

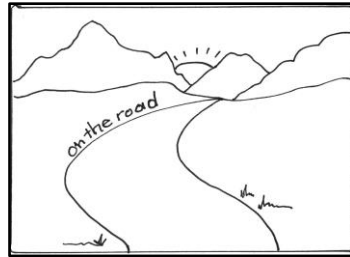
## Salina Mennonite Church

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.*

**December 20, 2020**

**Fourth Sunday of Advent**



...to revelation

### At Home Worship

**Prelude** *Hark! The Glad Sound!* Hymnal 184

Different tunes than in the Hymnal

Solo <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rVSv-0MqISA>

Congregation <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GZcj315D4-U>

**Call to Worship** Adapted from Psalm 89:1-2, 26

Leader: We will sing of your steadfast love, O Lord, forever;

**All: We will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations.**

Leader: We declare that your steadfast love is established forever;

Your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.

**All: You are our Father, our God, and the Rock of our salvation!**

### Lighting a Candle for Love

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

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

**Hymn** *Oh, How Shall I Receive Thee* Hymnal 182

Virtual Quartet <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1y2EiQntliM&t=26s>

Family <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oC3dpZS62N8>

### Storytelling

*Christmas Surprises*

*How do you find out what's inside a wrapped present?*

*What does revelation mean?*

*Who revealed a surprise to Mary and Joseph?*

**Scripture** *God's Covenant with David* 2 Samuel 7:1-17

1 Samuel 7 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4L40MGyTrlo>

**Monologue** *The Birth of Jesus Revealed* based on Luke 1:26-38

**Scripture** *Mary's Song of Praise* Luke 1:46-55

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VvrJsy7xaXY>

**Reflection** *How is God at work?*

*2 Samuel 7: God works in the progression of time.*

*Psalms 89: God's steadfast love endures forever.*

*Luke 1: God is present within each person.*

*Luke 1: God works in revolutionary ways.*

*Romans 16: God works through the good news of Jesus.*

**Hymn** *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* Hymnal 178

Solo <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vRAFQCOKjgE>

Virtual Choir <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dAoIkjPVh64>

### Name your Joys and Concerns

#### The Lord's Prayer

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

**Hymn** *Joy to the World* Hymnal 318

Choir <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=30OaM6b48k8>

Quartet [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=obL\\_SgYebAk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=obL_SgYebAk)

### Benediction

*People of God, people on the road:*

*As you go forth, find rest and security in the knowledge*

*that the God you serve is faithful,*

*A God whose promises will be fulfilled.*

**Postlude** *Mary, Did You Know?*

Pentatonix <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ifCWN5pJGIE>

**Salina Mennonite Church**

**Christina Litwiller, Pastor**

**600 State Street, Salina, KS 67401**

**785-825-2663**

**Email:** [salinamennonite@hotmail.com](mailto:salinamennonite@hotmail.com)

**Website:** [www.salinamennonite.org](http://www.salinamennonite.org)

## 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 – On hiatus until further notice
- 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 22	Church Board	5:30 pm
Dec 24	Christmas Eve in the Backyard	7:00 pm
Dec 27	Hybrid In-Person/Zoom Worship	10:00 am
Dec 31	Virtual New Year's Eve Party	TBD
Jan 3	Communion during Worship	10:00 am
Jan 6	Worship Committee via Zoom	5:30 pm

## Worship Totals

2020	Attendance	Unified Budget	Other	Total
12/13	Zoom 29 Church 4 Total 33	\$5460.00		\$5460.00

## Christmas Eve

Gather in the backyard on December 24 at 7:00 pm for Christmas carols and readings.

- Bring a chair, wear a mask and keep your distance from people not in your household.
- Bring a story or reading to share.
- Small LED votive candles & songsheets will be provided.
- Set up firepits or other heating sources by 6:45.

## Local Announcements

**Remembering Susan Reitz:** Sunday's (Dec. 20) on-line worship service will include a time of remembrance for Susan. A memorial gathering will be held on May 22, 2021, in Salina, more details to follow. Donate memorials to the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. Follow this link to read her obituary:

<https://www.kccremation.com/ObituaryDetails.aspx?id=24841>

**COVID Restrictions:** We are following Saline County's Public Health Order issued November 20. The number of people inside the church building is limited to 15 people. Join worship by Zoom if it works well for you to do so. Masks are required unless you are in the building by yourself. People gathered outside will maintain social distancing and wear masks.

**Third Sunday Fellowship:** With the increase in COVID cases and the colder weather, Third Sunday Fellowship is on hiatus until further notice. Stay home and stay well.

**Lidia Pagán's 93<sup>rd</sup> birthday is on December 27.** Send cards to Holiday Resort, 2825 Resort Dr, Salina, KS 67401.

**Virtual New Year's Eve Party:** Contact Pastor Christina if you are interested in participating in and/or helping to plan a virtual party on December 31.

## Conferencewide Announcements

**Western District Conference:** As we celebrate Christmas, give thanks for the gift of multicultural diversity within WDC, and the many different ways congregations embody the presence of Christ.

**A Christmas full of light and love to all of you!** The Camp Mennoscah staff and Board of Directors prays for you to find Christ's love and joy during this not-as-usual Christmas season. May you find hope, joy, and peace in your celebrations!

**Camp Mennoscah is a wonderful space** for families and groups needing space to spread out! Facilities for differently sized groups are available with a variety of gathering areas. Trails and fields are waiting to be hiked and used for fun activities, too! Contact Camp Mennoscah at 620-297-3290 or [office@campmennoscah.org](mailto:office@campmennoscah.org) to reserve! You are invited to enjoy this sacred space!

**MCC Comforter Blitz update:** Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2021 Kansas Friends of MCC Comforter Blitz in Yoder, KS has been canceled. However, the Blitz committee still has a goal of collecting at least 300 comforters between February and April. We need your help to meet this goal! Fabric kits and comforter sets to tie (top, back, and batting) are available to check out from MCC in North Newton. For contactless drop-off of completed comforters the 24-hour donation room is always available. To arrange drop-off or checkout materials, contact Kate at [katemast@mcc.org](mailto:katemast@mcc.org), or 316.804.8432.

### **Churchwide Announcements**

**Mennonite Church USA:** “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom His favor rests.” (Luke 2:14)  
Mennonite Church USA staff extends the peace of Christ to you this Christmas, as we work together to bring God's hope, love, joy and peace to the world around us.

**MennoCon21:** Did you know that planning for MennoCon21 started five years ago? Take a behind-the-scenes look at planning for Mennonite Church USA's upcoming biennial convention on July 6-10, 2021 in Cincinnati, Ohio. [mennoniteusa.org/news/behind-the-scenes-mennocon21/](https://mennoniteusa.org/news/behind-the-scenes-mennocon21/)

**Menno Snapshots:** Isaac S. Villegas, pastor of Chapel Hill Mennonite Fellowship in North Carolina, shared a powerful prayer resource for our time, “Some trust in governments and some in borders, but we trust in God.” [mennoniteusa.org/menno-snapshots/but-we-trust-in-god/](https://mennoniteusa.org/menno-snapshots/but-we-trust-in-god/)

**Mennonite Mission Network:** Join Mennonite Mission Network in praying for the peace witness of the *Meserete Kristos* Church in Ethiopia amid the conflict between the government of Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed and the Northern Tigray region.