

# Sunday January 4, 2026

Prayer Time 9:15 AM  
Sunday School 9:30 AM  
Fellowship Time 10:15 AM  
Worship Service 10:45 AM

Prelude	Mary Ann Gross
Welcome	Pastor Stuart J. Curry
*Worship In Song	<i>O Worship The King</i> WH 2
Prayer	Pastor Stuart J. Curry
Giving of Our Gifts	Mary Ann Gross
Spotlight Hymn	<i>A Mighty Fortress Is Our God</i> WH 72
Children's Moment	Pastor Stuart J. Curry
Worship In Song	<i>Praise To The Lord, The Almighty</i> WH 3
*Scripture Reading	John 1:29-34 Anne Curry
*Worship In Song	<i>Crown Him With Many Crowns</i> WH 109
Sermon	Pastor Stuart J. Curry
<i>Hope Is Found In The Lamb</i>	
Communion	
*Benediction	Pastor Stuart J. Curry

\*stand if comfortable

## Serving This Week

Greeter: Cameron Rollag  
Scripture Reading: Anne Curry  
Music Leader: Karol Hofer  
Pianist: Skyla Dowden  
Organist: Mary Ann Gross  
Ushers: David, JoJae, Korey  
Fellowship Time: David Gross  
Flowers: Flower Committee

## Serving Next Week

Greeter: JoJae Glanzer  
Scripture Reading: Karol Hofer  
Music Leader: Rick Walter  
Pianist: Karol Hofer  
Organist: Mary Ann Gross  
Ushers: Cameron, Stuart W, Todd  
Fellowship Time: Natasha Curry  
Flowers: Flower Committee  
special Music: June & Dwight Pullman

Stewardship Information - December 28, 2025  
Sunday School 9, Worship Service 17, Givings - \$1,980

# Hope Is Found In The Lamb



## Salem Mennonite Brethren Church

43173 272nd St.  
P.O. Box 119  
Freeman, SD 57029

## Pastor Stuart Curry

26929 US Hwy 81  
Dolton, SD 57319  
360-228-5120  
pastorstuartj@gmail.com

## Our Mission

*To worship and proclaim Christ.  
To edify, encourage, and minister to all people*

## PRAYER REQUEST

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Pray For: Those Who Are Unable To Worship With Us: Carol Minor, Derek Letcher, and Dona Wall

Church Leadership Of The Week: Table

Sunday School Class Of The Week: High School

School Of The Week: Freeman Academy

## CHEESE POCKET DAYS

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Mark your calendars for Cheese Pocket Days, January 31 and February 1.

Each year, we make cheese pockets to help send our kids and youth to camp. Every pocket folded and every order filled helps create opportunities for young people to grow in faith.

Your help is essential and truly appreciated. There is a role for everyone, whether you enjoy prepping, assembling, cooking, or packing. Join us at the church for both preparation day and assembly day as we work together to make this fundraiser a success.

This year, cheese pockets will be made to order, with advance ordering available. More details and ordering information will be coming soon.

If you are craving cheese pockets or would like to place an order, please contact Skyla.

## WOMEN'S MINISTRY

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There will be no meeting in January. During this time, write cards or letters to friends in care facilities or contact those who could use some encouragement.

## ET CETERA SHOPPE

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Are you a person who would enjoy doing a simple sewing task, in your own home, to benefit the work of Mennonite Central Committee? Et Cetera Shoppe has the perfect opportunity for you! We are seeking more volunteers to sew rug strips together, for our weavers to make into rugs. Please call the shop at 925-7098, or stop in, and talk to Kris or Anita.

## SPOTLIGHT HYMN — A MIGHTY FORTRESS IS OUR GOD

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A Mighty Fortress Is Our God was written in the late 1520s by Martin Luther during one of the most dangerous and uncertain periods of the Protestant Reformation. Luther lived under constant threat, political turmoil surrounded the church, and personal sorrow weighed heavily on his life. In the midst of fear and opposition, this hymn was born, not as a song of escape, but as a confession of unshakable trust in God.

The hymn is inspired by Psalm 46, which proclaims God as a refuge and strength, "a very present help in trouble." Rather than simply paraphrasing the psalm, Luther set its message to music, teaching believers to sing their faith in the face of real danger. From its earliest days, the hymn was sung by congregations, families, and reformers as a declaration that God's truth stands firm even when the world feels unstable.

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God reminds us that the Christian life is marked by perseverance, not ease. It acknowledges spiritual conflict, yet boldly proclaims Christ's victory over sin, death, and the devil. The hymn's enduring message is clear. Kingdoms may fall, threats may rise, and lives may be shaken, but God's kingdom endures forever.

As we sing this hymn at the beginning of a new year, we do so as part of a long line of believers who have trusted God in difficult times. This hymn calls us to stand firm in faith, confident that the Lord Himself is our defense and our hope.

## A WORD TO OUR CHURCH FAMILY

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As we enter 2026, we want to share an important and honest update with our church family. Over the past few months, giving has fallen behind the needs of our ministry. If this continues, we may need to reduce some areas of ministry and operation in the months ahead. This is not something we desire, but it is a reality we must acknowledge.

We believe God has called us to serve faithfully in this place, and that calling is shared by all of us. If you are able, please prayerfully consider supporting the work of the church through regular and generous giving. The ministries we value, the people we serve, and the mission we share depend on the faithfulness of God's people working together.

Thank you for your prayers, commitment, and continued faithfulness as we move forward together.