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#### March 2, 2025

#### I. GOD CALLS US INTO PRAISE

**Prelude** "How Firm a Foundation" – Ijames

**Choral Call to Worship** "Holy Manna" – arr. Burroughs

Invocation

**Opening Hymn** "This Is the Day the Lord Has Made" – HWB #642

**Greeting and Welcoming Each Other** 

**Confession of Sin** Sing The Story #172 (in unison)

## II. HEARING JESUS, THE LIVING WORD

Scripture Readings Nehemiah 9:9-21; 2 Corinthians 8:1-15; Luke 9:10-17

Sermon "No Lack for Manna"

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

**Announcements and Offerings** 

Today's Worship offering: AMBS/EMS

• Today's Sunday school offering: Salem Sunday School

Children's Offering: Oyate Hope Academy

**Congregational Sharing & Prayer** 

**Anthem** "Lord, From Your Hand" – arr. Fettke

Communion Prayer of Thanksgiving

Sharing Bread and Cup from the Lord's Table

# IV. RETURNING TO GOD'S SERVICE AS NEW CREATURES

**Closing Hymn** 

"For the Bread" – HWB #477

Benediction

HWB #784

**Postlude** 

**Greeters:** Angie Brockmueller & Cindee Mutchelknaus; **Worship Leader:** Brent Mutchelknaus; **Musicians:** Janet Balzer & Barb Yoder (pianists), Ladies' Ensemble (special music), Heather Haggerty (accompanist); **Speaker:** Pastor Spencer;

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.

**The Pastor's class** will meet in the Pastor's Study during the Sunday school hour. The discussion will be on the Sabbath & Jubilee texts from the past month.

**4:30 p.m.** – The first study in the Lenten Series. Norman Hofer will be speaking on Hutterite Beginnings.

#### **THIS WEEK**

Tues. (4th) 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. (5th), 7:00 p.m. - Ash Wednesday Service; 7:30 p.m. - Handbells

# **NEXT SUNDAY, March 9**

**Speaker:** Pastor Spencer; **Worship Leader:** Paul Balzer; **Musicians:** Debra Schmeichel (organist), Handbells (special music); **Greeters:** Angie Brockmueller &

Cindee Mutchelknaus; Coffee: Class #10; Scripture: Zechariah 7:1-14;

2 Corinthians 12:1-10; Luke 4:1-13

Worship Offering: General Fund Sunday School Offering: Gideons

Children's Offering: Oyate Hope Academy

4:30 p.m. – Lenten Study Series: Nathan Epp – Pilgram Marpeck

#### **COMING EVENTS**

March 10 - Deacon Board Meeting

March 18 - Bethel College Choir Concert

March 23 - Pastor Bob Preaching

#### **SOUTH CHURCH NEWS & NOTES**

**Please remember to return** your Pastor Review Forms to the box in the narthex **today**. Additional forms are available by the return box.

**North Church will be hosting** Holy Week services April 13 – 16 at 7:00 p.m. More details will be shared in future bulletins.

**Planning for VBS 2025 has begun!** The theme is Egypt: Joseph's Journey from Prison to Palace and will be held June 2 - 6 from 9 AM to 1:15 PM. If you'd be willing to help out in anyway or have questions, please reach out to Libby Miller, Bailey Carlson, Lacey Friesen or Kelsey Pidde.

#### **COMMUNITY & BEYOND**

**Swan Lake Christian Camp will be holding** their annual meeting on March 9 at 4:00 pm. All are invited to attend. The board of directors at Swan Lake Christian Camp propose to change the current by-laws of the camp. This proposal will be brought for a vote at the meeting. Article IV.2.a states that the board of directors shall be made up of not less than 75% of its membership having an affiliation with a Mennonite Church. *The proposal would be to reduce this requirement to a simple majority.* The board of directors is a nine-member board.

Freeman Academy is seeking an interim Head of School to begin in summer of 2025. This individual will provide educational and spiritual leadership for a K-12 Mennonite school, which has a strong fine arts tradition and rich history of serving the church and community. To learn more about Freeman Academy, please visit <a href="mailto:freemanacademy.org">freemanacademy.org</a>. To apply or for more information, email <a href="mailto:SearchCommittee@freemanacademy.org">SearchCommittee@freemanacademy.org</a>.

**Commemorating 500 Years of Anabaptism** & Swiss Alps Tour. May 21-31, 2025. Space remains! Preview tour at <a href="www.tourwithweldon.com">www.tourwithweldon.com</a> Contact Weldon Martens at <a href="weldon.martens@gmail.com">weldon.martens@gmail.com</a> / 402-202-9276 for itinerary, registration and full details.

#### **SCHMECKFEST NOTES**

To sign up for serving or table clearing/resetting jobs, please click on the volunteer link at Schmeckfest.com or call Janet Balzer 605-310-1644.

**Schmeckfest kuchen will be made** on Friday, March 14, starting at 12:30 p.m. and Saturday, March 15, at 9:00 a.m. If you are willing to help one or both of those days, please contact Debra Schmeichel, 648-3430. Donations of rhubarb or cherries would also be appreciated. Thank you!

Cheese pockets for the 2025 Schmeckfest Country Kitchen will be made on Friday and Saturday, March 7 and 8 in the Pioneer Hall Dining Room. Plans are to begin at 3:30pm on Fridays and 9:00am on Saturdays. Please bring a sack lunch on Saturdays. You are invited to join the volunteer crew for a great time of work and fellowship and learn how this ethnic favorite is made! Watch the *Courier* or Freeman Academy websites for weather make up days, if necessary.

Sign-up sheets for Schmeckfest food and workers are in the fellowship hall.

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

#### THE COMMUNION OF THANKSGIVING

These are the gifts of God for the people of God. We come in grateful celebration of Jesus' cross and resurrection, giving from our receiving, inviting as we have been invited, serving as we are served, renewing our bond to the narrow way of Jesus. There is room at his table for all who follow Jesus in God's covenant of grace and obedience.

# The Lord is God, compassionate and gracious, overflowing in loving mercy and steadfast kindness. Blessed be God, now and forever!

As the grain once scattered in the fields and the grapes once dispersed on the hills are now united on this table in bread and drink, so Lord, may we be made a true community of your Spirit as your Body on earth, and may your whole people soon be gathered together from across the earth in your Kingdom of holy peace.

### Come, Lord Jesus! To you be glory forever!

Let us raise our hearts, and give thanks to the Lord our God.

# We raise up our thanks and praise to the Lord, because he is good; his love is eternal.

Truly, it is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to offer our praise, worship, and thanksgiving to you, Almighty and Ever-living God. You created all things out of loving grace to reflect your glory, you sent redemption from slavery and sin when we rejected your grace, you sustained us with heavenly manna in the wilderness, and you call us into obedient love through your law, prophets, and apostles. So we sing with saints and angels,

# Blessed be the Lord God, holy and mighty!

For your Son Jesus Christ, our healer and redeemer; for his call to faith and peace; for his nourishing us with living bread; for his death and resurrection to bring forgiveness while we were your enemies killing him; for life in his Spirit, free from sin and death; for our communion with him in his Body, and the promise of his return in your full kingdom.

Blessed are you, Creator Spirit, who makes all things new!

Come, Spirit of Christ, and fulfill the promise of your kingdom among us. For on the night that he was betrayed, during supper, Jesus took bread, and after blessing it, he broke the bread and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take and eat. This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks, he gave it to them, saying: "Drink from this, all of you, for this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." So in praise and thanksgiving, we offer to you ourselves and all these gifts, that we may be a holy and living sacrifice, dedicated to your service, in union with Christ's saving self-offering for us and the whole world.

### We praise you, we bless you, we worship and thank you, O Lord our God.

Pour out your Holy Spirit upon this communion, on us gathered here and on these gifts, that the sharing of this bread and cup may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ. Sanctify and fill us with your true presence, that in all our lives we may be for the world the Body of Christ, redeemed by his blood. As we share your presence anew at this table of your giving, let us share your presence with the world in the giving of our lives and selves, in your service for all people. By your Spirit, make us one with Christ, one in fellowship with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until we feast together at your heavenly banquet with all your saints, when all will be filled and satisfied. Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

AMEN.