

For the Record

Attendance March 10, 2024:

In person: 48

Zoom: 15 devices (est. 25 people)

General Offering received:

March 3 \$15,115

March 10 \$3,665

Monthly total \$18,780

Total monthly requirement \$15,933

Easter Breakfast. We will have an Easter Breakfast at 9 am on March 31, Easter Sunday. **Please bring a plate of fruit or bread, cut up and ready to serve in a potluck line.** The kitchen committee will prepare a hot breakfast casserole and provide coffee, tea and milk.

Nurturing Church Family

Birthdays This Week:

Donna BreMiller, Ashlynn Nisly,
Ryan Nisly, Glenn Yutzie

Anniversaries this Week:

inone this week



Salem Mennonite Church

1045 Candlewood Drive NE, Salem OR 97303

office: 503-390-2715 | office@salemmentonitechurch.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

March 17, 2024

Christ Among Us, The Way of Mercy

We Gather

Prelude -Julie Graber
Hymn -Jennifer Gingerich
Call to Worship and Invocation -Jeff Aeschliman

Responsive Reading: *based on Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22*

One: Give thanks to God, for God is good!

Many: God's love endures forever.

One: Let the redeemed of the Lord tell their story.

Many: God's love endures forever.

One: We may make careless choices and lose our way.

Many: God's love endures forever.

One: We call out to God when we are in trouble.

Many: God's love endures forever.

One: God rescues us from our anxieties and fears.

Many: God's love endures forever.

One: God's word sets us free to walk in newness of life.

Many: God's love endures forever.

One: God gathers us in, from the east and the west, from the north and the south.

All: For God's unfailing love, we give thanks to the Creator of all that is good.

Hymns -Jennifer Gingerich

We Confess

Prayer of Confession -Jeff Aeschliman

Responsive Prayer

One: Merciful God, we forget that you are the light of the world.

Many: Forgive us for our short memories.

One: Remind us that you are rich in mercy

Many: when we wander away from you.

One: Loving God, convict us of your immense love

Many: that shines brightly on us.

All: Merciful God, light of the world, we come seeking new life in you.

Assurance of Pardon

Hymn **Hymn Sheet** "O, The Deep, Deep Love of Jesus" -Jennifer Gingerich

We Hear God's Word

Message for Children **VT 511** "Come on Children" -Lori Christy

Scripture John 3:14-21, Ephesians 2:1-10

Message *For God So Loved* -Kristen Swartley

Hymn of Response

We Respond

Offering /My Coins Count -Julie Graber

Sharing and Prayer Ending with Lord's Prayer (**VT 989A**) -Beth Sell

We Go Forth

Closing Hymn

Sending Words

Visual Symbol this Week: God is always shining God's light toward us. We can embrace it or cover it. We all stray from the path we are on, but God is always there. God pursues us with an everlasting love. Let us open our hearts to the light so that God's love can flow in and through us to all those we encounter. To embody Christ is to be merciful as God is merciful. This week's symbol is a candle to remind us of God's mercy and grace.

Ushers today: Brent & Marj Mobley-Oorthuys **Sound/Zoom Tech:** Martin Klein
Nursery Volunteer Today: Debbie Pauls

John 3:14–21 (NRSV)

¹⁴ And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵ that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶ “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

¹⁷ “Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him.

¹⁸ Those who believe in him are not condemned, but those who do not believe are condemned already because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. ¹⁹ And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. ²⁰ For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. ²¹ But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.”

Ephesians 2:1–10 (NRSV)

¹ You were dead through the trespasses and sins ² in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. ³ All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, doing the will of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else, ⁴ but God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us ⁵ even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— ⁶ and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷ so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God— ⁹ not the result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰ For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we may walk in them.

Coming Up

This Week: March 18-23, 2024

Mon	2:00 pm	Book Club at Kathleen A.
Tues	6:00 pm	Elder’s Meeting
Wed	9:30 am	Quilting/MCC Projects in Fellowship Hall
Wed	7:00 pm	Leadership Board Meeting
Thurs	9:30 am	Women’s Bible Study (Zoom)
Fri	6:00 pm	Community Center Family Night

Sunday, March 24 - Palm Sunday

9:30 am Sunday School for children, youth and adults

10:45 am Worship Service, message by Rev. I Pearl Adesanya

Thursday, March 28 - Maundy Thursday

7 pm Maundy Thursday Service, with Albany Mennonite, at Albany Mennonite Church.

Sunday, March 31 - Easter Sunday

9 am Easter Breakfast

10:15 Children’s Sunday School

10:45 Worship

Full calendar of events at www.salemmennonitechurch.org

Our guest speaker today is Kristen Swartley, the Pastor of Community Life and Outreach at Portland Mennonite Church. She joined PMC pastoral team in the fall of 2022. Kristen grew up in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and then attended Eastern Mennonite University to study music and liberal arts. After graduating, she spent a year working with Mennonite Central Committee in Bolivia. She lived in Oklahoma City for seven years, first working on a masters in flute performance and then performing and teaching music. She also conducted children’s orchestras with the El Sistema Oklahoma program. She studied for a MDiv at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary with a concentration in Theology and Peace Studies. Kristen is married to Luis Tapia Rubio, and they are enjoying getting to know Portland. Kristen loves finding interesting recipes to cook, hanging out with friends over coffee or dinner, and reading sci-fi novels.