

For the Record

Attendance Dec. 24, 2023:

(Candlelight Service)

In person: 65 (estimated)

Zoom: 5 devices (est. 9 people)

General Offering received:

December 3 \$5,507

December 10 \$ 5,200

December 17 \$4,000

December 24 (no offering taken) \$0

Month to date \$14,707

Total monthly requirement \$15,9331

Nurturing Church Family

Birthdays This Week:

Al Lind, Anya Snyder-Miller,
Kate Newswanger

Anniversaries this Week:

none this week

Lord's Prayer (Voices Together 989A)

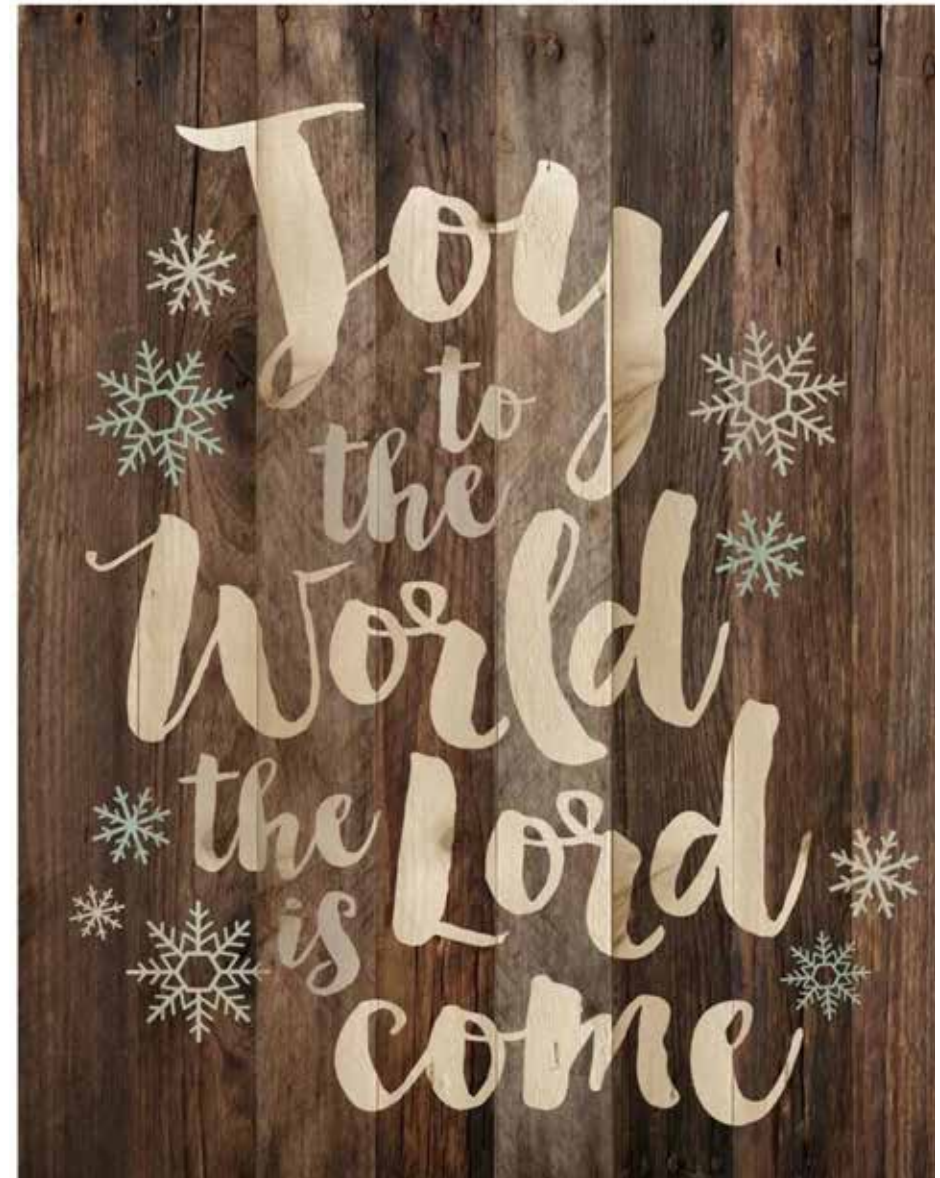
Our Father in heaven,
Hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.



Thank you to everyone contributing to SMC's Christmas giving projects. Your gifts enriched the lives of many people in our Salem community.

Our church filled the barrel for Church at the Park with 20 hoodies and jackets, 63 pairs of men's socks, 44 pairs of women's socks, 60 hats, 9 scarves, 12 pairs of gloves, 5 pkgs of men's underwear, 16 packages of women's underwear, 12 pillows, and 12 pillowcases. In addition, our church donated \$1,000 to the Church at the Park toward the development of a commercial kitchen at their Turner Road site.

Also, our church assembled and donated 22 family Christmas Baskets to the Southeast Keizer Community Center.



Salem Mennonite Church

Interim Pastor: **Marlene Bogard**, pastor@salemmennonitechurch.org

1045 Candlewood Drive NE, Salem OR 97303

office: 503-390-2715 | office@salemmennonitechurch.org

Education Hour: Sundays at 9:30 am • Worship: Sundays at 10:45 am

Salem Mennonite invites all to join us for worship and fellowship. Our prayer is that everyone who enters here may be received as Christ. We celebrate the image of God in all people and publicly affirm that persons of every gender identity and sexual orientation are welcome to participate in our life and ministry.

Mission Statement: Salem Mennonite Church commits to hear and live God's call to be followers of Jesus Christ and to grow as a worshipping community of faith and reconciliation, where peace, joy and healing are experienced in the church and shared with others.

Salem Mennonite Church Worship Service December 31, 2023 - Sunday after Christmas

We Gather

Prelude -Reimer-Berg Family
Hymns -Merv Kropf

VT 213 "Poor of the Earth"

Call to Worship and Invocation -Juel Russell
Hymn -Merv Kropf

We Hear God's Word

Message for Children **VT 511** "Come on Children" -Lori Christy
Scripture Luke 2:22-40; 17:6-10
Message *Shaped by Our Active Waiting* -Bethany Loberg

We Respond

Congregational Response at the Manger
Hymn of Response -Merv Kropf
Offering /My Coins Count/Mutual Aid Offering -Reimer-Berg Family
Sharing and Prayer Ending with Lord's Prayer (Lord's Prayer **VT 989 A**)

We Go Forth

Closing Hymn
Sending Words

Ushers today: Dennis Kauffman and Florence Gingrich Sound/Zoom Tech: Martin Klein
Nursery Volunteer Today: none

Call to Worship Responsive Reading

Leader: Simeon took Jesus in his arms and praised God, saying, "Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel."

High voices: At that moment, Anna, a widow who worshiped at the temple with fasting and prayer night and day,

Low voices: began to praise God and to speak about the child to everyone who was looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

Leader: The child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him.

People: Our long wait is finally over!

All: Together we rejoice.

MUTUAL AID OFFERING: Community is a vital part of who we are and involves - among other things - sharing what God gives us with those among us who are in need. Accordingly, we collect a special Mutual Aid offering on the last Sunday of months having 5 Sundays and give our Elders responsibility for distributing it when needed.

Coming Up

This Week: January 1-6, 2024

Wed 9:00 am Quilting/MCC Projects in Fellowship Hall
Wed 6:30 pm Worship Committee (Zoom)
Thurs 9:30 am Women's Bible Study (Zoom)
Thurs 7:00 pm Sacred Circle
Fri 6:00 pm Community Center Family Night

Sunday, January 7

9:30 am Sunday School for children, youth (adult class starts Jan. 14)
10:45 am Worship Service, message by Marlene Bogard
noon Potluck

Full calendar of events at www.salemmennonitechurch.org

Luke 2:22-40 (NRSV)

Jesus Is Presented in the Temple

²² When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³ (as it is written in the law of the Lord, “Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord”), ²⁴ and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.”

²⁵ Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. ²⁶ It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah. ²⁷ Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what was customary under the law, ²⁸ Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

²⁹ “Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace,
according to your word,

³⁰ for my eyes have seen your salvation,

³¹ which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

³² a light for revelation to the gentiles
and for glory to your people Israel.”

³³ And the child’s father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. ³⁴ Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, “This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel and to be a sign that will be opposed ³⁵ so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul, too.”

³⁶ There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, ³⁷ then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸ At that moment she came and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

The Return to Nazareth

³⁹ When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰ The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom, and the favor of God was upon him.

Luke 17:6-10 (NRSV)

⁶ The Lord replied, “If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, ‘Be uprooted and planted in the sea,’ and it would obey you.

⁷ “Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, ‘Come here at once and take your place at the table’? ⁸ Would you not rather say to him, ‘Prepare supper for me; put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink’? ⁹ Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? ¹⁰ So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, ‘We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!’ ”