



Image from VT 445

May 7, 2023

Worship 9:30am

Fellowship 10:30am
Faith Formation for all ages 10:50am

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Rosi Penner Kaufman, organist

WELCOME AND PRAYER

Sarah Neher, worship leader

***HYMN VT 441**

Crashing Waters at Creation

WE LISTEN AND LEARN

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 28:16-20

SERMON

Ruth Harder

HYMN VT 774

Lord, You Give the Great Commission

Sing to the tune BEACH SPRING as projected

Baptism of Emory Penner & Esther Walker

Faith Statements

From Emory: When making the decision to be baptized I thought about what that meant for me personally and how it will affect my life. For me, baptism will mean following Jesus and his teachings whenever possible, putting others before myself, and becoming more active within the Rainbow community. I know that my faith will change and evolve over time, but I also know that the Rainbow community will always be there for me through my faith journey. I am excited to become an official member of this church, and I hope this amazing community becomes an even more prominent part of my life.

From Esther: In the past year, I have come to appreciate how unique Rainbow Mennonite Church is and understand how much this community has shaped me. In school and other activities, I have become increasingly aware of other faith communities around me – whether that meant learning more about other religions or even the atmosphere in another church. As a result, I have begun to appreciate the extent to which Rainbow's open and accepting community has shaped me so far, and I have decided to pursue baptism at RMC as another step on that journey.

Congregational Response:

Leader: God of wanderers and seekers, we give thanks for Esther and Emory and their desire to explore faith and prepare for baptism. Be with them in their growing, questioning, doubting, and wondering. Be with them as they build confidence and grow in desire and hope.

All: Be with us in discerning our common life and guide our counsel. Open us to faith as it grows in ways both familiar and new so that we may journey together as your beloved children. We ask this in the name of Jesus, who prayed that we might be one by the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

HYMN VT 389

Together

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

Offertory: VT 453 *As I Went Down to the River to Pray*

Paul Zehr, solo *Please join when indicated*

WE GO INTO THE WORLD WITH LOVE

*HYMN VT 830

Go, My Children

*SENDING FORTH

*POSTLUDE

*You are invited to stand

RAINBOW MENNONITE CHURCH

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

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