

+ GATHERING AROUND THE WORD +

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

✦ PEACE

PRELUDE

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

My soul magnifies the Lord;

my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.

The Mighty One has done great things.

Holy is God's name!

We light this candle as a symbol of the joy
to be found in your kingdom on earth.

For the Lord elevates the lowly; releases the captive,
and brings sight to the blind.

We rejoice in his justice and mercy, faithful to all generations.

Come, Lord Jesus, come!

✦ CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 96:1-4

O sing to the Lord a new song;

Sing to the Lord, all the earth.

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

Sing to the Lord, bless his name;

Tell of his salvation from day to day.

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

Declare his glory among the nations,

His marvelous works among all the peoples.

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

For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised;

He is to be revered above all gods.

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

✦ HYMN #250

CALL TO CONFESSION

Let us confess our sins to the One
whose mercy endures from generation to generation.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

[unison]

Faithful God, we know that you are always there to guide us, yet we often
make plans without listening to you and discover that our human
agendas can drown out our ability to hear your will for us.

We repent of these faults and turn to you in love.
Forgive our offenses and pardon our sins,
that our lives may magnify your holy name forever.
[continue in silence, personal confession]

✦ RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS

[sing verse 3 of Hymn #240 in hymnal]

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

+ PROCLAIMING THE WORD +

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 9:2-7

EPISTLE READING Titus 2:11-14

INTERLUDE

✦ GOSPEL Luke 2:1-20

SERMON

+ RESPONDING TO THE WORD +

✦ **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Apostles' Creed [traditional]

✦ **HYMN #275**

"Sing We Now of Christmas"

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**

HOLY COMMUNION

+ BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD +

✦ **HYMN #282**

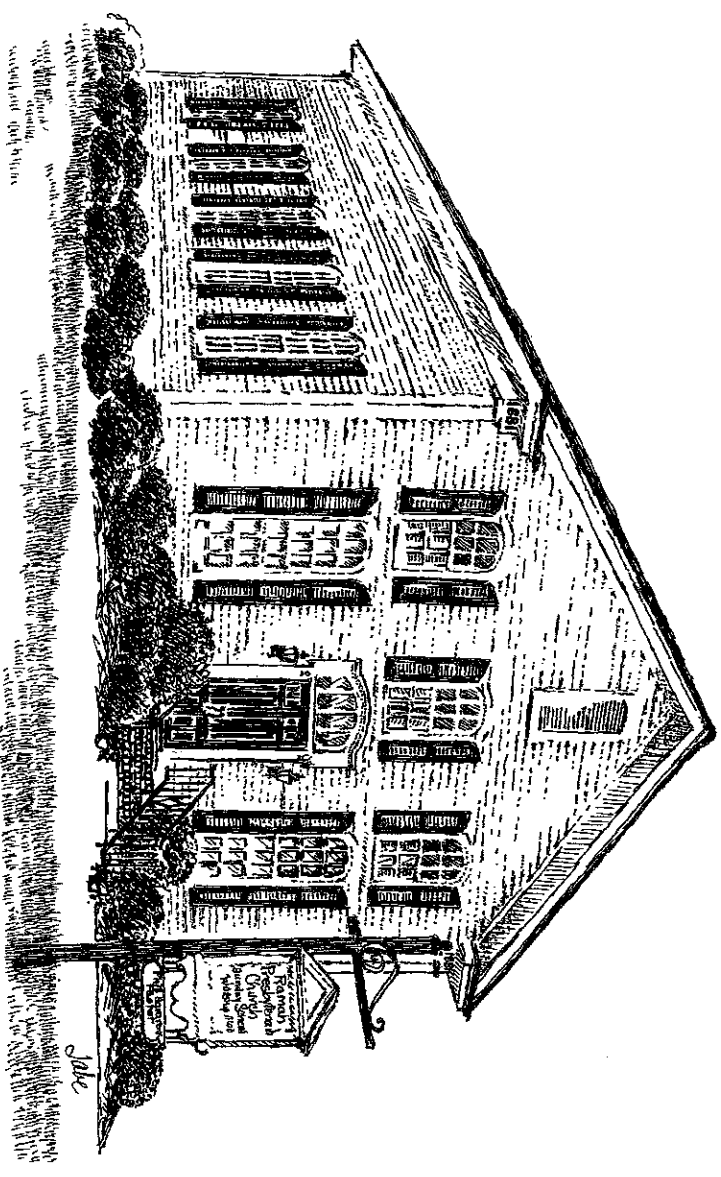
"O Thou Joyful, O Thou Wonderful"

✦ **BENEDICTION**

✦ **POSTLUDE**

+ + +

✦ PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE



RAMAH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH USA

14401 Ramah Church Road, Huntersville, NC 28078

704.875.6683, www.RamahPCUSA.org

Sunday, December 24, 2017
Fourth Sunday of Advent

Worship Leadership:

The Reverend Brian Copeland

The Director of Music: Tim Ward

Nursery: Karen Helms & Dianne Dulovitz

Children's Church: Amy Isaacs

Greeter: Scott Bradford

Acolyte: John Harris

Advent Reader: Chelsea Hawkins & Family