



## 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 7, 2024**  
**Epiphany**

Salina Mennonite Church  
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## How will we know ... what we know?

|                          |  |  |
|--------------------------|--|--|
| <b>Prelude</b>           | <i>Star of the East</i>  | Music by Amanda Kennedy, Lyrics by George Cooper |
| <b>Call to Worship</b>   | <i>Based on Isaiah 60:1-6</i>  |  |
| Leader:                  | Arise, shine;<br>For your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.<br>Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.       |  |
| <b>People:</b>           | <b>Lift up your eyes and look around; they gather and come to you.</b>   |  |
| High voices:             | You shall see and be radiant;  |  |
| Low voices:              | your heart shall thrill and rejoice and proclaim the praise of the Lord.   |  |
| Leader:                  | The mystery of Christ has been revealed by the Spirit.<br>We have become fellow heirs, members of the same body,<br>and sharers in the promise of Christ through the gospel. |  |
| <b>People:</b>           | <b>We know this through faith in Christ. May our lights shine!</b>   |  |
| <b>All:</b>              | <b><i>Together we carry the light.</i></b>   |  |
| <b>Hymn</b>              | <i>Arise, Your Light Is Come!</i>  | Voices Together 273                              |
| <b>Storytelling</b>      |  |  |
| <b>Drama</b>             | <i>The Bethlehem star and the Heartlight of Jesus</i>  |  |
| <b>Hymn</b>              | <i>O Beautiful Star of Bethlehem</i>   | Voices Together 275                              |
| <b>Sermon</b>            |  | Ted Zerger                                       |
| <b>Hymn</b>              | <i>In the Beginning</i>  | Voices Together 270                              |
| <b>Sharing the Table</b> | <i>Communion Invitation</i>  | Words for Worship 2 120                          |
| Reader 1:                | Come, you who hunger, filled with wanting and waiting.   |  |
| Reader 2:                | Come, you who thirst for the peace of Christ.  |  |
| <b>All:</b>              | <b><i>Come to the table of the Lord.</i></b>   |  |
| Reader 1:                | Come, not because you are worthy to sit at Christ's table.   |  |
| Reader 2:                | Come, because you are willing to serve at Christ's side.   |  |
| <b>All:</b>              | <b><i>Come to the table of the Lord.</i></b>   |  |

Reader 1: For the Lord our God has gathered us here and Jesus the Christ is our Host.  
 Reader 2: Come, you who are blessed; Come, you who are broken.  
 All: *Come to the table of the Lord.*

**Hymn** *Come to the Table of Grace* Voices Together 461

**Community Life – Sharing & Prayer**

**Community Life – Announcements**

**Hymn** *Let There Be Light* Voices Together 714

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**Benediction**

Leader: Together we carry the light.  
**People: This is what we know.**  
 Leader: Now go, basking in the glow of Christ!  
 We have become God’s heirs, members of one body, and sharers of the promise.  
**Amen!**

**Today’s worship includes communion.** Everyone who chooses to follow God’s ways is welcome to participate. Those joining Zoom can use their own bread and juice. As part of sharing the table, we emphasize contributing to the Special Needs Fund. This money is used to financially assist members and friends of the congregation.

**Christian Education**

For Children – *Jesus Brings Good News*

- Activities to do at home.

For Adults – 9:00 a.m. Sunday

- Bible Study – *God Connections* – In the basement
- Bible Study – *Reading Rejoice!* – In the fellowship room

**Upcoming Events**

|           |            |                                       |         |
|-----------|------------|---------------------------------------|---------|
| Wednesday | January 10 | Worship Committee                     | 5:30pm  |
| Sunday    | January 14 | Sunday Worship – Installation Service | 10am    |
| Thursday  | January 18 | Church Board                          | 7pm     |
| Sunday    | January 21 | Sunday Worship                        | 10am    |
| Sunday    | January 21 | Third Sunday Potluck                  | 11:30am |
| Sunday    | January 28 | Sunday Worship                        | 10am    |

**Worship Totals**

| 2023  | Attendance                      | Unified Budget | Other | Total |
|-------|---------------------------------|----------------|-------|-------|
| 12/31 | Zoom 3<br>Church 27<br>Total 30 | 0.00           |       | 0.00  |

## Local Announcements

**If you need ministry care** during this time of transition, please reach out to the Church Board: Kristin VanTassel, Pete Smucker, or Tom Claassen.

**Office Hours:** Normal office hours for Carolyn will be Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons after 1:30pm and Friday mornings after 9am. Please have any announcements for the bulletin submitted to [salinamennonite@gmail.com](mailto:salinamennonite@gmail.com) by Thursday evening.

**Free Dental Clinic:** There will be a completely free dental clinic coming to Salina on January 12-13th, 2024 by Kansas Mission of Mercy Dental Services. Services provided include cleanings, fillings, and extractions for all ages. The event will be held at the Tony's Pizza Event Center. They do schedule the kids, so they aren't waiting as long but adults are completely walk-in. Doors open at 5:30a.m. Details can be found at <https://www.ksdentalfoundation.org/patients/>

**2024 Salina "Souper Bowl of Hope" Project** Salina has asked us to help with the goal of collecting 58,000 cans of soup to be distributed between the Salina Food Bank, Salvation Army, Rescue Mission, Ashby House, DVACK and Salina Grace. A \$30 cash donation will allow them to buy 60 cans of soup (make check out to Salina Mennonite Church). We will be collecting from now until Super Bowl Sunday (February 11, 2024). You can also donate canned soup and any non-perishable food items and take them to one of the three Dillons' locations during the specified dates and times: Sat., Jan. 27 (10am-6pm), Sun., Jan. 28 (1pm-5pm), Sat., Feb. 3 (10am-6pm), Sun., Feb. 4 (1pm-5pm), Sat., Feb. 10 (1pm-5pm).

## Conferencewide Announcements & Prayer Requests

**Pray for our sister church,** Iglesia Camino de Santidad (Path of Holiness Church) in Liberal KS, Pastor Moises Romero and his wife Teresa.

**Kansas Mennonite Men's Chorus:** In 2024, the Kansas Mennonite Men's Chorus (KMMC) will be part of a year long celebration recognizing the 150th anniversary of the arrival of Mennonites to Kansas. Our concerts in April will include selections that recognize this important anniversary and our special guest performers will be the Newton Community Children's Choir. For more than 50 years, the KMMC has been sharing concerts that bring glory to God, joy to those who listen and global mission relief through the concert offerings. Men and boys are invited to join this tradition of worship through four-part choral music as members of KMMC. See the registration poster or contact man for your church. Our rehearsals begin January 28.

**Western District Conference:** – Pray for WDC and all its congregations as we begin a new year, remembering that the steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, and God's mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning!

## Churchwide Announcements & Prayer Requests

**Register now for the MCC South Texas Learning Tour, February 4-9, 2024!** This immigration-focused learning tour presents a unique opportunity to engage directly with organizations making a positive impact on our neighbors. You won't want to miss this opportunity. Details and online registration can be found at [mcc.org/south-texas-1t](http://mcc.org/south-texas-1t). Deadline to sign up is Jan. 20. Please contact Abraham Diaz Alonso with questions, [abrahamdiazalonso@mcc.org](mailto:abrahamdiazalonso@mcc.org).

**Mennonite Mission Network:** Mennonite Mission Network requests prayer for Lora Nafziger and Mitch Rhodes, who began a three-year assignment in September with United Mission to Nepal (UMN), working from the United States. Pray for this family, as Lora, Mitch and two of their four sons take up residence in Kathmandu, Nepal, this month. Lora is serving as UMN's staff support and counseling advisor, and Mitch serves as the expatriate coordinator.

**Mennonite Church USA:** Safe Church, Mennonite Church USA's newly formed abuse prevention ministry, now has a webpage available on the MC USA website. The webpage offers resources, including the updated Circle of Grace curriculum, to help faith communities keep children, youth and vulnerable adults safe from all abuse. Read more here: [mennoniteusa.org/safechurch](https://mennoniteusa.org/safechurch)

**Mennonite Church USA:** Mennonite Action, a grassroots movement, united more than 800 Mennonites representing 250 congregations across the U.S. and Canada in a mobilizing call for peace, on Tuesday, Nov. 28, on Zoom. The "Call to Action" served as a resounding demand for a ceasefire, an end to the U.S.- and Western-funded occupation of Palestine, and a push for lasting peace. Read more here: [mennoniteusa.org/mennonite-action](https://mennoniteusa.org/mennonite-action)

**Mennonite World Conference:** Pray for the preparations to commemorate the 500th anniversary of Anabaptism in Zurich in 2025. May it be an opportunity of reflection to celebrate the movement's strengths and repent of its failures while also seeking reconciliation with those who have been estranged.