

Salina Mennonite Church

Greeter: Tracie Smucker

Worship Leader: Ted Zerger

Speaker: Christina Litwiller

Story: Leadell Ediger

Piano: Lori Schmidt

April 14, 2019

Sixth Sunday of Lent / Palm Sunday

God's Steadfast Love Endures Forever

When our shouts of joy turn to derision and rejection, even in our anguish God's steadfast love endures forever. We are called to follow Jesus.

Gathering

Gathering Song *Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty* Hymnal 19

Words of Welcome and Announcements

Lighting the Candle

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

Prelude *All Glory, Laud and Honor* arr. Jim Lucas

Call to worship (based on Psalms 63 & 118)

Leader: O God, you are our God. We seek you.

People: **Our souls thirst for you
as in a dry and weary land
where there is no water.**

Leader: We thank you for being our salvation,
for being our chief cornerstone.

People: **We bless you as we bind the festal procession
with branches, up to the horns of the altar!**

All: *O God, you satisfy our souls as with a rich feast.
In the shadow of your wings, we sing for joy,
and you uphold us.*

Setting the Table

Hymn *All Glory, Laud, and Honor, vv. 1, 3, 4, 5* Hymnal 237

Passing the Peace/Greeting Each Other

Hearing God's Word

Storytelling

Hymn *Hosanna! Hosanna!* Sing the Story 74

Scripture *Psalms 118:1-9, 19-29* Pew Bible 492

Sermon *Steadfast Love*

Confessing/Reconciling

Hymn *Lord, I Want to Be a Christian* Hymnal 444

Preparation (Philippians 2:5-11)

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross.

Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."

Who will confess Jesus as Lord today?

(Response and Reflection)

Prayer of Confession

Leader: We are all invited to confess Jesus as Lord.

Let us bring ourselves to God in prayer.

All: *Living God, give us the courage to confess your Son,
Jesus, as our Lord.*

*When others vie for our loyalty,
we will confess Jesus as Lord.*

Leader: When earthly powers claim supremacy,
we will confess Jesus as Lord.

When our souls hunger for reality and truth,
we will confess Jesus as Lord.

All: *In the morning and in the evening,
we will confess Jesus as Lord.*

Words of Assurance

Leader: Our generous God provides for us.

Responding

Sharing Our Lives/Congregational Prayer

Offering *Hosanna, Loud Hosanna* arr. Jim Lucas

Offering Prayer

Sending

Hymn *O Love of God* Hymnal 326

The Lord's Prayer

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

Benediction

Churchwide Prayer Requests

From WDC: Pray for the WDC Annual Assembly planning team as they envision and prepare for this gathering scheduled for July 26-27, 2019 at Bethel College. Kathy Neufeld Dunn leads this team.

From MMN: Mary Beyler has spent most of her adult life serving in Japan with Mennonite Mission Network. Though she is bringing closure to her ministry there, new doors are still opening for her to point people toward Jesus. Pray God's blessing on Mary as she says her good-byes in the six months that remain before her retirement.

Bethel College, North Newton, Kansas: Give thanks for the generous gifts over the years to establish the Peace Lecture fund at Bethel College's peacebuilding institute, KIPCOR, making possible this afternoon's screening of the film This Little Light on the Bethel campus.

From MCUSA: Pray for members of the MennoCon19 worship band. Meet them and hear music they are preparing for worship at mennoniteusa.org/worshipteam. And follow MC USA Convention on Facebook: www.facebook.com/MCUSA.Convention

Holy Week Events

Thursday, April 18, 6:30 p.m.

Maundy Thursday service is 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

Sunday, April 21, 7:00 a.m.

Easter Sunrise worship and breakfast is at Butch & Marla Stucky's home, 1817 E. Schippel Rd. Bring a lawn chair and/or blanket. Sign up to contribute food to the breakfast after the service.

Sunday, April 21, 10:00 a.m.

Easter worship including communion is 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.

Worship Leader: Kathy Neufeld Dunn **Greeter:** Tom Claassen
Speaker: Christina Litwiller **Music:** Lori Schmidt

Upcoming Events

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| May 1 | Church Board @ Christina's | 4:00 p.m. |
| May 7 | Worship Committee @ Zergers | 7:15 p.m. |
| May 9 | Circles of the Heartland Meal | 5:30 p.m. |
| May 19 | MCC Ride for Relief Breakfast | 7:30 a.m. |
| May 19 | Third Sunday Potluck | 11:30 a.m. |
| June 1 | Backyard Festival | 2:00 p.m. |

Announcements

Work and Play Day at Camp Mennoscah: The first Work & Play Day of the year is April 27. Work begins at 8:30 am and ends at 2:30 pm, just in time to spend the rest of the afternoon playing. A simple lunch will be served. Register online campmennoscah.org or call 620-297-3290.

The first issue of the WDC Israel-Palestine Task Force newsletter was recently sent to our church to be distributed to all members. If you'd like to get alerts when future issues are posted online, send your name & email address to wdc@mennowdc.org, indicating it is for Israel-Palestine Task Force newsletter.

Is there such a thing as a Mennonite song? Read a series of reflections from committee members of the **Voices Together new hymnal project** on the Menno Snapshots blog: mennoniteusa.org/tag/voices-together.

Save the date! The WDC Annual Assembly will be held July 26-27 at Bethel College in North Newton, KS. Mennonite Church USA Executive Director, Glen Guyton, will be our keynote speaker! More information will be available in May. Everyone's invited!

Read Menno Snapshots stories this month from church planters throughout MC USA, including a story highlighting urban church planting in the 1980s: mennoniteusa.org/tag/churchplanting.

Salina Mennonite Church
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