

August 20, 2023

12th Sunday after Pentecost



Come Worship the Living



PRELUDE

OPENING PRAYER

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN

Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service

UMH 581

1 Lord, whose love through humble service
bore the weight of human need,
who upon the cross, forsaken,
offered mercy's perfect deed:
we, your servants, bring the worship
not of voice alone, but heart;
consecrating to your purpose
ev'ry gift that you impart.

2 Still your children wander homeless;
still the hungry cry for bread;
still the captives long for freedom;
still in grief we mourn our dead.
As, O Lord, your deep compassion
healed the sick and freed the soul,
use the love your Spirit kindles
still to save and make us whole.

3 As we worship, grant us vision,
till your love's revealing light
in its height and depth and greatness
dawns upon our quickened sight,
making known the needs and burdens
your compassion bids us bear,
stirring us to tireless striving
your abundant life to share.

4 Called by worship to your service,
forth in your dear name we go,
to the child, the youth, the aged,
love in living deeds to show;
hope and health, good will and comfort,
counsel, aid and peace we give,
that your servants, Lord, in freedom
may your mercy know and live.

SPECIAL MUSIC

NLT

So Jacob settled again in the land of Canaan, where his father had lived as a foreigner. 2 This is the account of Jacob and his family. When Joseph was seventeen years old, he often tended his father's flocks. He worked for his half brothers, the sons of his father's wives Bilhah and Zilpah. But Joseph reported to his father some of the bad things his brothers were doing. 3 Jacob loved Joseph more than any of his other children because Joseph had been born to him in his old age. So one day Jacob had a special gift made for Joseph—a beautiful robe. 4 But his brothers hated Joseph because their father loved him more than the rest of them. They couldn't say a kind word to him. 12 Soon after this, Joseph's brothers went to pasture their father's flocks at Shechem. 13 When they had been gone for some time, Jacob said to Joseph, "Your brothers are pasturing the sheep at Shechem. Get ready, and I will send you to them." "I'm ready to go," Joseph replied. 14 "Go and see how your brothers and the flocks are getting along," Jacob said. "Then come back and bring me a report." So Jacob sent him on his way, and Joseph traveled to Shechem from their home in the valley of Hebron. 15 When he arrived there, a man from the area noticed him wandering around the countryside. "What are you looking for?" he asked. 16 "I'm looking for my brothers," Joseph replied. "Do you know where they are pasturing their sheep?" 17 "Yes," the man told him. "They have moved on from here, but I heard them say, 'Let's go on to Dothan.'" So Joseph followed his brothers to Dothan and found them there. 18 When Joseph's brothers saw him coming, they recognized him in the distance. As he approached, they made plans to kill him. 19 "Here comes the dreamer!" they said. 20 "Come on, let's kill him

and throw him into one of these cisterns. We can tell our father, 'A wild animal has eaten him.' Then we'll see what becomes of his dreams!" 21 But when Reuben heard of their scheme, he came to Joseph's rescue. "Let's not kill him," he said. 22 "Why should we shed any blood? Let's just throw him into this empty cistern here in the wilderness. Then he'll die without our laying a hand on him." Reuben was secretly planning to rescue Joseph and return him to his father. 23 So when Joseph arrived, his brothers ripped off the beautiful robe he was wearing. 24 Then they grabbed him and threw him into the cistern. Now the cistern was empty; there was no water in it. 25 Then, just as they were sitting down to eat, they looked up and saw a caravan of camels in the distance coming toward them. It was a group of Ishmaelite traders taking a load of gum, balm, and aromatic resin from Gilead down to Egypt. 26 Judah said to his brothers, "What will we gain by killing our brother? We'd have to cover up the crime. 27 Instead of hurting him, let's sell him to those Ishmaelite traders. After all, he is our brother—our own flesh and blood!" And his brothers agreed. 28 So when the Ishmaelites, who were Midianite traders, came by, Joseph's brothers pulled him out of the cistern and sold him to them for twenty pieces of silver. And the traders took him to Egypt.

LEADER: This is the Word of God for the people of God

ALL: Thanks be to God.

SERMON Family Lessons: *Sibling Rivalry*

Pastor Claudia Stallings

PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, which art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name.

Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be
done on earth, as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those

who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,

and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

OFFERING OUR TITHES & GIFTS

DOXOLOGY

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him all creatures here below,
Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

HYMN *Help Us Accept Each Other*

UMH 560

1 Help us accept each other as
Christ accepted us;
teach us as sister, brother, each
person to embrace.
Be present, Lord, among us,
and bring us to believe
we are ourselves accepted and
meant to love and live.

3 Let your acceptance change
us, so that we may be moved
in living situations to do the truth
in love;
to practice your acceptance, un-
til we know by heart
the table of forgiveness and
laughter's healing art.

4 Lord, for today's encounters
with all who are in need,
who hunger for acceptance, for
righteousness and bread,
we need new eyes for seeing,
new hands for holding on;
renew us with your Spirit; Lord,
free us, make us one!

2 Teach us, O Lord, your les-
sons, as in our daily life
we struggle to be human and
search for hope and faith.
Teach us to care for people, for
all, not just for some,
to love them as we find them, or
as they may become.

DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

DRAWING CIRCLES OF PRAYER AROUND:

Mitch Early

Henry Gonzalez

Frannie Shreve

Fred Snyder

Robert Earl Williams Jr.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Full calendar can be found at www.ramseymemorial.org

August 24	Prayer Group	11:00 am
August 26	Neighborhood Supper	5:00 pm, CLC
August 27	13th Sunday after Pentecost	10:00 am, Sanctuary
August 31	Prayer Group	11:00 am
September 3	14th Sunday after Pentecost	10:00 am, Sanctuary

Scan the QR code below to be
directed to our online giving
resource!



ANNOUNCEMENTS

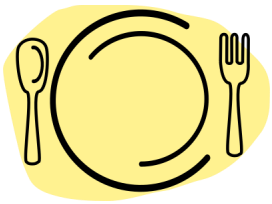


PRAYER WALK

Our annual Prayer Walk around J.L. Francis Elementary School (5146 Snead Road, Richmond) will be held on TODAY, August 20 at 11:30am. Meet in the bus loop at the school to join us in circling the school in prayer.

WORK DAY

The next work day at Journey in Amelia will be August 26 from 9 am until noon. If you can help, contact Russ Cottrell at russellcottrell1945@gmail.com



NEIGHBORHOOD SUPPER

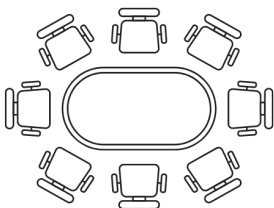
Ramsey's next Neighborhood Supper will be Saturday, August 26 at 5:00 pm in the CLC. Come join us!

BIBLE STUDY

Our ongoing Ladies Bible Study is going to be starting a study on Revelation. We meet on Mondays from 10:00 to 11:30 at the church and would love to have you join us! Call Deborah (804-624-8390) about any questions you may have.



LEADERSHIP BOARD



Ramsey Church's governance structure, the Leadership Board, will hold its monthly meeting Tuesday, September 19 at 6:00pm ON ZOOM.

All are invited. Please contact the church office if you would like the ZOOM link. The ZOOM link for each meeting is the same from month to month. If you have received the link in the past, you may use it for the upcoming meeting.



Please Pray for Your Leadership

Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

Jesus said in Luke 11:9, "So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you."

Please be in prayer for your Leadership Board and Pastor Claudia as we prepare for Ramsey's Annual Leadership Retreat (September 15-17). Prayers are critical in this whole process. We ask God:

- To be with us and to speak to our church leadership
- To help us determine Ramsey's core values
- To know what God's Vision is for Ramsey
- To see our Mission Field with God's eyes

Your 2023/24 Leadership Board includes: Scotty Doyle, Will Flynn, Linda Guil-mart, Karen Hall, Rick Hallinan, Melanie Hewes, Tammy Howe, Craig Lane, Joan McGowan, Bert Smith, Mike Thomas.

Keep this displayed in a visible place as a reminder to pray.