Worship 9:30am

10:50am potluck

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Nancy Bosché, organist

WELCOME AND PRAYER

*HYMN #10 SJ

Carmen Shelly, worship leader

Spirit, working in creation

WE LISTEN AND LEARN

CONVERSATION WITH CHILDREN

Natasha VanDyke

Annual backpack back-to-school blessing.

WELCOME DIRECTOR OF FAITH FORMATION AND YOUTH MINISTRY Sarah Neher

VBS SHARING

Imagine God! was the theme of our Vacation Bible School on August 17. Activities included music, bible storytelling, drama, and art, for students in preschool through 5th grade.

SCRIPTURE

Ephesians 3:7-21

I became a minister of the Good News by the gift of divine grace given me through the working of God's power. To me, the least of all believers, was given the grace to preach to the Gentiles the unfathomable riches of Christ and to enlighten all people on the mysterious design which for ages was hidden in God, the Creator of all.

Now, therefore, through the church, God's manifold wisdom is made known to the rulers and powers of heaven, in accord with the age-old design, carried out in Christ Jesus our Savior, in whom we have boldness and confident access to God through our faith in Christ. So, I beg you, never be discouraged because of my sufferings for you. They are your glory.

That is why I kneel before Abba God, from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. And I pray that God, out of the riches of divine glory, will strengthen you inwardly with power through the working of the Spirit. May Christ dwell in your hearts through faith, so that you, being rooted and grounded in love, will be able to grasp fully the breadth, length, height and depth of Christ's love and, with all God's holy ones, experience this love that surpasses all understanding, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

To God—whose power now at work in us can do immeasurably more than we ask or imagine—to God be glory in the Church and in Christ Jesus through all generations, world without end! Amen.

SERMON

HYMN (see insert)

Could it be that God is singing

WE RESPOND AND SHARE

SHARING JOY

We welcome the introduction of guests and visitors during this time. One way we get to know one another is by signing the friendship registers. Once the register reaches the center aisle, please pass it back to the outer aisle.

SHARING CONCERNS

PRAYING TOGETHER

Slips of paper are available in the pew racks for those who wish to offer joys and concerns silently and anonymously. These papers, if put in the offering plate, will be placed in the prayer bowl table at the front of the sanctuary.

OFFERING

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHT AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

If you did not have time to submit a written announcement, or if something new needs highlighting, please hand your written announcement to the worship leader or pastor <u>before</u> the worship service.

WE GO INTO THE WORLD WITH LOVE

This is God's Wondrous World

*SENDING FORTH

*HYMN (see back of bulletin)

Please remain standing for the closing hymn and postlude.

* POSTLUDE

* Please stand in body or in spirit.

Unless otherwise indicated, hymns are in the blue *Hymnal: A Worship Book*. Songs designated "SJ" are in the green *Sing the Journey* hymnal. The hymns for today's service are from *The Voices Together Hymnal Sampler*. As we sing, please use language that makes worship most meaningful, enriching and inclusive.

RAINBOW MENNONITE CHURCH

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Pastor: Ruth Harder (ruthh@rainbowmennonite.org) Minister of Worship and Music: Roseann Penner Kaufman (music@rainbowmennonite.org) Director of Faith Formation and Youth Ministries: Sarah Neher (youth@rainbowmennonite.org) Outreach Ministries Coordinator: Ben Parker Sutter (outreach@rainbowmennonite.org) Church Administrator: Carrie Parsons (office@rainbowmennonite.org) Church Sexton: Mark Bartholomew (maintenance@rainbowmennonite.org)



^{*}Originally "This is my Father's world"

Text: Maltbie D. Babcock (USA), *Thoughts for Every-Day Living*, 1901, alt. Music: traditional English; adapt. Franklin L. Sheppard (USA), *Alleluia*, 1915