

July 23, 2023

Worship 9:30am

Fellowship 10:30am

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Karen Goering Hostetler, pianist

WELCOME AND PRAYER

Lonnie Buerge, worship leader

*HYMN VT 5

All People That on Earth Do Dwell

WE LISTEN AND LEARN

MOMENT OF WONDER

Natasha VanDyke

SPECIAL MUSIC

Blessings
Polly and Annie Carlson

Laura Story

SERMON

Ruth Harder

HYMN VT 531

Holy Presence, Holy Teacher

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.

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

SHARING CONCERNS

PRAYING TOGETHER

VT 43 *God, be the Love* st. 1 soloist, st. 2-5, all

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

WE GO INTO THE WORLD WITH LOVE

*HYMN (see last page)

In the Midst of New Dimensions

*SENDING FORTH

*POSTLUDE

*You are invited to stand

RAINBOW MENNONITE CHURCH

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Office hours: Mon, Tue, Wed, Fri 9:00-4:30pm

www.rainbowmennonite.org

Pastor: Ruth Harder (ruthh@rainbowmennonite.org) Day off is Friday

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

Interim Children's Faith Formation Director: Sara Mwagura (children@rainbowmennonite.org)

Interim Youth Faith Formation Director: Dustin Fish (youth@rainbowmennonite.org)

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

Interim Maintenance Facilitator: Jordan Smith (maintenance@rainbowmennonite.org)

Blessings by Laura Story

We pray for blessings
We pray for peace
Comfort for family, protection while we sleep
We pray for healing, for prosperity
We pray for Your mighty hand to ease our suffering
And all the while, You hear each spoken need
Yet love is way too much to give us lesser things.

'Cause what if your blessings come through raindrops?
What if Your healing comes through tears?
What if a thousand sleepless nights
Are what it takes to know You're near?
And what if trials of this life are Your mercies in disguise?

We pray for wisdom
Your voice to hear
And we cry in anger when we cannot feel You near
We doubt Your goodness, we doubt Your love
As if every promise from Your Word is not enough
And all the while, You hear each desperate plea
And long that we'd have faith to believe. (Refrain)

When friends betray us
And when darkness seems to win
We know that pain reminds this heart
That this is not, this is not our home
It's not our home

'Cause what if your blessings come through raindrops?
What if Your healing comes through tears?
And what if the thousand sleepless nights
Are what it takes to know You're near?

What if my greatest disappointments
Or the aching of this life
Is the revealing of a greater thirst this world can't satisfy
And what if trials of this life
The rain, the storms, the hardest nights
Are Your mercies in disguise?

In the Midst of New Dimensions

In the midst of new di-men-sions, in the face of chang-ing ways,
Through the flood of starv-ing peo - ple, war - ring fac-tions, and de - spair,
As we stand, a world di - vid - ed by our own self - seek - ing schemes,
We are man and we are wo - man, all per - sua-sions, old and young,
Should the threats of dire pre-dic-tions cause us to with-draw in pain,

5
who will lead the pil - grim peo - ples wan - dering in their sep - arate ways?
who will lift the ol - ive branch - es? Who will light the flame of care?
grant that we, your glob - al vil - lage, might en - vi - sion wid - er dreams.
each a gift in your cre - a - tion, each a love song to be sung.
may your blaz - ing phoe-nix spir - it res - ur - rect the church a gain.

9
God of rain - bow, fier - y pil - lar, lead - ing where the ea - gles soar,

13
We your peo - ple ours the jour - ney now and ev - er more.