leader:** Lee Brockmueller; **Greeters:** Brad and Kris Carlson

Worship Offering: Oyate Christian School

Sunday School Offering: MCC

Children's Offering: Weekend School Lunch Bag Program

COMING EVENTS

Sunday, November 2 – Mission Festival Sunday at Salem-Zion Mennonite Church

SOUTH CHURCH NEWS & NOTES

On behalf of Gertie Graber's family, we wish to thank everyone who offered prayers, kind words, texts, cards, and support for us, our mom, grandmother and great-grandmother. The music, food, ushering, sound, computer, video and Pastor Spencer's guidance, prayers and leading the service provided much needed peace for our family during this difficult time. God bless you all.

For our fellowship meal in David and Cindy's barn on the 28th, several members will be providing soup and baked goods - but everyone else is asked to bring one or more items for a charcuterie sharing table. **Charcuterie** refers to cold finger foods such as cold sliced meats, cheese slices, fresh cold veggies, cut fresh fruit, sliced breads with toppings, crackers, pretzels, dried fruits or nuts, and candies. Ice water will be provided, but if you wish to bring your own pop or juice, you are welcome to do so. You do not need to bring any tableware.

In celebration of Derrold's 70th birthday and Peggy's retirement from teaching after 42.5 years, we would like to invite you to stop by the Freeman Prairie Arboretum Visitor Center on Sunday, September 28 from 3:00-5:00 p.m. and celebrate with us. Your presence is a gift to us. Derrold & Peggy Waltner

Lost & Found items are on a table in the Fellowship Hall. Please check to see if anything belongs to you. Unclaimed items will be taken to the Etc. Shoppe after **TODAY, September 21.**

The Endowment Fund Team will accept grant applications until September 28 for projects that could benefit Salem Mennonite Church and/or a mission and outreach aspect of Salem Mennonite Church.

Distributions will be made in December 2025.

Based on Endowment Fund policy, account balances, and earlier 2025 distributions, approximately \$7,300 is available for distribution yet in 2025.

Application forms may be picked up on the table in the narthex and submitted to any Endowment Fund Team member or the church office by **September 28.**

Duane Ries, Endowment Fund Team Chairman

Fall Bible Study will be a book study on "Reclaiming Rural" by Allen T. Stanton. It focuses on the unique challenges and opportunities for rural churches. Books will be available for participants. Sessions will occur on Sundays, November 2, 9, 16, and 23 at 1:00 p.m.

COMMUNITY & BEYOND

Tuesday, September 23 starting at 7:30 p.m., there will be a presentation by Craig Wollmann on raising specialty crops at the Freeman Library. The Rural Revival monthly meeting will follow at 8:00 p.m. All are welcome to attend.

Central Plains Outreach, Service, and Formation Committee is working with Mennonite Mission Network to offer another Just Peace Pilgrimage. Thanks to a CPMC grant, the costs is reduced to \$650 plus airfare to Tucson, AZ. The trip is scheduled for November 9-16, 2025. **Registration deadline is October 1, 2025.** See bulletin board flier for more details.

The Swiss Mennonite Cultural and Historical Association annual banquet will be held on October 18 at 5:00 p.m. at the Burrton City Auditorium (203 N. Burrton Ave., Burrton, KS). Peter Buller, recent Bethel College graduate, will speak about his experience this summer at Reba Place in Chicago, connecting with bigger themes about our role as Mennonites in the world. Musical entertainment will be provided by the Schwisters. RSVP by October 11 to Dave Stucky at bigdstucky@gmail.com or text or call 620-532-4408. The cost of the banquet is \$25 and can be paid at the door or online at www.swissmennonite.org.

Sunday Morning Worship – 9:30am/Sunday School – Following Worship
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Spencer Bradford, Pastor 919-808-2024/spencerbradford42@gmail.com