



## 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.*

**January 1, 2023**  
**New Year's Day**

Christina Litwiller, Pastor  
600 State Street  
Salina, KS 67401  
785-825-2663

[salinamennonite@hotmail.com](mailto:salinamennonite@hotmail.com)  
[www.salinamennonite.org](http://www.salinamennonite.org)

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

**Prelude** *Appalachian Christmas Carol*

arr. John Ness Beck

### Lighting the Christ Candle

Leader: Our souls long for the courts of the Holy One.

**ALL: *Our hearts sing for joy to the living God.***

Leader: The swallow builds a nest for herself in God's presence,

**ALL: *and we find our home here, with God's people.***

Leader: Happy are those who live in your house, O God.

**ALL: *Happy are we who have gathered to sing your praise.***

Leader: As we light the Christ candle, we acknowledge the holiness of this space and of this time.  
We proclaim Christ's presence here: around us, among us, within us.

*Based on Psalm 84:1-4*

**Hymn** *O Come, All Ye Faithful* Voices Together 241

**Storytelling** *Ancestor Stories*

**Hymn** *Angels, from the Realms of Glory* Voices Together 265

**Scripture** *Luke 2:21-38*

**Hymn** *Love Came Down at Christmas* Voices Together 255

**Sermon** *Mary and Anna (Joseph and Simeon): Faith in Community*

**Hymn** *Holy Night, Blessed Night* Voices Together 262  
(Video in Mandarin then sing it in English)

### Show and Tell/Joys and Concerns

### Congregational Prayer/The Lord's Prayer

**Hymn** *It Came upon a Midnight Clear, vv. 1,2,4,5* Voices Together 248

### 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, given with joy, that they may be part of your life in this world.***

### Announcements

**Hymn** *See Whose Glory Fills the Skies* Voices Together 274

### Benediction

*Even though you will leave this time set apart for worship,  
you remain at home with God wherever you go.*

*May you know joy in God's presence this week,  
and may we all return again to share that joy with each other.*

**Postlude** *Joy to the World* arr. John Ness Beck

## 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    | Jan. 8  | Worship and Communion              | 10:00 am |
| Wednesday | Jan. 11 | Worship Committee @ Newcomers’     | 7:00 pm  |
| Thursday  | Jan. 26 | Church Board at Vera Zerger’s Home | 7:00 pm  |

## Pastor Christina’s 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

## Worship Totals

| 2022  | Attendance          |  | Unified Budget | Other | Total      |
|-------|---------------------|--|----------------|-------|------------|
| 12/24 | <u>In-Person</u> 33 |  |                |       |            |
|       | Zoom 11             |  |                |       |            |
| 12/25 | <u>In-Person</u> 10 |  | \$7,594.94     |       | \$7,594.94 |
|       | Total 21            |  |                |       |            |

## Local Announcements

**SouperBowl of Hope:** We are collecting donations for the annual Souperbowl of Hope from now until February 12. This year’s goal is 57,000 cans of soup to be distributed between the Salina Food Bank, Salvation Army, Rescue Mission, Ashby House, and DVACK. \$25 will buy 60 cans of soup.

## Conferencewide Announcements & Prayer Requests

**Western District Conference:** Father, as this New Year begins, we thank you through your Son Jesus Christ for all that you are doing and all that you are going to do in the communities, and people of WDC, through your beloved Son Jesus Christ, using the blessing of Church Planting as an instrument. We thank you in advance for being with us, for being our deliverer and our healer, thank you, Christ Jesus.

– WDC Church Planting Commission

## Churchwide Announcements & Prayer Requests

**Mennonite Mission Network:** In this new year, may we be channels of God’s love and light to our neighbors and, through MMN personnel and partners, to our brothers and sisters on six continents.

**Mennonite Church USA:** After two years of renovations and pandemic-related delays, the new Brooklyn (New York) Peace Church opened its doors in October 2022. The Atlantic Coast Conference church plant welcomed members of the Spanish-speaking congregation that previously met in the same location. Read more about their first few services here: [mennoniteusa.org/brooklyn-peace-church](http://mennoniteusa.org/brooklyn-peace-church) (Lea la versión en español aquí: [mennoniteusa.org/brooklyn-peace-church-spanish](http://mennoniteusa.org/brooklyn-peace-church-spanish))

**Mennonite World Conference:** Praise the Lord for Convención Evangélica Hermanos Menonitas Nivaclé in the Paraguayan Chaco that held an evangelistic event in October. May the seeds planted there take root and grow into faith in Christ and a life of discipleship.

—submitted by Leonardo Gomez, Convención Evangélica Hermanos Menonitas Nivaclé, Paraguay