

RAMAPO REFORMED CHURCH

SEPTEMBER 6, 2020

14TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

APPROACH TO GOD

Prelude: *Ah, God, from Heaven Look Down* J.S. Bach
Arr by: Albert Riemenschneider
Performed by: Justin Dimbeng

Greeting: (Responsively)

L: Our help is in the name of the Lord who made heaven and earth.

P: Amen.

Call to Worship:

L: Come to the house of the Lord. Come with your prayers, your presence, your gifts and your service.

P: What gift can we bring, what present, what token? What words can convey it, the joy of this day? When grateful we come, remembering, rejoicing, what song can we offer in honor and praise? We bring the gift of prayer to this house. We raise to God our hopes and our fears, our wounds and our triumphs.

L: We bring the gift of our presence, being together in worship and fellowship, work and witness.

P: We bring the gift of our tokens, given freely from our hearts to be used in service to God.

L: We bring the gift of service, commitment of our time and talents to serve God by working in God's world.

ALL: This gift we now bring, this present, this token, these words can convey it, the joy of this day! When grateful we come, remembering, rejoicing, this song we now offer in honor and praise!

Prayer

Salutation:

L: Grace to you and peace from God, who has redeemed us through the saving grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

P: Amen.

*Song of Praise: "For All the Saints" (vv.1,2,3) #254

Prayer of Confession:

We are "pack rats", O Lord. You continually pour gifts and blessings into our lives and we hide them away for fear that they might disappear or not be worthy of acclaim. We squander them wastefully on things that are not healthy or helpful to others. We confess that we have not always recognized the talents we have been given. We find it easier to belittle the gifts than to honor the giver. As Jesus reminded his listeners to honor the giver of the gifts by using them to create something better, for healing, for hope in the world; remind us that the message of Jesus is truly pertinent to us today.

Forgive us when we have treated it as a nice story. Help us to take the gifts you have given us, to develop them, and use them in ways which will offer healing and hope. In Jesus' blessed Name, 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

Music Ministry: "Blessed Assurance: Jesus Is Mine" Crosby
Saxophone Solo: Justin Dimbeng

WE EXPERIENCE THE WORD OF GOD

Welcome

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Lessons: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 p.205
Matthew 25:14-30 p.28
(Response: Thanks are to God!)

Message for Children

*Hymn: "Spirit of the Living God" #749

Sermon: "Hoarders" Rev. Dr. Joanne Van Sant, Guest Pastor

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S LOVE

*Apostles' Creed (see back cover of hymnal)

Offering/Offertory

*Doxology #965

*Prayer of Dedication

Announcements & Prayer Concerns

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

The Lord's Prayer

*Closing Hymn: "When Peace like a River" #451

*Benediction

Postlude: *Guide Me, O My Great Redeemer* Hughes
Performed by: Justin Dimbeng

*Indicates where those who are able may stand

*We welcome those who are visiting with us this morning. Please join us after the service in the Fellowship Hall for coffee and refreshments. Kindly fill out a visitor card from the pew rack and place it in the collection plate. If we can be of help, please call the church office at **201-529-3075**.*



RAMAPO REFORMED CHURCH

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REV. WILLIAM F. GROB, PASTOR

www.ramaporeformedchurch.org

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2020

10:30AM