

+ GATHERING AROUND THE WORD +

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

✦ **PEACE**

PRELUDE

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

The Lord is coming to his temple.

We watch and wait for his coming.

Prepare the way of the Lord!

We light this candle as a symbol of the purity of heart only God can bring.

For he shall purify his people like gold and silver, until they shine forth in his righteousness.

Come, Lord Jesus, come!

✦ **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Psalm 85:8-11

Let me hear what God the Lord will speak, for he will speak peace to his people, to his faithful, to those who turn to him in their hearts.

[sing] **Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

Surely his salvation is at hand for those who fear him, that his glory may dwell in our land.

[sing] **Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet; righteousness and peace will kiss each other.

[sing] **Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

Faithfulness will spring up from the ground, and righteousness will look down from the sky.

[sing] **Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

✦ **HYMN #245**

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

CALL TO CONFESSION

God does not want anyone to perish,
but rather for all to come to repentance.
**Therefore, let us confess our sins,
for God's salvation is at hand.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

[unison]

Faithful God, we confess that we have not led lives of holiness.

We suffer from impatience, apathy, and greed;

we have not been at peace.

We repent of these offenses and turn to you in love. Forgive our iniquity

and pardon our sins,

that we may walk in righteousness to the glory of your name.

[continue in silence, personal confession]

✦ **RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS**

[sing verse 3 of Hymn #240 in hymnal]

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Symbols of the Nativity Story

+ PROCLAIMING THE WORD +

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 40:1-11

EPISTLE READING 2 Peter 3:8-15a

INTERLUDE

✦ **GOSPEL** Mark 1:1-8

SERMON

+ RESPONDING TO THE WORD +

✦ **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Apostles' Creed [traditional]

✦ **HYMN #251**

"It Came upon the Midnight Clear"

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord's Prayer [traditional]

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERING AND OFFERTORY

✦ **RESPONSE TO OFFERING**

"What Can I Give Him" [see insert]

✦ **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

+ BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD +

✦ **HYMN #93**

"Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates" [see insert]

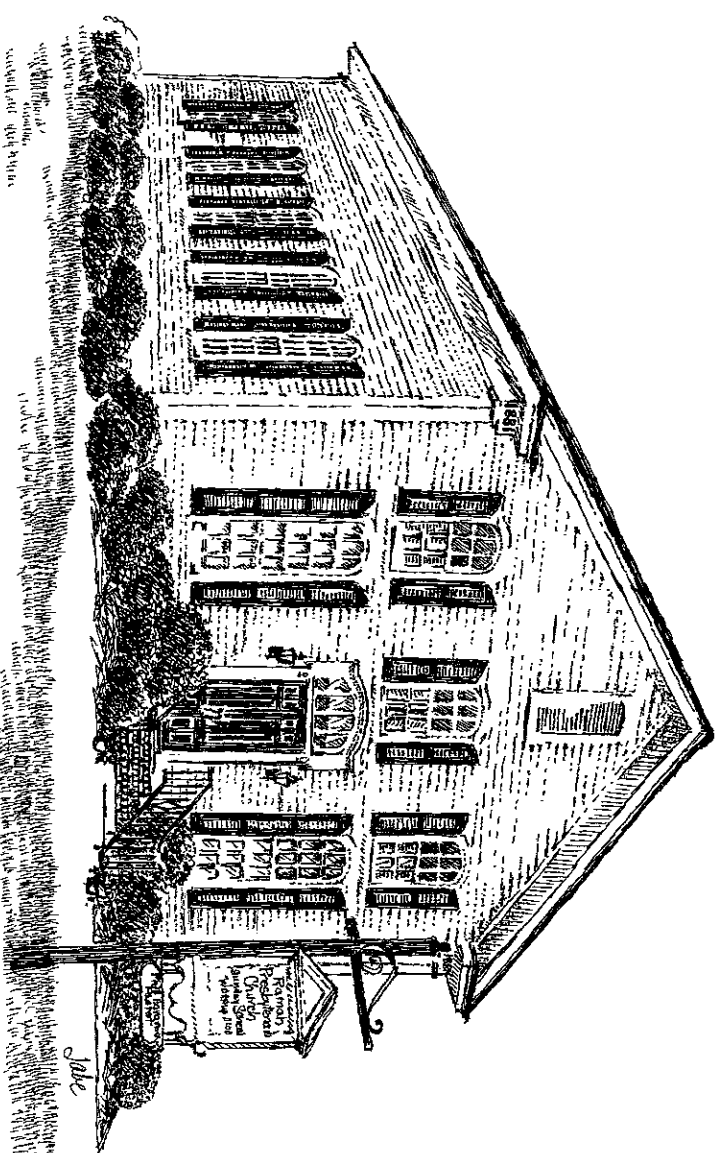
✦ **BENEDICTION**

✦ **POSTLUDE**

+ + +

✦ PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE

A PRINTED COPY OF THE ANNOUNCEMENTS IS AVAILABLE ON THE NARTHEX TABLE



RAMAH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH USA

14401 Ramah Church Road, Huntersville, NC 28078

704.875.6683, www.RamahPCUSA.org

Sunday, December 10, 2017
Second Sunday of Advent

Worship Leadership:

The Reverend Brian Copeland

The Director of Music: Tim Ward

Nursery: Rodney & Kathy Kiser

Children's Church: Jeff & Sally Watson

Greeter: Larry Makin

Acolyte: Cooper Watson

Advent Reader: The Lindsay Family