

+ GATHERING AROUND THE WORD +

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

✦ **PEACE**

PRELUDE

✦ **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Song of Solomon 2:8-13

The voice of my beloved!

**Look, he comes, leaping upon the mountains,
bounding over the hills.**

My beloved is like a gazelle or a young stag.

**Look, there he stands behind our wall,
gazing in at the windows,
looking through the lattice.**

My beloved speaks and says to me:

**“Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away;
for now the winter is past, the rain is over and gone.**

The flowers appear on the earth; the time of singing has come,
and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land.

**The fig tree puts forth its figs, and the vines are in blossom;
they give forth fragrance.**

Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away.

✦ **HYMN #435**

“There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy”

CALL TO CONFESSION

Let us confess our sins

**to our loving God who calls us close
through our beloved Savior, Jesus Christ our Lord.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving, righteous God,

our hearts are spoiled with the wickedness you hate.

You have called us to yourself, but we have gone away.

Forgetting your living Word, we cling to dead traditions.

Deceiving ourselves, we abandon your commandments.

Hypocrites, we honor you with our lips

while our hearts are far from you.

Cleanse our hearts from evil intentions;

cleanse our tongues from evil words

so that our worship may be pure and unspoiled

and we may live with you in love for others.

[continue in silence, personal confession...]

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn?

Only Christ, and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us,

Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us.

Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation.

The old life has gone; a new life has begun.

Know that we are forgiven and be at peace. Amen.

✦ **GLORIA PATRI #581**

“Glory Be To the Father”

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

✦ **HYMN #340**

“This Is My Song”

+ PROCLAIMING THE WORD +

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

James 1:17-27

INTERLUDE

GOSPEL

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

SERMON

+ RESPONDING TO THE WORD +

✦ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH
Hymn #481

Apostles' Creed
"I Believe in God the Father"

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord's Prayer [page 35]

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERING AND OFFERTORY

✦ DOXOLOGY #606

✦ PRAYER OF DEDICATION

+ BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD +

✦ HYMN #28

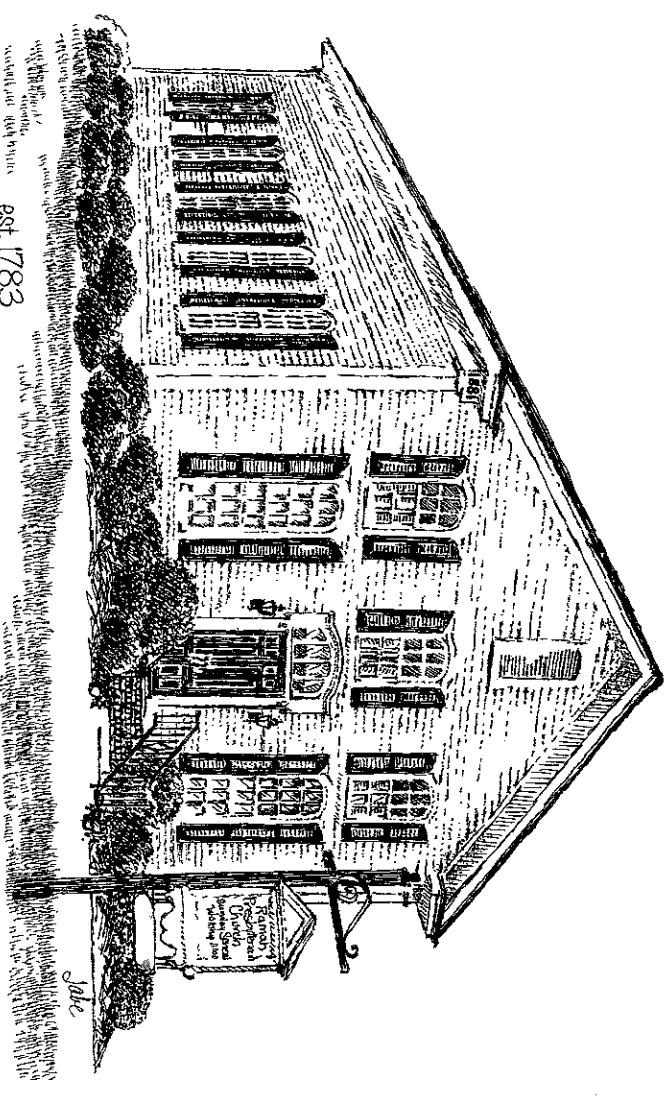
"You Are Before Me, Lord"

✦ BENEDICTION

✦ POSTLUDE

+ + +

✦PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE



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RAMAH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH USA

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704.875.6683, www.RamahPCUSA.org

Sunday, September 2, 2018
15th Sunday after Pentecost

Worship Leadership:

The Reverend Brian Copeland
The Director of Music: Tim Ward
Nursery: Alen & Scottie Baker
Children's Church: Christine Semm