

RAMAPO REFORMED CHURCH  
DECEMBER 6<sup>TH</sup>, 2020  
2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
APPROACH TO GOD

Prelude: *Merciful Savior* D. D. Eyango

Greeting: (Responsively)  
L: Our help is in the name of the Lord who made heaven and earth.  
**P: Amen.**

Lighting of the Advent Wreath:  
L: Let us worship this day, waiting in hopefulness, for God will not turn away from us.  
**P: Let us prepare ourselves this day with faith that carries us towards the presence of God without fear.**  
L: Let us turn around, repent, and find the surprising presence of the kindness of God, inviting us to know truth without judgment and love as frail as a newborn child.  
**All: Today we light two candles on the Advent wreath. The first candle reminds us to be ready. The second candle is for peace, calling us to repentance. Because the way was prepared, because God has come and redeemed the people, we can be at peace. Amen.**

Prayer

Salutation:  
L: Grace to you and peace from God, who has brought us newness of life through our Lord Jesus Christ.  
**P: Amen.**

Song of Praise: “Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus” #56

Prayer of Confession:  
**Gracious God, we thank you for your patience with us. We know you want us to come to repent of our ways of living that keep us from you. Still, we are slow and stubborn in hanging on to our way of doing things. We fear we might lose what little control we have if we give everything over to you. Forgive us our fear and our need to think we are in charge. In our darker moments, we long to trust in you completely and to give all our burdens over to you, but our pride gets in the way. Forgive us this too, O God, and help us to give our pride to you so we might live fully in your grace. Hear us for Jesus’ sake, we pray. Amen.** (Prayer of Confession Continues in Silence)

Words of Assurance

Passing of the Peace: Leader: ... The Peace of Christ be with you.  
**People: And also with you**

Response after Assurance: “Grace, Peace and Love” Justin Dimbeng

Responsive Reading: Psalm 85 (see insert)

Music Ministry: “Humble Servant” D. D. Eyango  
Performed by Justin Dimbeng

WE EXPERIENCE THE WORD OF GOD

Welcome

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Lessons: Joel 2:12-13, 28-29 p.847  
Matthew 1:18-24a p.1  
**(Response: Thanks are to God!)**

Message for Children

\*Hymn: “Go Tell It on the Mountain” #93  
\*Hymn: “Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming” (vv.1,4) #79

Sermon: “First Things First”  
Rev. William F. Grob, Pastor

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S LOVE

\*Apostles’ Creed (see back cover of hymnal)

Offering/Offertory

\*Doxology #965

\*Prayer of Dedication

Announcements & Prayer Concerns

Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper  
Meaning of the Sacrament (responsively – see insert)  
Communion Prayer  
Communion Hymn: “Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence” (vv.1,2) #821  
Sharing of the Bread & Cup  
Thanksgiving after Communion & Lord’s Prayer

\*Closing Hymn: “Gentle Mary Laid Her Child” (see insert)

\*Benediction

Postlude: *On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry* George Ratcliffe Woodward  
Performed by Justin Dimbeng

\*Indicates where those who are able may stand

### Grace Peace and Love

Grace Peace and Love my sister  
in the name of God.  
Grace Peace and Love my brother  
in the name of God.  
Grace Peace and Love with all of  
you who are in this place.  
Together all gathered,  
Let us praise the Lord.

### THE APOSTLE'S CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
Maker of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord;  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, dead, and buried;  
the third day he rose again from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and sits on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;  
from thence he shall come to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit;  
the holy catholic church;  
the communion of saints;  
the forgiveness of sins;  
the resurrection of the body;  
and the life everlasting.  
Amen.



### **RAMAPO REFORMED CHURCH**

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**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6<sup>TH</sup>, 2020**

**10:30AM**