

September 12, 2021

Worship 9:30am

Sunday School for Children/Adults 10:50am

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Janelle Arnett Campbell, organist

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP

Lonnie Buerge, worship leader

Leader: To worship is to stand in awe under a heaven of stars,
before a flower, a leaf in sunlight, or a grain of sand.

**People: To worship is to be silent, receptive,
before a tree astir with the wind, or the passing shadow of a cloud.**

Leader: To worship is to work with dedication and with skill;
it is to pause from work and listen to a strain of music.

**People: To worship is to sing with the singing beauty of the earth;
it is to listen through a storm to the still small voice within.**

*All: Worship is the mystery within us
reaching out to the Mystery beyond.
from VT 855*

HYMN VT 377

New Earth, Heavens New

Due to Covid restrictions, please hum

WE LISTEN AND LEARN

MOMENT OF WONDER

Nancy Gritman

SCRIPTURE

Genesis 1:1-2:4a

TEACHING

Ruth Harder

MUSICAL RESPONSE

*A Song for Japan***

Steven Verhelst

Laura Saylor, trumpet; Andy Toews, trombone, Rosi Penner Kaufman, piano

WE RESPOND AND SHARE

OFFERING

SHARING JOY

We welcome the introduction of guests and visitors during this time.

SHARING CONCERNS

As we share our joys and concerns, please be mindful of those gathered remotely.

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.

WE GO INTO THE WORLD WITH LOVE

POSTLUDE

After the postlude, please exit the sanctuary for fellowship time outside.

***"A Song For Japan" was started by Japanese trombone players living outside Japan in an effort to raise awareness of the devastation caused by the 2011 earthquake and tsunami in eastern Japan. The earthquake and tsunami hit Japan - the most well-prepared country for earthquakes - with the magnitude 9.0, which was the highest in the history of Japan. More than 18,000 people died. Many cities and towns were completely destroyed. The project organizers add, "We would like to pray all the victim's souls may rest in peace. Our sympathy and warmest wishes are with people of Tohoku Area in Japan." from <http://www.trombones.jp/EN/EN.html>.

Doughnuts are BACK! After the service exit using the west doors making your way to the north parking lot. Please eat your doughnut outdoors before returning to the building for Sunday School. Doughnuts are provided by the families of the youth as a fundraiser. We ask that you make a donation either in the basket provided or online designating the youth fund.

<https://app.easytithe.com/App/Giving/Rain1444764>

Sunday School Locations

K-5th, Rainbow Room (at the bottom of the east stairs to the left)

Jr. High (6th-8th), Jr. High Room (the first classroom at the top of the east stairs)

Sr. High (9th-12th), Sr. High Room (the classroom closest to the balcony)

Adult Sunday School

"Wisdom of the Crowd: An Inter-active exploration of Housing and Race, Issues and Remedies", coordinated by Phil Rhoads. This will be our first class offered "hybrid" for those present and those on Zoom. We hope that our "crowd" will be broad enough and deep enough to share our collective wisdom on these issues, and uncover several possible remedies. This class will meet in the Wesley Room.

Rosi Penner Kaufman will lead a Sunday School class introducing the new *Voices Together* suite of worship materials - the first five weeks we'll explore the hymnal, and the next four, the Worship Leader's guide. Weather permitting, we'll meet outside in a shady spot. You may bring a folding chair from the fellowship hall, and please bring a *Voices Together* hymnal outside with you.

Caring Notes

- We celebrate with Gregory and Leah Schwarz who welcomed son Milo David into the world! Milo was born Friday, September 3.
- Becky Bartel continues to receive hospital care at Overland Park Regional. She and her family appreciate our prayers and support.
- Please remember Jake Beachey and his family during this time of grief. His sister Ella Schrock, who just turned 89, passed away on Monday August 30 after being hospitalized in Sarasota, FL.
- Please remember Ed Neufeld and family as his brother-in-law passed away recently of COVID-19.
- We would like to thank everyone for prayers, cards, visits, calls, and food following our recent surgeries. We very much appreciated the acts of kindness. - John & Pat Bertsche

Upcoming Events

TODAY - Youth Group Kick-off, RMC 6:00-8:00 pm. For all Jr. and Sr. High youth to reconnect, play games, and settle back into the youth rooms. We will gather in the north parking lot. Dinner will be provided.

Sunday, September 26 - Ordination of Dave Richardson-Spaite, during worship service

Saturday, Oct. 2nd- Intergenerational Bike Trip on Katy Trail, 10 am - 4 pm

Sunday, Oct. 31st- Intergenerational Graveyard Fun, 11:45 am - 2:00 pm

Rainbow News

The Nursery is open. It will not be staffed but will be available for families to use. There are also other spaces available for families to use: Sunflower Room (west of Sanctuary), nursery (2nd level education wing. Limited to 4 families, overflow nursery space is in the preschool classroom across the hall.), or Whitmore Playground (across the street east of the church).

Young Adults! Relax and reconnect Tuesday, September 14th from 5-7 pm on the patio at Mockingbird Lounge. It's been a while, so we will have a brief time of sharing and introductions at 5:30. If you have questions contact Sarah Neher (sarah@rainbowmennontie.org).

The Rainbow Choir has begun rehearsing, as Covid-safely as possible. There is room in the choir; anyone interested in singing is welcome to attend on Wednesdays at 6:45 pm. Singer's masks will be available. Contact Rosi at rpkaufman@rainbowmennonite.org if you have questions.

Church directory updates! As usual, there is much coming and going in the Rainbow congregation. New folks have moved here and some long-time members have moved away. Please be sure to check out the password protected section of our church website for the most up to date directory!

Church Council has approved the following new hires:

Custodian (10 hours a week): Elizabeth Cruz

Interim Maintenance Technician (20 hours a week): Euripides Solis-Ramos

Please note that we are still seeking to hire a permanent Maintenance Technician (20 hours a week) ASAP. Please help spread the word!

Stewardship update: July 2021 YTD contributions were behind budget by \$45K and behind where they were at this point last year by \$27.4K. Although expenses have also been under budget by \$19.3K, lower than usual weekly contributions so far in 2021 have resulted in a net loss of \$36.7K as of 7/31/21, not counting income from the PPP loan forgiveness. Please consider weekly contributions to help us keep pace with our budgeted expenses.

RAINBOW MENNONITE CHURCH

1444 Southwest Boulevard

Kansas City, KS 66103

(913) 236-8820

Office hours: M-W 9am-4pm Th-F 9am-1pm

www.rainbowmennonite.org

Pastor: Ruth Harder (ruthh@rainbowmennonite.org)

Minister of Worship and Music: Roseann Penner Kaufman (rpkaufman@rainbowmennonite.org)

Director of Faith Formation and Community Life: Sarah Neher (sarah@rainbowmennonite.org)

Church Administrator: Sarah Unruh (office@rainbowmennonite.org)