

ADVENT 4
December 22, 2024



Artist: Cece Pauls

*Crying out hope, peace, joy, and **love** in the (be)wilderness*

Love / Ahava / Amor / Habba

愛

Worship 9:30am

Fellowship 10:30am
Additional sharing time 10:50am

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Karen Goering Hostetler, pianist

CALL TO ADVENT: A VOICE OF LOVE CRIES OUT

Isaiah 40:3-5, 28 retold

Rosi Penner Kaufman & Lonnie Buerge

LIGHTING CANDLES OF LOVE

Pre-K and Kindergarten

Our light sculpture at the front was created by Arlie Regier and his son Paul. We cherish the long tradition of featuring this gift during Advent and Christmas. This year we will light a different section for each Sunday of Advent. Today's lights are for **love**.

Light a candle of peace, light a candle of love | Light a candle that shines, all around the world
Light a candle for me, light a candle for you | That our wish for world peace will one day come true.
Sing peace around the world

WELCOME AND PRAYER

Rosi Penner Kaufman, worship leader

*HYMN VT 255

Love Came Down at Christmas

WE YEARN FOR LOVE

ANTHEM

Every Valley

Martin

SCRIPTURE

Luke 1:67-79

SERMON

Ruth Harder

HYMN VT 267/268

As directed

What Child Is This/Helpless and Hungry

WE SHARE LOVE WITHIN THE (BE)WILDERNESS

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

SUNG PRAYER VT 258 *Love Has Come*

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

If you would like to take advantage of electronic giving, please find the QR code printed in the newsnotes.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE GO INTO THE WORLD WITH LOVE

*HYMN VT 259

To Us a Child of Hope is Born

*SENDING FORTH

One: The Lord gives *love* to the faint, and strengthens the powerless.

All: Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

*POSTLUDE

*You are welcome to stand.

Anthem: *Every Valley*. Text adapted from Isaiah, Music by Joseph M. Martin.

Ev'ry valley shall be lifted, ev'ry mountain be made low,
Ev'ry valley shall be lifted, and the crooked be made whole.
Sound the trumpet, for the glory of the Lord shall be revealed
Come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lowly exile here, until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Give thanks and sing!
Emmanuel shall come to Thee, O Israel.
For the glory of the Lord shall be revealed.

RAINBOW MENNONITE CHURCH

1444 Southwest Boulevard

Kansas City, KS 66103

(913) 236-8820

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

www.rainbowmennonite.org

Wi-Fi network: RMC **Password:** rainbows

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

Associate Pastor: Roseann Penner Kaufman (rpkaufman@rainbowmennonite.org)

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

Interim Youth Faith Formation Director: Natasha VanDyke (youth@rainbowmennonite.org)

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

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

Custodian: Elizabeth Cruz (Tuesdays and Fridays)