

RAMAH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

THE REVEREND BRIAN COPELAND
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC: TIM WARD
16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JULY 23, 2017

WE GATHER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

✦ *CALL TO WORSHIP*

ONE O Lord, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

ALL You have set your glory above the heavens.

ONE When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established; what are human beings that you are mindful of them, mortals that you care for them?

ALL Yet you have made them a little lower than God and crowned them with glory and honor.

✦ HYMN

WE CONFESS

CALL TO CONFESSION

ONE Sisters and brothers, all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. We did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but we have received a spirit of adoption.

ALL Let us then confess our sin with the freedom of children who know how deeply they are loved.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

In Unison

Merciful God, your creatures cry—creation groans—but we turn away; we surround ourselves with noise. We are quick to excuse ourselves from responsibility: we are young; we are old; we are tired; we are busy. It is hard to imagine that we might make a difference.

Life-giving God, wash us clean. Restore our imaginations and our hearts. Let your courage and compassion flow through our veins until we love with abandon and our hands reach out in blessing, for the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God. (*silent reflection*)

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

ONE The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. I declare in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

ALL **May the God of mercy, who forgives all our sins, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. Amen.**

RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS

Blue #376

Love divine, all loves excelling, Joy of heaven, to earth come down, Fix in us Thy humble dwelling, All Thy faithful mercies crown! Jesus, Thou art all compassion, Pure, unbounded love Thou art; Visit us with Thy salvation, Enter every trembling heart.

⌘ PEACE

⌘ GLORIA PATRI

Blue #579

WE HEAR

CHILDREN'S TIME

Pastor Brian

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

- ONE O LORD, you have searched me and known me.
ALL **You know when I sit down and when I rise up;
you discern my thoughts from far away.**
- ONE You search out my path and my lying down,
and are acquainted with all my ways.
ALL **Even before a word is on my tongue,
O LORD, you know it completely.**
- ONE You hem me in, behind and before,
and lay your hand upon me.
ALL **Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
it is so high that I cannot attain it.**
- ONE Where can I go from your spirit?
Or where can I flee from your presence?
ALL **If I ascend to heaven, you are there;
if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.**
- ONE If I take the wings of the morning
and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,
ALL **even there your hand shall lead me,
and your right hand shall hold me fast.**
- ONE If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me,
and the light around me become night,"
ALL **even the darkness is not dark to you;
the night is as bright as the day,
for darkness is as light to you.**
- ONE Search me, O God, and know my heart;
test me and know my thoughts.
ALL **See if there is any wicked^[c] way in me,
and lead me in the way everlasting**

INTERLUDE

- ✠ GOSPEL Matthew 13:24-30,36-43
This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

WE RESPOND

✠ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *The Apostle's Creed (Traditional)*
Blue page 14

✠ HYMN OF
RESPONSE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER
(Traditional)
Blue page 16

CALL TO OFFERING

WORSHIP WITH TITHES & OFFERINGS

✠ DOXOLOGY *Blue #592*

PRAYER AFTER OFFERING

WE DEPART

✠ HYMN

✠ BENEDICTION

✠ POSTLUDE

+ + +

✠ PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE

THOSE ASSISTING IN SERVICE TODAY

Greeters	Lee Brown
Children's Church	Sonya Ashburn
Toddler Nursery	Jo Brown & Ann McCarthy
Acolyte	Lacey Mayhew

THIS WEEK AT RAMAH

Sunday, July 23
9am,, Sunday school
10am, Worship

Tuesday, July 25
6pm, Scouts

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Walter Craven
Jackie Keel (sister of Janine Bryant)
Dave McCord
Martha Ann Readling
Jo Ruple (mother of Jo Brown)
Linda Scott
Jeanette Shoemaker
Tim Ward

Sarah Craven Washam
*Remember our Military
& our First Responders

*People will be placed on the
prayer list at your request for
30 days.

If you would like them to
remain for another 30 days,
please request again.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

What is a service of wholeness and healing?

The Directory for Worship reminds us that "Healing was an integral part of the ministry of Jesus which the church has been called to continue as one dimension of its concern for the wholeness of people. Through services for wholeness, the church enacts in worship its ministry as a healing community.

"Services for wholeness are to be authorized by the session, and shall be under the direction of the pastor. Such services may be observed as regularly scheduled services of worship, as occasional services, or as part of the Service for the Lord's Day. (W-3.3506) These services should be open to all and not restricted to those desiring healing for themselves or for others of special concern to them. The services should be held in a place readily accessible to those who may be seeking healing.

"The vital element of worship in the service for wholeness is prayer since this is essentially a time of waiting in faith upon God. Thanksgiving for God's promise of wholeness, intercessions and supplications should be offered. Adequate time for silent prayer should be provided, as well as occasions for prayers spoken and sung. Enacted prayer in the form of the laying on of hands and anointing with oil is appropriate. (James. 5:14.) The enactment of prayers involves the presiding minister of Word and Sacrament together with representatives of the believing community.

"These prayers are a response to the Word read and proclaimed. Particular focus should be on announcing the gospel's promise of wholeness through Christ. The sealing of this promise in the Lord's Supper may be celebrated, and should follow the prayers and the laying on of hands. Occasion for offering one's life and gifts for ministry may be provided, as well as opportunities for reconciliation and renewed commitment to the service of Jesus Christ in the world.

“When a service for wholeness includes anointing and the laying on of hands, these enacted prayers should be introduced carefully in order to avoid misinterpretation and misunderstanding. Healing is to be understood not as the result of the holiness, earnestness, or skill of those enacting the prayers, or of the faith of the ones seeking healing, but as the gift of God through the power of the Holy Spirit” (W-3.5400).

Children’s Worship bulletins are available in the Narthex.

The Elder on call for July is Dianne Dulovitz:
(704) 962-5674.

Last week’s attendance: 57
Weekly needs \$3,787 actual offering \$2,475
YTD collections: \$73,832 YTD budget: \$90,888

KEEPING UP WITH RAMAH

- July 30, **Hymn Sing**
- August 2, Session meeting, 7PM
- August 6, service for Wholeness & Healing
- August 9, Dinner & Bible, 6:15PM

*DETAILS IN THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTERS
CHURCH WEBSITE: WWW.RAMAHPCUSA.ORG

