



HOLY HILARITY SUNDAY

APRIL 23, 2017

Worship – 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School – 10:50 a.m.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

“Ballet” from *Petite Suite* Debussy
Karen Goering Hostetler and Rachel Hostetler, pianists

WELCOME AND PRAYER

Rosi Penner Kaufman

*HYMN #71

Joyful, joyful we adore thee

STORYTELLING

THE OFTEN OVERLOOKED HUMOR OF JESUS

ANTHEM

Alleluia Fugue

J.S. Bach, arr. Jack North

Adapted from Bach's *Fugue in G Minor*

TEACHING

Grocery Gospel

Mike Horner

*HYMN (see insert)

Give to us laughter

COMMUNITY BUILDING

MENTOR BLESSING

We are thankful for these young people, their parents, and their mentors. It is our prayer that our church can continue to be a place for our youth to grow. We as a church promise to support and pray for these mentoring relationships. May God bless each of you as you continue to grow together.

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 attendance register 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 at the front of the sanctuary.

One: O Lord, giver of joy and laughter, we thank you for giving us these gifts.

All: For the moments of laughter and joy you give to us even in times of struggle:

East: for opportunities to laugh at ourselves,

West: for the belly laughs of children,

East: for the courage to smile even when difficulties arise,

West: for those who have hope even when others think there is no hope,

East: for saints in the Lord who overflow with laughter and spread your joy to all of us.

All: For the words of Jesus that defy our logical minds;

Women: for teaching us that we can be born again,

Men: for the woman who finds a lost coin and calls her friends and neighbors to celebrate,

Women: for the absurdity of a camel trying to fit through the eye of a needle,

Men: for tiny bits of faith that can move entire mountains,

Women: for the reality that nothing can live unless it first dies.

All: For the great reversal of the Gospel:

One: that the last shall be made first, that the rejected stone became the cornerstone, that those who wish to become great must serve, that the lost will be found, that the small will become great, that though you are Wisdom, you choose to forget our sins, that when we are weak, your strength shines through us.

All: O Lord, giver of joy and laughter, we thank you for giving us these gifts.

One: Thank you for the gift you give us that allows us to enjoy these things to the fullest.

All: We can laugh because of the most amazing thing of all – that you conquered death, that the tomb is empty, that light shone so bright that it overcame the darkness. Amen.**

OFFERING

Offertory: *I waited for the Lord*

Mendelssohn
Melissa Funk and Nick Schroeder

BULLETIN BLOOPERS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENDING

*HYMN #427

You shall go out with joy



Children in K - 5th grade are dismissed for WorshipArts (Room 114), a time for children to respond to worship, ask questions and learn more about the language, ritual, movement, sound and art incorporated in worship.

6th-12th grade women are also dismissed for women's ensemble rehearsal in Ruth's office.

*SENDING FORTH

One: The Laughing One called us together

All: so we could share in the laughter of life.

One: The Laughing One sends us out,

All: to carry the joy of life and love to the world. Hip Hip Hooray!

*POSTLUDE

* Please stand as you are able.

**Adapted from a prayer by April Fiet

Bulletin, *noun*;

- 1. something to read during the sermon;*
- 2. a fan used in churches without air conditioning;*
- 3. your receipt for attending church.*

RAINBOW MENNONITE CHURCH

1444 Southwest Boulevard

Kansas City, KS 66103

www.rainbowmennonite.org

Office hours: M-F 9am-4pm

Pastor Ruth's Blog: www.overandaroundtherainbow.com

(913) 236-8820

Pastor: Ruth Hardly (ruthh@rainbowmennonite.org)

Music Ministries Director: Nosi Penner Kaufman (music@rainbowmennonite.org)

Church Administrator: Carrie Pastors (office@rainbowmennonite.org)

Youth and Outreach Ministries Director: Renee Runner (renee@rainbowmennonite.org)

Maintenance Coordinator: Terry House (maintenance@rainbowmennonite.org)