

**AMP 10-11-15 | 9:00 - 9:30am**

**Today's Service**

- That God would draw unsaved people to our service and into his kingdom. Pray especially for those that reached by Robert's tract ministry.
- That Pastor Jon would preach in God's power as he is preaching a new series, Community & Diversity at Christ's Church in Queens, on how we function as a church.
- That God's presence would be palpable and that all in attendance would be changed by the goodness, power, and love of God.

**RPC Outreach**

- That we the people of RPC would desire to be a word and deed church.
- That God would open up great and lasting opportunities of community service for RPC.

**Regional Church**

- Pray for the other churches of our presbytery: Westminster Orthodox Presbyterian Church, Jonathan Holst (Hamden, CT); Orthodox Presbyterian Church in Bohemia, Meindert Ploegman (Bohemia, NY); Orthodox Presbyterian Church in Franklin Square, William Shishko (Franklin Square, NY), Trinity Church, Ben Miller (Syosset, NY), Westchester Orthodox Presbyterian Church, Dan Osborne (Mt. Vernon, NY).

**Romania | Basic Country Facts:**

**Operation World Denomination Statistics**



Christians	Deno ms	Pop %	Affiliates	Ann Gr
Protestant	24	6.64	1,406,000	0.3%
Independent	21	0.82	173,000	2.0%
Anglican	1	<0.01	<1,000	1.3%
Catholic	2	5.28	1,118,000	-0.9%
Orthodox	9	87.14	18,464,000	-0.4%
Marginal	3	0.80	169,000	0.8%
Doubly affiliated		-3.72	-789,000	0.0%

**Ethnic Breakdown:** Romanian 83.4%, Hungarian 6.1%, Roma 3.1%, Ukrainian 0.3%, German 0.2%, other 0.7%, unspecified 6.1% (2011 est.)

**Major Languages:** Romanian (official) 85.4%, Hungarian 6.3%, Romany (Gypsy) 1.2%, other 1%, unspecified 6.1% (2011 est.)

**Religion:** Eastern Orthodox (including all sub-denominations) 81.9%, Protestant (various denominations including Reformed and Pentecostal) 6.4%, Roman Catholic 4.3%, other (includes Muslim) 0.9%, none or atheist 0.2%, unspecified 6.3% (2011 est.)

**Population:** 21,666,350 (July 2015 est.)

**Life Expectancy:** male: 71.46 years female: 78.59 years (2015 est.)

**Government:** republic

**Economic Conditions:** Romania, which joined the EU on 1 January 2007, began the transition from Communism in 1989 with a largely obsolete industrial base and a pattern of output unsuited to the country's needs. Romania's macroeconomic gains have only recently started to spur creation of a middle class and to address Romania's widespread poverty. Corruption and red tape continue to permeate the business environment. Exports remained the engine of economic growth, led by trade with the EU, which accounts for roughly 70% of Romania trade. In 2014, the Government of Romania succeeded in meeting its annual target for the budget deficit, the external deficit remained low, and inflation was the lowest since 1989, allowing a gradual loosening of the monetary policy throughout the year. However, progress on structural reforms has been uneven and the economy still is vulnerable to external shocks. An ageing population, weak domestic demand, tax evasion, and insufficient health-care represent the top vulnerabilities.

**GDP Per Capita:** \$19,700 (2014 est.)

**GDP - composition, by sector of origin:** agriculture: 5.4% industry: 27.3% services: 67.3% (2014 est.)

**Education:** Since the Romanian Revolution of 1989, the Romanian educational system has been in a continuous process of reform that has received mixed criticism. In 2004, some 4.4 million of the population were enrolled in school. Out of these, 650,000 in kindergarten (3–6 years), 3.11 million in primary and secondary level, and 650,000 in tertiary level

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(universities). In the same year, the adult literacy rate was 97.3% (45th worldwide), while the combined gross enrollment ratio for primary, secondary and tertiary schools was 75% (52nd worldwide). (wiki)

**State of the Church:** Romania is a secular state and has no state religion. An overwhelming majority of the population identify themselves as Christians. At the country's 2011 census, 86.5% of respondents for whom data is available identified as Orthodox Christians belonging to the Romanian Orthodox Church. Other denominations include Protestantism (6.9%), Roman Catholicism (4.6%), and Greek Catholicism (0.8%). The remaining 2.2% of the population include 64,337 Muslims (mostly of Turkish and Tatar ethnicity), 3,519 Jews, and 39,660 people who are of no religion or atheist.

The Romanian Orthodox Church is an autocephalous Eastern Orthodox Church in full communion with other Orthodox churches, with a Patriarch as its leader. It is the only Orthodox church using a Romance language and the second-largest in size after the Russian Orthodox Church. Its jurisdiction covers the territory of Romania, with dioceses for Romanians living in nearby Moldova, Serbia and Hungary, as well as diaspora communities in Central and Western Europe, North America and Oceania. (wiki)

**Prayer Points:**

- A legacy of brokenness endures from the days of Ceausescu's regime, a moral vacuum being filled with every kind of social evil. Substance abuse, prostitution, pornography, human trafficking and challenges to child welfare are widespread. Romania has one of the highest abortion rates in the world, with three or more abortions for every child born. Poverty is still common, with widespread unemployment and economic instability, caused to a large degree by rampant and entrenched corruption. Divisions in government reduce its effectiveness; major strides forward are needed in its legal, education and health care systems as well as police and local administrations. Pray for leadership that has the wisdom to chart the right path and the integrity to implement the right policies. (OW 1)
- Romania is one of the world's most Christian nations by percentage, yet this is hard to perceive in society. A worldview shaped by atheistic Communism persists. Nominalism, legalism, hypocrisy and slander of other denominations are problems in all confessions, and such antagonism does not glorify Christ nor edify the Church. Folk religious practices and the occult permeate beyond rural superstitions even into the practice of some clergy. Very little practical ministry is being done to address community needs; the Church neglects many poor people. Pray for a breakthrough of love, holiness, discipleship and prayer in all denominations. (OW 2)
- The Romanian diaspora in Europe can be regarded as both crisis and opportunity. Looking for a better life, between 10 and 20% of Romanians have left the country since 1990, a trend accelerated by EU entry in 2007. Combined with urbanization, this damages social structures and many families and churches. The exodus of the younger generation and the brain-drain of intellectuals and professionals will have a serious effect on the nation as will the trend of parents leaving their children with grandparents while they move abroad. But, on the positive side, many dynamic evangelical churches have been planted throughout Western Europe as a result. Pray that these churches might reach out beyond Romanians to the spiritually needy nations that host them. Pray also for more Romanian Christians to stay or to return in order to build up and transform their own nation. (OW 11)
- Evangelical churches are not evenly spread throughout the nation. Pray for the following:
  - a) The southeast regions. On average, the 15 counties in the northwest have many times more evangelicals than the 27 counties in the southeast. There are 7,000 villages in the southeast without an evangelical church. Pray that believers might be burdened for these less-reached areas and bring the light of the gospel to them.
  - b) The southeast regions. On average, the 15 counties in the northwest have many times more evangelicals than the 27 counties in the southeast. There are 7,000 villages in the southeast without an evangelical church. Pray that believers might be burdened for these less-reached areas and bring the light of the gospel to them.
  - c) The Muslim community is not large, but it is in need of Christian witness. Most are Turks, Tatar or immigrants. Very little is done to reach them, although there have been some commendable initiatives in recent years.
  - d) The Romani (Gypsy) community, notoriously difficult to count, but numbering between 500,000 and 2.5 million. Although they are proportionately more evangelical than majority Romanians, they remain a needy people. They suffer discrimination and isolation, with much lower standards of living, education, health care and employment. Government programmes raise these standards and integrate them into society, but deep-seated prejudice must be overcome. Hundreds of thousands flee Romania only to meet harsh treatment in other European countries. But they are also the most spiritually responsive ethnicity to the gospel. Increasingly, Christian Romani now have bold vision to reach their own people. (OW 12)