

About our guest Pastor:

Art Ross is a native of North Carolina; he served in the army as an infantry officer and served churches in Brooklyn, NY, Charlotte, NC, Jacksonville, FL, Morehead City, NC and St. Petersburg, FL. From 1994 until 2009, he was pastor of White Memorial Presbyterian Church in Raleigh, where he now lives.

Currently he is a trustee of the Biblical Theological Seminary in Wroclaw, Poland, serves on committees of New Hope Presbytery, and works with congregations, businesses and individuals as a Pastoral Resource.

Art and his wife, Jan, have two adult children and two grandchildren.

### **NRPC NEWS and EVENTS**

**Birthdays:** Drew Walters, 7/23; Kay Casper, 7/24; Aven Horton, 7/25; Tom Wilkat, 7/27; Mark Fisher, 7/28; Jack Hedgepeth, 7/28; David Allen, 7/29; Ashley Wilkat, 7/29; Jillian Wright, 7/29

**Anniversaries:** Keith and Janet Livengood, 7/23; Bon and Ellen Williams, 7/30

**Confirmation Orientation:** There will be a Confirmation Orientation meeting today following worship in the FMB.

**Fellowship with Books** will meet on Monday, August 21 at 6:30 at the home of Debbi Freer (8309 North Creek Run). The book for discussion is "Lab Girl" by Hope Jahren. Ladies of the church are welcome to join in for lively discussion and warm fellowship.

**Outreach Monthly Collection:** During the summer months, supplies at the Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina run low. To help them sustain needy families, please bring in canned good and non-perishable food during July and place them in the bins in the FMB. No glass containers, please. A complete list of donations needed can be found in the Friday News.

### **This Week at NRPC**

Worship, 10:30 am

Sunday School, 9:15 am

Confirmation Orientation, Sunday, 11:30 am

Stewardship Meeting, Sunday, 12:00 pm

Staff Meeting, Tuesday, 10:00 am

Men's Bible Study, Friday, 7:15 am

Montreat High School Youth Conference, Sunday

*The mission of North Raleigh Presbyterian Church is to be a welcoming community serving Jesus Christ through engaged discipleship.*

### **OUR LEADERSHIP FOR TODAY**

Pastor: Art Ross

Liturgist: Judy Dove

Acolyte: Luke Allen

Director of Music: Terri Nicotera

Organist: James Good

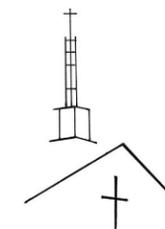
Sound Technician: Chuck Nicotera

Prayer Deacon: Pamela Homolya

Elder in Charge: George Dail

Children's Church: Amy DeShong

Youth Helper: Gage Gordon



## **North Raleigh Presbyterian Church**

July 23, 2017

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

11905 Strickland Rd

Raleigh, NC 27613

919-848-9529

For in this  
**HOPE**  
we were  
**SAVED.**



Romans 8:24



**We extend a warm welcome to our guests!**

We are blessed that you are worshipping with us. Please visit our guest table for a small gift of welcome from the people of North Raleigh Presbyterian Church.

Childcare is available in the nursery located in the Faith Ministries Building.

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Please sign the Friendship Pad located near the aisle. Pass it down the pew so all may sign in. The Friendship Pad contains Prayer Cards and information.*

## PRELUDE

Allegro Moderato

Leo Delibes

*Use the time during the prelude to quiet your soul and prepare yourself to meet God in worship.*

## \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my thoughts.

**People: God guides us every moment of every day.**

Leader: Lead us, O God, in your way.

**People: Let your light shine within us and among us.**

## \*HYMN 288

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

## \*CALL TO CONFESSION

*(Please observe a moment of silent confession.)*

## \*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of love and tenderness, You call us from the chaos of our lives, as we are, with our hopes and fears and preoccupations with worldly things. Embrace each of us now as we confess our sins. Forgive us for the opportunities we miss, for squandering our gifts, for squandering our time, for simply being too busy to do things that really matter. Remind us again of your love and your tender mercy. Where we have fallen short of doing your will, forgive us. Where we have neglected others, forgive us. For the messes we make of our lives and those of others, forgive us. Guide us and protect us with your loving kindness. Amen.**

## \*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. I declare to you in the name of Jesus Christ you are forgiven. May the God of mercy, who forgives you all your sins, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

**People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Amen.**

## \*THE PEACE

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

**People: And also with you!**

Leader: I invite you to pass the peace with your neighbor.

## \*RESPONSE OF PRAISE 140

Holy, Holy (v1)

**Holy, holy, holy, holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty;  
And we lift our hearts before you as a token of our love,  
Holy, holy, holy, holy.**

## FIRST READING

Psalm 139:1-12; 23-24

Leader: Lord, you have searched me and known me.

**People: You know when I sit down and when I rise up;  
you discern my thoughts from far away.**

Leader: You search out my path and my lying down,  
and are acquainted with all my ways.

**People: Even before a word is on my tongue,  
O Lord, you know it completely.**

Leader: You hem me in, behind and before,  
and lay your hand upon me.

**People: Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;  
it is so high that I cannot attain it.**

Leader: Where can I go from your spirit?  
Or where can I flee from your presence?

**People: If I ascend to heaven, you are there;  
if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.**

Leader: If I take the wings of the morning  
and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,

**People: even there your hand shall lead me,  
and your right hand shall hold me fast.**

Leader: If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me,  
and the light around me become night,"

**People: even the darkness is not dark to you;  
the night is as bright as the day,  
for darkness is as light to you.**

Leader: Search me, O God, and know my heart;  
test me and know my thoughts.

**People: See if there is any wicked way in me,  
and lead me in the way everlasting.**

## ANTHEM

Sicilienne

Gabriel Favre

Rosemary Lunsford, flute

## SHARING THE FAITH WITH OUR CHILDREN

*The children collect the offering for Pennies for Hunger on the fourth Sunday of the month. The offering supports the food ministries of the Presbyterian Hunger program. Preschool-1st grade may remain in worship today or attend Children's Church.*

## SECOND READING

Romans 8:12-25

## SERMON

When the Eyes of Our Hearts are Enlightened

## \*HYMN 275

God of Our Life

## \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Colossians 1:15-20

**Jesus Christ is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the first-born from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, by making peace through the blood of his cross.**

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father who 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

**OFFERTORY** Improvisation on PLEADING SAVIOR Michael Burkhardt

## \*DOXOLOGY 592

**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.**

## \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**\*HYMN 466** O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing

## \*BENEDICTION

**POSTLUDE** Improvisation on ELLACOMBE Anonymous  
*You are welcome to be seated and to use the time during the postlude to reflect on the service and prepare yourself to take God with you as you leave worship.*

## BELLS OF THE TRINITY

CCLI # 2043894

\*All who are able, please stand.

Please silence all electronic devices.