



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.

We hold that every person is created in God's image. We embrace differences in race, gender, sexual orientation, ability or status.

November 27, 2022
First Sunday of Advent

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Artwork by Michelle Burkholder
and worship resources by Joanna Harader originally appeared in *Expecting Emmanuel*,
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Welcome

Prelude *Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel*

arr. Curt Oliver

Lighting a Candle of Hope

Based on Isaiah 40:37-31

Leader: Do you not know? Have you not heard?

ALL: *The Holy One is the everlasting God, creator of heaven and earth.*

Leader: God's energy flows through the world even when we are bone-tired.

ALL: *God's power gives strength to the vulnerable and weak.*

Leader: Do you not know? Have you not heard?

ALL: *When we wait on the Holy One, God will renew our strength*

Leader: We shall run. We shall fly

ALL: *We shall walk boldly together toward the promises of God.*

(Lighting a Candle of Hope)

Leader: As we light this candle of hope, we enter together into the holy season of Advent:
a season of activity and of waiting, a season of shadow and of lights,
a season of memory and of hope.

Hymn *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

Voices Together 218

Storytelling *Family Trees*

Hymn *There Is a Line of Women*

Voices Together 546

Scripture *Genesis 38:1-27*

Sermon *Tamar*

Anita Kehr

Prayer of Confession

Leader: God of shadows and light, our thoughts are not your thoughts. Our ways are not your ways.

ALL: *Hear our confession. Heal our hearts. Forgive our sins.*

(silence)

Leader: In Jesus you call us to hope

ALL: *that your justice will prevail – that the hungry will be fed and the lowly lifted up.*

(silence)

Leader: In the light of the Christ child, in the shadow of the Most High,
we make our confession and receive your forgiveness.

ALL: *Amen.*

Hymn *We Come*

Voices Together 225

Show and Tell/Joys and Concerns

Congregational Prayer/The Lord's Prayer

Hymn *O Come, O Come, Immanuel, vv. 1, 4, 5, 7*

Voices Together 391

Offertory Prayer

Leader: Holy One, Emmanuel: as you have given yourself to us through the coming of the Christ child, we also give ourselves to you.

ALL: Receive our offerings of time, energy, and money.
We give them in hope, that they may be part of your life in this world. Amen.

Announcements

Benediction

May you know God's energy in your weariness, God's strength in your weakness, God's hope in your despair. In these days of Advent may your waiting be blessed.

We extend gratitude and welcome to our guest preacher. Anita Kehr is the chaplain at Schowalter Villa in Hesston. Previously, she was a congregational pastor for more than 20 years.

Christian Education

For Children – *The Upside-Down Kingdom: Advent and Christmas*

- Activities to do at home

For Adults – 9:00 a.m. Sunday

- Bible Study – *God's Plan for Freedom and Justice* – In the basement
- Book Study – *Expecting Emmanuel* by Joanna Harader – In the fellowship room

Upcoming Events

Sunday	Dec. 4	Worship – 2 nd Sunday of Advent	10:00 am
Sunday	Dec. 4	Congregational Meeting	11:15 am
Sunday	Dec. 11	Remembrance Sunday	10:00 am
Sunday	Dec. 18	Third Sunday Potluck	11:30 am
Wednesday	Dec. 21	Church Board @ Kristin Van Tassel's Home	6:30 pm

Pastor Christina's Office Hours

9:00-12:00 Tuesday – Friday

Available most of the time by text, phone, or email

Worship Totals

2022	Attendance	Unified Budget	Other	Total
11/20	Zoom 8 In-Person 25 Total 33	\$8,350.00		\$8,350.00

Local Announcements

December 4th Congregational Meeting: Agenda includes: (1) Activity reports; (2) Financial updates; (3) Confirmation of 2023 committees; (4) Approval of 2023 budget; (5) Vote on constitutional amendments. Ballots for the constitutional amendments will be sent to members who are unable to attend the meeting.

Conferencewide Announcements & Prayer Requests

Western District Conference: We are about to finish this year 2022, I surely believe that our God has led us, and care in the process and stages of life within the kingdom of God. And we continue to face each challenge, but God has also opened doors, relationships and many more things, the work was not only of one, but all in unity and harmony of the Spirit of God. We present to God the new challenges that will come, so that He may take care of all of us, in this Church Plant Commission and the other WDC

Commissions. In the name of Jesus, Amen.

-WDC Church Planting Commission

Giving Tuesday is November 29: Western District Conference invites you to join this global giving initiative. Current projections suggest that WDC income will fall short of expenses for the current year. Your generous gifts are invited to help close the gap. You may make an online contribution [HERE](#) (credit card, PayPal, Google Pay accepted) or send a check to Western District Conference, PO Box 306, North Newton, KS 67117. Thank you for your generosity!

Give back on Giving Tuesday with an evening of Service & Snacks, Nov. 29 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Hesston College Mennonite Church! Join [Everence®](#) and MCC for an evening of service! We'll make MCC [hygiene kits](#), tie comforters, write holiday cards to incarcerated people with MCC partner organization Offender Victim Ministries (OVM) and enjoy snacks! Bring your family and friends to this opportunity to *give back* on this Giving Tuesday! [Find out more!](#)

Buhler Mennonite Church continues to need volunteers to package 50,000 meals on Saturday, December 3. Please sign-up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0545AEAD2EA1F58-50000>.

First Mennonite Church in McPherson will host a German dinner on Saturday, December 3, 5:00-7:00 pm at the church – 1161 E Avenue Z. The menu includes: verenika with ham gravy, sausage, green beans, bohne beroggi with cream sauce, zwiebach, and cherry moos. There will be a free will offering.

Churchwide Announcements & Prayer Requests

Mennonite Mission Network: Austin Roberts, who is serving through MMN, requests prayer for Northern Ireland, where Queen Elizabeth's death has fueled tensions between Catholics and Protestants. Inflation and the rise in heating oil prices and electricity, a result of Russia's war in Ukraine, add to the unrest. He asks us to join him in his plea for "a swift and peaceful end to this aggression," for the benefit of the people of Ukraine, all of Europe and the world.

Mennonite Education Agency: Join MEA in praying for the 30 schools affiliated with MC USA. MEA's monthly prayer newsletter, with requests from the schools, is found at [Prayers for Mennonite Education](#).

Mennonite Church USA: This Giving Tuesday, MC USA thanks you for your support and gifts throughout the year. Every gift to the General Fund helps to support the work and ministries of the MC USA Executive Board and staff, which in turn, supports area conferences, congregations and members. Learn more here. <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/give/>

Mennonite Church USA: Cincinnati Mennonite Fellowship artist Christian Dallas painted a mural that makes a powerful statement to the church's neighborhood. Titled (by a church vote) "The Beauty of Peace," the approximately 500 sq. ft. mural spans three walls. See a photo and learn more here: mennoniteusa.org/peaceful-scene

#BeTransformed: Dirt and composting are powerful tools for learning how to serve. Just ask Melissa Marquez Weaver of Immanuel Mennonite Church, who was recently inspired to dig through mud. "At the bottom of my muck pile was the brown gold I'd been searching for. Soft and rich and ready to help our plants and flowers thrive." Read more here: mennoniteusa.org/compost-canned-goods

#MennoCon23: The worship planning committee for MC USA's MennoCon23 convention has officially begun preparing for the event, which will take place at the Kansas City (Missouri) Convention Center, July 3-8, 2023. The committee spends the year prior to the event organizing the worship services for MennoCon. Read more here: mennoniteusa.org/news/mennocon23-worship-planning-committee.

Mennonite World Conference: Give thanks for sisters and brothers who come together to pray for our global Anabaptist family through the Prayer Network.