

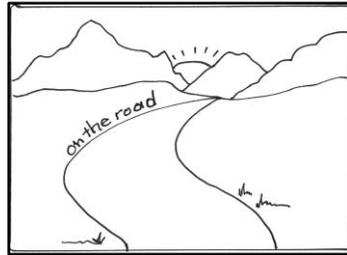
Salina Mennonite Church

A Congregation of Mennonite Church USA

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

November 29, 2020

First Sunday of Advent



...to readiness

At Home Worship

Prelude *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* Hymnal 172
Piano Guys <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iO7ySn-Swwc>
Hebrew/English <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yFoFOZmSIFy>

Call to Worship Adapted from Isaiah 64:1, 6, 9; Psalm 80:3

Leader: O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence.

All: *Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved.*

Leader: We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.

All: *Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved.*

Leader: Do not remember our iniquity forever.

All: *Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved.*

Lighting a Candle of Hope

Leader: We light a candle for hope: hope in our hearts, hope in our homes, hope in our world.

All: *May the light of hope shine through our lives.*

Hymn *To Us a Child of Hope Is Born* Hymnal 189
A Cappella <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B6qwP8ovWYs>
Trumpet <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BmjMWLM988k>

Storytelling *Making a List*

What kinds of lists do you make to get ready for Christmas?

What would be on God's list for us to be ready for Christmas?

Scripture 1 Corinthians 1:3-9
NKJV <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=99kmJsFWuOY>

Monologue *The Day and Hour Unknown* based on Mark 12:24-37

Response *What does readiness look like?*
Isaiah 64: Readiness requires a desire for God.
Psalms 80: Readiness requires making space for God.
1 Cor 1: God provides a community to help us be ready.
Mark 12: Readiness requires alertness to what God is doing.

Hymn *Save Us, O Lord* Sing the Story 6
Bob Dufford <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tph4WJ55qq4>
From Hong Kong <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8mDmSMu2yWw>

Name your Joys and Concerns

The Lord's Prayer

Offering *Support our budget by mailing contributions to the church.*

Hymn *He Came Down* Sing the Journey 31
With Lyrics <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZLLiMcxOmmE>
Choir <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VdYMrUZQJ8>

Benediction

*People of God, people on the road: keep alert;
keep awake—the Lord is coming! Get ready.*

Postlude *The Father's Rose* arr. Mark Hayes
Piano <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5gNmRcfP2M>

Salina Mennonite Church
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Pastor Christina's Schedule

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.

“Sunday School” Options

For Children – *Jesus Brings Good News*

- Advent stories during Sunday morning worship
- Story Bibles to read and activities to do at home

For Adults

- Fellowship – Third Sunday of the month at 4:00
 - Inside with masks; maintaining physical distance
- Bible Study – *In God's Image*
 - 7:00 pm Wednesdays at Zergers'
 - Contact Tom Claassen for information
- Book Study – On hiatus until January 2021

Upcoming Events

Dec 2	Worship Committee via Zoom	5:30 pm
Dec 6	Hybrid In-Person/Zoom Worship	10:00 am
Dec 6	Congregational Meeting	11:15 am
Dec 13	Voices Together Launch	4:00 pm
Dec 20	Third Sunday Fellowship	4:00 pm
Dec 22	Church Board	6:00 pm
Dec 24	Christmas Eve in the Backyard	7:00 pm

Worship Totals

2020	Attendance	Unified Budget	Other	Total
11/22	Zoom 25 Church 11 Total 36	\$1075.00	Special Needs Fund \$1182.91	\$2257.91

Local Announcements

Congregational Meeting: Our next quarterly meeting is Sunday, December 6, immediately after worship. Agenda includes:

- Activity & Financial Reports
- Budget & Committee/Coordinator Assignments for 2021
- Information about Love Salina
- Being church during a pandemic – How are we doing?

New COVID Restrictions: Saline County is limiting indoor gatherings to 15 people. We will honor this restriction even though religious groups are exempted. If it works for you to worship from home, the church board encourages you to do so. Masks are required unless you are in the building by yourself.

Christmas Eve: Mark your calendars for an outdoor service on December 24 at 7:00 pm. We will sing carols & share readings while maintaining distance around portable firepits.

Conferencewide Announcements

Western District Conference: Pray for God's hope and encouragement for WDC congregations that have suffered significant loss and stress during the pandemic.

WDC Offices and Resource Library are closed to the public until further notice due to the increase in COVID-19 cases. All staff members are working from their homes. The best way to contact a staff member is by email.

Giving Tuesday is December 1 – Western District Conference invites you to join this global giving initiative! Share a gift with WDC during this season, to help our congregations Witness & invite others to faith in Jesus Christ, Dwell in just & loving relationships, and Connect to God's mission in the world. You may make an online contribution [HERE](#) or send a check to Western District Conference, PO Box 306, North Newton KS 67117.

Cookies in a Box! Camp Mennoscah is expanding on the theme of a Camp in a Box for Giving Tuesday with Cookies in a Box for anyone who gives \$25 more than their total giving in 2019 on Tuesday, December 1. We'll pack up the dry ingredients for 20 of camp cook Leslie Schrag's famous Chocolate Crinkle cookies. Add a few ingredients and bake them at home! Food allergies? Let us know. Send a check to Camp Mennoscah with “Giving Tuesday” in a note, or give online at campmennoscah.org Limited to donations given or postmarked on December 1.

Associate Conference Minister transition: WDC announces that Sandra Montes Martinez has accepted a call to serve as WDC Associate Conference Minister based in Texas. She will begin in this role half-time on December 1 and move to full time on February 1,

Order Christmas goodies and gifts at Bethel College Women's Association online market. Find handmade crafts and fresh homemade treats at bcwamarketonline.com. Place your order by December 1. Pick up at Bethel College Mennonite Church south entrance from 10:00am to noon Saturday, Dec 5. All proceeds will support Bethel College. Most items can be shipped.

Have yourself a honkin' good holiday at MCC in North Newton!

This drive-thru event on Dec. 11 from 4-6 p.m. is a unique way to safely enjoy some delicious Christmas cheer while supporting the worldwide work of Mennonite Central Committee. Each charcuterie box is composed of seasonal artisan meats and cheeses, olives, fruit, mixed nuts and seasonal treats with crackers served on the side. A box serves two generous appetizer portions. *RSVP by 5 p.m. on December 4* to reserve yours! Suggested donation per box is \$25. Email centralstates@mcc.org to reserve your charcuterie box today! Find more information and photos at mcc.org/honkin-holiday.

Churchwide Announcements

Advent at Home: Sunday, November 29, is the beginning of Advent. "We Wait for Jesus," this year's Advent At Home devotional from MC USA for families and people of all ages, is available now at mennoniteusa.org/resource/advent-at-home.

Voices Together Digital Launch Event: Sunday, December 13 from 4:00 to 6:00 pm (5-7 ET). Register to receive the Zoom link: [Dedication Launch Registration - Voices Together Hymnal](#)

Mennonite Church USA Archives has completed its move of digital content to the Mennonite Archive Information Database, an online database representing 14 Anabaptist partners in the United States and Canada. Now, users can enjoy single-point web access to an expansive catalog of archival photographs and finding aids for faster and easier searching. Check it out:

<https://www.mennoniteusa.org/historical-archives/>

Menno Snapshots: "Sometimes we overlook the importance of camps in faith formation and leadership development," said Shana Peachey Boshart, Mennonite Church USA denominational minister for Faith Formation, in a recent article, "Mennonite camps get creative in response to COVID-19." Read more:

<https://www.mennoniteusa.org/news/mennonite-camps/>

Menno Snapshots: In her blog, "Love wasn't meant to die." Mennonite Church USA News Editor Cami Dager shares her first-hand experience with pregnancy loss and her revelation about the nature of God. Read more:

<https://www.mennoniteusa.org/menno-snapshots/love-wasnt-meant-to-die/>

Women in Leadership, a ministry of Mennonite Church USA, held three webinars and an online worship service this fall as an alternative to its annual Women Doing Theology conference. View all of the "What We Need Is Here" events at mennoniteusa.org/wil.

Mennonite Mission Network: David and Sophie Lapp Jost of MMN live in Germany but were on the Greek island of Lesbos to witness more than 12,000 people displaced by a fire that burned a migrant camp. Pray that God's people throughout the world will open their hearts to welcome as neighbors those who without homes.

Mennonite Education Agency: Praise God and give thanks for all of the schools across Mennonite education, from kindergarten through graduate and seminary students. Pray that our Anabaptist values will be revealed in all that we do.

Mennonite World Conference: Death has touched families and churches. Health care workers are worn out. The lack of personal contact and the loss of income due to the significant risk of contagion cause significant stress and misery in Anabaptist churches. Those who are not able to connect online – due to lack of knowledge or lack of tools – are extra isolated. "The Lord is near to the broken-hearted and saves the crushed in spirit," (Psalm 34:18).

MCC asks for support for Central American hurricane recovery. Two hurricanes within two weeks have caused extensive flooding in Honduras, Guatemala and Nicaragua, destroying crops and forcing people from their homes. MCC is working with churches and community organization to provide emergency food, hygiene supplies and cleanup support. You can donate online mcc.org/eta-iota-relief, by phone (888) 563-4676 or by mail at MCC, 21 S. 12th St., PO Box 500, Akron PA 17501.