

## Salina Mennonite Church

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

March 15, 2020  
Third Sunday of Lent



**Greeter:** Tracie Smucker

**Worship Leader:** Vera Zenger

**Speaker:** Christina Litwiller

**Storyteller:** Butch Stucky

**Piano:** Lori Schmidt

### Show Us the Rock of Our Salvation from Which Comes Living Water

#### Gathering

**Gathering Song** *Come, Now Is the Time to Worship* Sing the Journey 9

**Words of Welcome and Announcements**

**Lighting Four Lenten Candles**

**Prelude** *Were You There* arr. Calvin Taylor

**Call to Worship**

Leader: Come, let's sing out loud to the Lord!

**People:** Let's raise a joyful shout to the Rock of our Salvation!

Leader: Come, you who are thirsty and can find no water  
in the desert.

**People:** We bring our questions, our complaints,  
to the Rock of our Salvation.

Leader: Come and see the One who speaks to us of living water.

**People:** Show us who you are and who we are, O Jesus.

**All:** Let's raise a joyful shout to the Rock of our Salvation!

**Hymn** *We Worship God the Rock* Sing the Journey 28

**Greeting Each Other**

#### Hearing God's Word

**Storytelling**

**Hymn** *Lord, I Am Fondly, Earnestly* Hymnal 514

**Scripture** *The Samaritan Woman* John 4:1-42

**Sermon** *The Dignity of Bodies*

## Confessing/Reconciling

### Confession

*God of living waters,  
we confess that we have often turned from you  
and wandered in our own wildernesses of fear and doubt.*

*Our thirst mounts daily,  
and we turn to many things we believe will satisfy us.*

*In the silence of this moment we name those things.*

(Silence)

### Assurance of pardon

The wells of salvation are offered to you.  
Drink deeply and find healing, hope, and joy,  
for God's love has been poured into our hearts  
through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us! Amen.

## Responding

### Ritual of Response/Extinguishing One Candle

**Hymn** *I Hunger and I Thirst* Hymnal 474

### Sharing Our Lives/Congregational Prayer

**Offering** *Wade in the Water* arr. Calvin Taylor

### Offering Prayer

**Hymn** *The Peace of the Earth Be with You* Sing the Journey 77

### The Lord's Prayer

### Benediction

Leader: We have seen the Rock of our Salvation,  
and we have quenched our thirst for the living water  
that gives our lives purpose and meaning.  
Let us go now to meet all thirsting for God.

**People:** We will share the living water with everyone we meet.

Leader: Let us go now to listen as Jesus does with us.

**People:** We will hear the stories and hearts of all who are  
considered voiceless by our world.

Leader: Let us go now to bring the Spirit's wholeness to others.

**All:** We will bring peace and healing to the broken and lonely,  
even as they offer us hope and grace by their lives.

### Third Sunday Potluck follows worship in the fellowship room.

Salina Mennonite Church, Christina Litwiller, Pastor

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## Churchwide Prayer Requests

**Western District Conference:** Pray for WDC congregations in Dallas, TX, as they gather this coming Saturday for a joint worship service and fellowship.

**Mennonite Mission Network:** The first professors and administrative personnel to serve Benin Bible Institute when it opened its doors in 1994 are nearing retirement age. MMN requests prayer for the next generation of teachers and administrators to respond to God's call, and the resources to train them.

**Lezha (Albania) Academic Center:** Our school has been helping the Roma people who are living in shelters after the November 26 earthquake. Recently, we heard that 29 people from this community, including children and the elderly, are living on the streets. Please pray for our school and community.

**Mennonite Church USA:** Pray for leaders and congregations in MCUSA as all of us we discern how to be the church during the corona virus outbreak.

## NEXT SUNDAY, March 22, 2020

### 9:00 a.m. CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Upstairs – Adult Book Study

- *New Beginning* by Marlene Kropf – Mentoring Others

Downstairs – Adult Bible Study

- *God Requires Justice* – Corrupt Leaders

Downstairs – Children's Sunday school

### 10:00 a.m. WORSHIP

**Greeter:** Amanda Ediger

**Worship Leader:** Vera Zerger

**Speaker:** Peter Goerzen

**Storyteller:** Butch Stucky

**Piano:** Lori Schmidt

## Upcoming Events

March 24	Church Board	7:00 pm
April 1	Worship Committee @ Zergers'	6:00 pm
April 3	First Friday Game Night	7:00 pm
April 9	Maundy Thursday Service	6:30 pm
April 12	Easter Sunrise Service & Breakfast	7:00 am
Apr. 16	Thrive of the Heartland Meal	5:30 pm
Apr. 17-18	Kansas Relief Sale	

## 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

**From Pastor Christina & the Church Board:** With the ever changing status of the corona virus outbreak, it is difficult to know how to best be a congregation at this time. We want to be reasonable and responsible. We are a small congregation with a fairly high percentage of people in the most vulnerable categories. For now, we will continue to worship together on Sunday morning with a few adjustments to our normal practices, seeking to limit physical contact and keep surfaces clean. First and foremost, stay home if you feel vulnerable to infection or if you or someone in your household is sick. Attendance at worship is completely voluntary, even if you are scheduled to have a part in the service. We will make adjustments to the service as needed, even with very short notice.

**From Tom Claassen, Trustee chair:** I was asked at the March 1st congregational meeting to estimate how much our giving would have to increase to offset the loss of rent money from Living Hope Bible Methodist Church (roughly \$600/month). The answer is about 20%. This is a large increase, especially after we increased our giving 9% in 2019 compared to 2018. Let's be talking and praying about how we can approach this problem creatively and responsibly.

**Menno Snapshots:** Douglas Kaufman, a director of pastoral ecology at Goshen College's Center for Sustainable Climate Solutions, feels called to engage Mennonite churches on climate change. Read why he is so committed to this calling in his blog, "Climate change as a spiritual crisis." <http://mennoniteusa.org/spiritualclimate>

**Rainbow Mennonite Church's** Kansas City Mennonite Voluntary Unit closed as of December 2019. A celebration of its 40+ year history will be May 9-10. Contact the church at 913.236.8820 or [office@rainbowmennonite.org](mailto:office@rainbowmennonite.org) for more information.

2020	Attendance		Unified Budget	Other	Total
3/8	21		Rent \$200.00 \$701.00		\$901.00

### **Who Am I to God?**

I am God's beloved	I John 4:7-19
I am made in God's image.	Genesis 1:26-31
I am God's chosen one.	Ephesians 1:5-6
I am the apple of God's eye.	Psalms 17:6-9
I am God's child.	John 1:12-13
I am Jesus' friend.	John 19:19
I am God's workmanship.	Ephesians 2:10
I am a citizen of Heaven.	Philippians 3:20-21
I am God's new creation.	1 Corinthians 9:17
I am complete in Christ.	Colossians 2:9-10

### **Prayer to the Holy Spirit<sup>1</sup>**

Come, Holy Spirit

Replace the tension within us with a holy relaxation.

Replace the turbulence within us with a sacred calm.

Replace the anxiety within us with a quiet confidence.

Replace the fear within us with a strong faith.

Replace the bitterness within us with the sweetness of grace.

Replace the darkness within us with a gentle light.

Replace the coldness within us with a loving warmth.

Replace the night within us with your light.

Replace the winter within us with your spring.

Straighten our crookedness.

Fill our emptiness.

Dull the edge of our pride.

Sharpen the edge of our humility.

Light the fires of our love.

Quench the flames of our lust.

Let us see ourselves as you see us

That we may see You.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.catholic.org/prayers/prayer.php?p=3274>