## RAMAPO REFORMED CHURCH

# DECEMBER 15<sup>TH</sup>, 2024 SUNDAY OF ADVENT APPROACH TO GOD

Prelude: "Jesus, My True Joy" J.S. Bach

Greeting: (Responsively)

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

P: Amen.

Call to Worship:

L: We will gather in preparation

P: for good news is about to be proclaimed.

L: We gather in expectation.

P: for joy is about to explode in our midst.

L: We gather in celebration

P: for we are those people who have said yes to the manger, yes to love enfleshed, yes to the one incarnate for others, yes to the wholeness of God.

L: With preparation and in expectation, let us celebrate!

P: Amen.

#### Salutation:

L: Grace, peace, and mercy be yours from God the Father, Jesus Christ his Son, and the Holy Spirit now and always.

P: Amen

\*Song of Praise: "Shout to the Lord" R #603

Solo: "Imagine" Kensie Bowns

Lighting of the Advent Candle insert

Sing: "My Soul In Still Waits" R #63 Verse 3

Passing of the Peace: Leader: ... The Peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you

\*Sing: "Grace, Peace, and Love" Justin Dimbeng

#### WE EXPERIENCE THE WORD OF GOD

Welcome

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Lessons: Psalm 51 p. 520

(Response: Thanks are to God!)

Message for Children

Sermon: "Oh, We Need a Little Joy"

Rev. Mary B. Stegink, Pastor

R #92

\*Hymn: "Joy to the World"

### WE RESPOND TO GOD'S LOVE

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

Mission Offering and Music Ministry: "Come Jesus Come" Stephen McWhirter Singing & Piano Playing: Harmony & Justin Dimbeng

\*Doxology #965

\*Prayer of Dedication

Announcements & Prayer Concerns

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

The Lord's Prayer

\*Closing Hymn: "O Come, O Come Emmanuel"

Verses 5 and 6

R #61

\*Benediction

Postlude: "All Creatures Of Our God And King" William H. Daper

<sup>\*</sup>Indicates where those who are able may stand. Please join us after the service 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.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

WELCOME TO RAMAPO REFORMED CHURCH! We are delighted you chose to worship with us this morning. We sing from two different hymnals notated by the letters "R" (the red "Lift Up Your Hearts" hymnal in the pew rack) and "G" (the green "Sing" book). Following the passing of the peace, we sing a song, "Grace, Peace and Love," which was written for our congregation by our music director, Justin Dimbeng. You can find the words on a laminated sheet in the pew rack. Children ages 3 - 8th grade are invited to attend Sunday School following the Children's Message. They are dismissed with their teacher, Marian Latz, and will return at the close of the service. Please consider joining us in the coffee room following the service for a time of fellowship and treats! Again - we are happy to have you with us this morning!

With gratitude to God the consistory was delighted to receive the membership transfers of Jim and Nancy Johnston from the former Ridgewood Christian Reformed Church and Trevor and Laura Hall from the Saddle River (Old Stone) Reformed Church. We welcome you to official membership and so thankful you chose to make Ramapo your church home!

OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR 2025 WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR THE CONGREGATION SOON — Please contact the church office to confirm that you would like offering envelopes or would prefer to be taken off the envelope list. Also, let the office know if you would like to start using VANCO electronic giving in place of envelopes. Thank you!

2025 CHURCH DIRECTORY — If you have an updated address/phone number OR would like to have your email included in the 2025 RRC Directory — please email the changes/additions to ramaporeformedchurch@gmail.com.

CHRISTMAS CAROLING — will be this afternoon, December 15<sup>th</sup> in the Common Area of Norfolk Village at 4:00 p.m. Come join us as we sing holiday songs together!

BABY BUNDLES — As you do your Christmas shopping, consider purchasing a gift for our Baby Bundle Ministry. During the month of December, if you are able and would like to donate, a list of items is in the insert as well as posted on the bulletin board. A donation bin has been placed in the coffee room. Thank you!

MISSION SUNDAY is today! Our offering will be in support of the RCA's Gift of Hope Global Mission to assist those in need with clean water, farm animals, medicine, and school supplies.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY - will meet this week, Tuesday, December 17th, at the parsonage. All are welcome!

OUR CANDLELIGHT CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE will be on Tuesday, December 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. All are welcome!



# RAMAPO REFORMED CHURCH

100 Island Road, Mahwah New Jersey 07430 201-529-3075

REV. MARY B. STEGINK, PASTOR www.ramaporeformedchurch.org

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15<sup>TH</sup>, 2024 10:30AM