

Salina Mennonite Church

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

March 1, 2020
First Sunday of Lent



Greeter: Gary Weathers

Worship Leader: Richard Burnett

Storyteller: Lois Newcomer

Speaker: Christina Litwiller

Piano: Donna Burnett

Show Us Your Hiding Place in the Thick of Temptation

Gathering

Gathering Song *I Will Come to You in the Silence* Sing the Story 49

Words of Welcome and Announcements

Prelude/Lighting Six Lenten Candles

Call to Worship

Leader: Eternal God, you call beloved daughters and sons.

People: We praise you for creating us
and calling us to cultivate your life in the world.

Leader: Eternal God, you call our name in the garden

People: We come to worship,
acknowledging our vulnerabilities and temptations.

Leader: Eternal God, you are our hiding place,
where forgiveness and mercy encircle us.

All: Thanks be to God for the radical grace
offered to us through Jesus Christ.

Hymn *Come, Thou Fount*

Hymnal 521

Passing the Peace/Greeting Each Other

Hearing God's Word

Storytelling

Scripture

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

Pew Bible 2

Hymn

Jesus, Tempted in the Desert

Sing the Story 36

Sermon

Shaped by Testing

Confessing/Reconciling

Confession

Leader: God calls to us, "Where are you?"

People: We, like Adam, hide in the garden,
hoping God does not come looking for us.

Leader: God asks, "What have you done?"

People: We, like Eve, say, "the devil made me do it,"
masking our shame.

Leader: Our choices have consequences
and yet God's grace abounds.

People: I confess I have hidden and denied my sin.

When I refused to admit my wrongs, I was miserable;
even my bones felt brittle.

Lord have mercy. Christ have mercy.

(Silence)

Assurance of pardon (from Psalm 32)

How happy are the ones whose wrongs are forgiven.

How happy are the ones whose sin the Eternal God
will not take into account.

God has become our hiding place, our refuge from trouble.

God hears our prayers extending the arms of salvation
and songs of deliverance.

Responding

Ritual of Response/Extinguishing One Candle

Hymn

I Am Weak and I Need Thy Strength Hymnal 553

Sharing Our Lives/Congregational Prayer

Offering/My Coins Count Collection

Offering Prayer

Hymn

Just a Closer Walk with Thee Sing the Journey 106

The Lord's Prayer

Benediction

A congregational meeting follows worship in the sanctuary.

Salina Mennonite Church

Christina Litwiller, Pastor

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Churchwide Prayer Requests

Western District Conference: Pray for WDC commissions as they meet in the coming month to nurture ministries of leadership, church planting, congregational resourcing and stewardship in WDC.

Mennonite Mission Network: Africa Inter-Mennonite Mission and MMN, partner agencies, praise God for the success of the Congo Mennonite Literacy Project and the hope it gives to the 3,000 people (mostly women) who have learned to read. Pray that leaders will be given the resources they need to continue this work.

Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Elkhart, Indiana: Pray for participants in and leaders of “Shaping Faith in a Digital Culture” – a joint conference of *Pastors and Leaders 2020* (AMBS) and *Deep Faith* (MCUSA) held this week – as they think together biblically and theologically about living, worshiping and playing in digital spaces. (Kathy Neufeld Dunn is attending this event.)

Mennonite Church USA: Pray for the Allegheny Mennonite Conference Spring Faith and Life Gathering and the Ohio Conference annual meeting taking place this Saturday, March 7.

NEXT SUNDAY, March 8, 2020

9:00 a.m. CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Upstairs – Adult Book Study

➤ *Faith Travels* by Marlene Kropf – A Long, Long Time

Downstairs – Adult Bible Study

➤ *God Requires Justice* – A Prayer for Justice

Downstairs – Children’s Sunday school

10:00 a.m. WORSHIP

Greeter: Barb Kathrineberg

Worship Leader: Vera Zerger

Storyteller: Lois Newcomer

Speaker: Christina Litwiller

Piano: Lori Schmidt

Upcoming Events

March 6	First Friday Game Night	7:00 pm
March 15	Third Sunday Potluck	11:30 am
March 24	Church Board	7:00 pm
April 1	Worship Committee @ Zergers’	6:00 pm
April 9	Maundy Thursday Service	6:30 pm
April 12	Easter Sunrise Service & Breakfast	7:00 am

Pastor Christina’s Schedule

Usual Office Hours: 9:00-12:00 Tuesday – Friday

This schedule may vary. Check first before stopping by. Available most of the time by text, phone, or email.

Announcements

Camp Mennoscah's Hymn Sing and Dessert Auction: Everyone is invited to come to Tabor Mennonite Church, Newton KS, *today*, March 1 from 4-6pm. Dessert auction will raise funds to renovate the amphitheater used for evening campfires.

You’re invited to join the fun at the 13th annual MCC Comforter Blitz on March 2, 3 and 4 at Journey Mennonite Church at the Yoder Campus, one mile north of Yoder, Kansas. Blitz times are Monday and Tuesday, 9:00am to 5:00pm, and Wednesday, 9:00am to 4:00pm. For more information check out mcc.org/comforter-blitz.

To All Women: Western District Women in Mission Spring Supper is Thursday, March 12 at Faith Mennonite Church, Newton. The meal starts at 6 pm. The Special Guest Speaker is Patty Shelly, Professor of Bible and Religion at Bethel College. Sign up on the sheet on the back table. Cost is \$10, payable at the door.

Mennonite Church USA is inviting everyone to focus on climate justice this month through its *"Learn, Pray, Join"* initiative. Discover how you can get involved at mennoniteusa.org/news/climate.

What’s your creation care story? This is the question Katie Isaac, a Climate Futures Fellow for the Center for Sustainable Climate Solutions in Harrisonburg, Virginia, asks in her blog, as she challenges us to reframe our conversations about climate justice from politically polarizing discussions to biblically based stewardship language. Read more: <http://mennoniteusa.org/carestory>.

Lent is a time of purposeful turning toward God. Remember God’s faithful, loving presence and connect with the Rock of our salvation using resources from MCUSA, downloadable at: <http://mennoniteusa.org/resource/lent-at-home-2020/>.

2020	Attendance		Unified Budget	Other	Total
2/23	21		Rent \$600.00 \$100.00		\$700.00