



Nathan

# Rainbow Christmas Festival

## December 18, 2022 10:00 am

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PRELUDE

*O Little Town of Bethlehem*

*The First Noel*

*Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

Mitch Kaufman, euphonium; Emory Penner, tenor sax

*Carol of the Bells*

Rainbow youth and friends

Carol Medley: O Come Little Children/The First Noel

Naomi Wiebe and Kate Wiebe

Candlelighting

Lonnie Buerge, candlelighter

*Between Rock and Sky* by Joan Shelley Christina Hofer and Paul Zehr

While this rock's still turning, while the star still shines

Hear the crickets calling to the hawk in flight

Over hills and valleys, between rock and sky

Sound a thousand colors in the narrow light.

Like the fading flowers on a climbing vine

So few precious hours to be you and I.

Over hills and valleys, between rock and sky

Hear the child arriving, heaving hearts first cry.

So sing joy and sorrow in this fold of time

Like there's no tomorrow raise your glasses high

Over hills and valleys, between rock and sky

To the ones that made us and the one for whom we'll die.

WELCOME

Sarah Neher and Rosi Penner Kaufman

\*HYMN VT 258

*Love Has Come*

Naomi Wiebe, pianist

INTRODUCTION TO THE STORY

Rosi Penner Kaufman

DO YOU SEE? DO YOU HEAR?

Alex Jantzen

*Do you hear what I hear* by Regney and Shayne Rainbow Strings

SCRIPTURE Luke 2:1-20 Sarah Neher

WHAT THE SHEPHERDS HEARD Mike Horner

HYMN VT 253 *While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks*

SPOKEN WORD Elsie Fleming

CHOIR *Sure on this Shining Night* Lauridsen

MUSICAL REFLECTIONS *Für Elise* Beethoven  
Emory Penner, piano

*Christmas Time is Here* Guaraldi  
Eli Janzen, solo and Jeff Janzen, piano

HYMNS VT 245 *O Little Town of Bethlehem*  
VT 247 *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

#### OFFERING

*Joy to the World* Isaac Davido  
*Twelve Days of Christmas* Adam Linscheid  
*Joy to the World* Coen Linscheid  
*Gray Murphy* Jingle Bells  
*Eleanor Murphy* Jolly Old St. Nicholas

\*HYMN VT 261 *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice*

\*SENDING FORTH Sarah Neher

#### \*POSTLUDE

*Angels from the Realms of Glory* Karla Leuenberg and Tresa Hohman

\*You are invited to stand

Bulletin Cover: Nathan Cropp

Anthem text: *Sure on this Shining Night* by Morten Lauridsen  
lyrics by James Agee

Sure on this shining night of star-made shadows round,  
kindness must watch for me this side the ground,  
on this shining night, this shining night

The late year lies down the north  
All is healed, all is health  
High summer holds the earth, hearts all whole  
Sure on this shining night

I weep for wonder wand'ring far alone  
Of shadows on the stars  
Sure on this shining night, this shining night

About our Advent visual: the image at the front of the sanctuary is the first photo taken by the Webb telescope. It's mission: "The James Webb Space Telescope will find the first galaxies that formed in the early universe and peer through dusty clouds to see stars forming planetary systems." This telescope will provide new ways of looking and seeing for many years to come.

The light sculpture at the front of the sanctuary was created by Arlie Regier and his son Paul. We have cherished the long tradition of featuring this gift during Advent and Christmas.

**New this year:** the wooden nativity set in the Wesley Room was purchased in memory of George Houghton.

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## 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](http://www.rainbowmennonite.org)

Pastor: Ruth Harder ([ruthh@rainbowmennonite.org](mailto:ruthh@rainbowmennonite.org)); *On medical leave through December*  
Minister of Worship and Music: Roseann Penner Kaufman ([rpkaufman@rainbowmennonite.org](mailto:rpkaufman@rainbowmennonite.org))  
Director of Faith Formation and Congregational Life: Sarah Neher ([sarah@rainbowmennonite.org](mailto:sarah@rainbowmennonite.org))  
Church Administrator: Sarah Unruh ([office@rainbowmennonite.org](mailto:office@rainbowmennonite.org))  
Maintenance Facilitator: David Coffman ([maintenance@rainbowmennonite.org](mailto:maintenance@rainbowmennonite.org))