



**Advent 3: Peace
December 17, 2023**

Worship 9:30am; Fellowship 10:30 am; Christmas Program 11:00am

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Nancy Bosché, pianist

WELCOME Luke 1:46-55

Ruth Harder, worship leader

*HYMN VT 208

With Mary Sing Magnificat

Bringing in the light: Dave Schrag and Eleanor Murphy

MOMENT OF WONDER

Advent Travelers

VT 218

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

WE PRAY, LEARN, AND SHARE GIFTS

Due to the special nature of today's presentations, we will have a shortened community building time today. Please take time to read the announcements and caring notes in today's bulletin. And we invite everyone to stay for an extended fellowship hour (coffee and donuts) between services.

OFFERING

*HYMN VT 224

Hacia Belén (Mary Journeyed)

MEDITATION

Carols and Lullabies: Christmas in the Southwest

by Conrad Susa

1. ¡Oh, mi Belén!
2. On December's frozen ground
3. Alegría
4. A la Nanita
5. Campana sobre Campana
6. En Belén Tocan a Fuego
7. El Noi de la Mare
8. Chiquirriquitín
9. El Rorro

(please hold applause until after the Sending Forth)

*SENDING FORTH

SPECIAL THANKS

Wesley Snell, harp

Emily Schaeffer, marimba and vibraphone

Mark Bentley, guitar

Janelle Arnett Campbell, rehearsal accompanist

Soloists: Polly Carlson, Annie Carlson, Duane Graber, Mitch Kaufman

Rosi Penner Kaufman, Conductor

2023 Christmas Program

Prelude: Bell Processional

Wind quintet: Adam Linscheid, Coen Linscheid, Arri Jantzen, Eli Jantzen,
Emory Penner

Rainbow Strings

Traveling Treasures

This retelling of the story of Jesus' birth was a creative process that started with Pastor Ruth's mother Judy, who graciously shared her ideas for a unique focus on the traveling of the characters in the story. She allowed us to use the idea but make it our own. The youth and children helped to do this by giving suggestions for an extraordinary number of props with which the characters might have traveled had they lived in a more modern setting.

Narrators: Emory Penner, Emmeline Walker, Adam Linscheid, Esther Walker

Mary: Kate Wiebe (Scene 1), Adeline Penner (Scenes 2 & 3)
Eleanor Murphy (Scenes 4 & 6)

Elizabeth: Eleanor Murphy

Joseph: Arri Janzen

Innkeeper 1: Adam Linscheid

Innkeeper 2: Odyssey Stoltzfus

Shepherds: Coen Linscheid, Gray Murphy, Harry Murphy, Ryder Smith, Autumn Stoltzfus

Harold Angel: Isaac Davido

Neighbors: Sadie Davido, Sophie Janzen

Angels: Simone Pauls, Eleanor Allison, Emma Allison, Evelyn Mwangura,
Hazel Rushing, Nora Schwarz, Willa Histan Chittum
Silas Histan Chittum, Layla Smith

Singers: Eli Janzen, Madeline and Jan Bollinger

Violinist: Ella Wiebe

Rainbow Strings: led by Jesse Graber, Steve Goeke and Gail Goeke

Props: Marco Flores, Liliana Mwangura, Evelyn Allison, Ella Wiebe

Scenery: Emmeline Walker, Vicky Kaufman

UPCOMING

Sun., Dec. 24 Christmas Eve

Morning Advent 4 worship service at 10:30 am with no second hour

Evening candlelight service at 6:30 pm with special offering for Deacons' Fund

Sun., Dec. 31 New Years Eve Day

Worship service at 10:30 am with no second hour

Please bring your leftover Christmas goodies to share during fellowship time!

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 Mwangura (children@rainbowmennonite.org)

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

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

Maintenance Facilitator: Gary Long (maintenance@rainbowmennonite.org)

Custodian: Elizabeth Cruz (Tuesdays and Fridays)