

Salina Mennonite Church

Salina Mennonite Church is a Christian community seeking to share God's love through celebration, nurture, service, and peacemaking.

Greeter: Luke Van Tassel

Worship Leader: Ted Zenger

Speaker: Christina Litwiller

Storyteller: Butch Stucky

Music: Lori Schmidt

March 11, 2018

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Me & You & Darkness in View

*Between Me & You, even in darkness,
God's promise and God's love grow all around us.*

Gathering

Gathering Song *I Will Bless You*

Words of Welcome and Announcements

Lighting the Candle

We light this candle to remind us of God's presence with us.

Prelude *O Sacred Head, Now Wounded* arr. Cindy Berry

Call to worship

Leader: Who comes in the name of God?
Step into the light and be known.

**People: We are coming, through darkness and fear.
We come into the light by the power of God.**

Leader: People of God, God has heard your cries
and is opening a way for you.

**People: We are here, through darkness and fear.
We come into the light of this day by the power of God.**

Leader: You are here, and God is here. What will you do?

People: Together we will worship our God.

Hymn *Blessed Jesus, at your word* Hymnal 13

Passing the Peace/Greeting Each Other

Hearing God's Word

Storytelling

Song *For Me, For You, Week 4*

Scripture *Numbers 21:4-9* Pew Bible 120

Sermon *Facing the Darkness*

Song *Between Me and You, Week 4*

Confessing/Reconciling

Prayer of confession

L: God of compassion and consequence,
some days it's hard to face who we are.
We like to be in control, to know where we are going.
Relying on someone else, even you, is hard.
We get impatient and find things to criticize.
Some of us even like to complain.
Glossing over past hardships is easier than admitting
that we needed your help, and still do.
We don't want to see how our attitudes and actions make things worse.

**P: We are sorry. Forgive our ingratitude.
Grant us the courage to face the truth.**
(Silence)

Words of assurance

L: Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble,
and he saved them from their distress.

Responding

Hymn *We walk by faith* Hymnal 570

Sharing Our Lives/Congregational Prayer

*You are invited to share joys and concerns, reflections on today's
service, as well as stories of your faith journey.*

My Coins Count Collection

This money is given to MCC for service projects around the world.

Offering *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross* arr. Cindy Berry

Offering Response *Praise God from whom* Hymnal 119A

Sending

Hymn *I want to walk as a child of the light* Sing the Journey 95

The Lord's Prayer

Pray using the words "sins" and "those who sin against us."

Benediction

We are people of God.
We go in God's love
to extend God's love
and live God's promise.

A congregational meeting follows worship in the sanctuary.

Churchwide Prayer Requests

Pray for WDC congregations Beatrice Mennonite Church and First Mennonite Church of Beatrice, NE, as they host Faith, Hope, and the Mission of Rural and Small Town Churches, a study series with Brad Roth, Mar 18-19.

Last month, Taiwan experienced a powerful earthquake that killed at least nine people. Mennonite Mission Network requests prayer for the people of Taiwan as they grieve the loss of loved ones and rebuild their lives.

Lancaster (Pennsylvania) Mennonite School: The Lancaster Mennonite High Campus Chorale spring concert season begins today. Pray that God may be glorified and that students and listeners are blessed through each concert. Pray also for safety as students travel to different locations to perform.

Mennonite Church USA is seeking to fill three positions on the Executive Board staff: denominational minister for leadership development, associate executive director for church vitality and engagement, and denominational minister for faith formation. Pray for everyone involved in this process.

Journey International: Pray for Quinn Kathrineberg, Karina Brandt, and Shannon Schrock as they live and work in Ecuador. Read Quinn's blog at <https://quinnkberg.wixsite.com/quinninquito>.

NEXT SUNDAY, March 18, 2018

9:00 a.m. CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Basement – Study the Bible together – everyone welcome

- Follow in My Ways
- *The People Give Thanks to God* – 2 Chronicles 7:1-10

10:00 a.m. WORSHIP

Greeter: Ted Hale

Worship Leader: Lori Schmidt **Storyteller:** Christina Litwiller

Speaker: Christina Litwiller **Piano:** David Van Tassel

Third Sunday Potluck follows worship March 18.

Upcoming Events

March 14	Lenten Scriptures & Prayer @ Christina's	7:15 p.m.
March 18	Third Sunday Potluck	11:30 a.m.
March 22	Church Board	5:45 p.m.

Holy Week Events

7:15 p.m. Wednesday, March 28: Lenten Scripture & Prayer at Christina Litwiller's home.

6:30 p.m. Thursday, March 29: Our Maundy Thursday service will be at the church in the upstairs fellowship area. We will eat a simple meal, share communion, sing together, and remember the events leading up to the death of Jesus

7:00 a.m. Sunday, April 1: Come for Easter Sunrise worship and breakfast at Butch & Marla Stucky's home. Bring your own lawn chair and/or blanket. Sign up to contribute a breakfast casserole, muffins, bread, or juice for breakfast after the service.

10:00 a.m. Sunday, April 1: Come for Easter worship including communion at the church. As part of communion, we will have the opportunity to contribute to the Special Needs Fund. This money is used to financially assist members and friends of the congregation.

Announcements

Lenten Scriptures & Prayers: A weekly Wednesday evening service including singing, Bible reading, and prayer is at 7:15 at Pastor Christina's home. This will continue through March 28.

April 8 Worship: Everyone is invited to contribute to a somewhat impromptu worship service April 8. Suggest a song to sing, share your favorite scripture, or tell a story. Watch and listen for details in the next few weeks.

The 2018 WDC Annual Assembly, scheduled for July 27-28, will be an opportunity to meet together and see the worship and fellowship spaces in several central Kansas locations! On Friday, July 27, the Annual Assembly will be at Tabor Mennonite Church, rural Newton, KS; and on Saturday, July 28, it will be at Eden Mennonite Church, Moundridge, KS. Then on Sunday, July 29, all are invited to worship at the Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church, Goessel, KS. Save these dates for the next WDC Annual Assembly!

Salina Mennonite Church

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