
A Glance at the Week

Monday

7:00 am Men's Discussion (Zoom)

6:30 pm Small Group (Zoom)

Church Contact Information

Office Phone: 651-698-3889

Office Hours: Thurs & Fri 1:00-6:00 p.m.

Office Admin (secretary@randolphheights.org)

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For Pastoral Communication, please call Pastor Ken @ 651-592-3320

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Looking Ahead

Galatians— Freedom, Family, Gospel

03/06/22	Law & the Promise	3:10-22	
03/13/22	Adoption	3:26-4:7	
03/20/22	A Greater Freedom	5:1-8	(Guest Speaker)
03/27/22	A Startling Word	4:8-11	
04/03/22	Always Re-forming	4:12-20	
04/10/22	Child of Promise	4:19-31	
04/17/22	Resurrection 1	5:1-8	(Easter)
04/24/22	Resurrection 2	5:5-18	
05/01/22	Resurrection 3	5:16-25	



Randolph Heights Presbyterian Church

435 Hamline Ave. South
Saint Paul, MN 55105

March 20, 2021

9:30am Discussion

10:30am Worship

www.randolphheights.org

We are glad you're here!

This is a community which strives to worship and serve God together. Within this community, people freely explore their personal questions about God and the Bible. It's together that we can better learn the breadth and depth of the Gospel and how it works out in our lives. Then, through the grace and hope of the gospel, we serve those in need and work together towards a thriving community.

This program is organized under five headings as described below:

Gathering: We remember God of Creation. The creator is amazing, perfect, powerful, good and is worthy of our worship and praise. This helps center and prepare our hearts for a time of worship.

Confession and Renewal reminds us that this world is not as God originally intended it. We express our grief and sorrow over the brokenness of this world and of our own lives. Our need for grace never goes away, and it is only by faith in Jesus that we can be made right with God. Within these words of renewal we recognize the truth that God's redemption of his people has been accomplished in Jesus.

Thanksgiving is our response to the redemptive plan of God. It is also an opportunity to express our thanks tangibly.

Ministry of the Word is expressed through reading our scripture passage for the day, listening to the Word preached, and responding with words of prayer from the congregation.

The **Benediction** is a good word to be sent out on.

We encourage you to spend some time before the service begins and note how it flows. You are also encouraged to take this bulletin with you to use for personal devotional time throughout the week.

Scripture Reading: Galatians 5:1-8

It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.

²Mark my words! I, Paul, tell you that if you let yourselves be circumcised, Christ will be of no value to you at all. ³Again I declare to every man who lets himself be circumcised that he is obligated to obey the whole law. ⁴You who are trying to be justified by the law have been alienated from Christ; you have fallen away from grace. ⁵For through the Spirit we eagerly await by faith the righteousness for which we hope. ⁶For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision has any value. The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love.

⁷You were running a good race. Who cut in on you to keep you from obeying the truth? ⁸That kind of persuasion does not come from the one who calls you.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

A *Thanks be to God!*

BENEDICTION

- L God has shown you what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.
~ from Micah 6:8, NIV

**Life in the Body*

Send Out

- L The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace. – Numbers 6:24-26, NIV

A Prayer of Commitment

Lord Jesus Christ, there is nothing I can do that would make you love me more, and nothing I have done that makes you love me less. Your presence and approval are all I need for everlasting joy. As you have been to me, so I will be to others. As I pray, I'll measure your compassion by the cross and your power by the resurrection. Amen.

Reflections

Until a Christian struggles with the issue of freedom, he or she will remain frightened, obsessive, and bound. ~ *Steve Brown, A Scandalous Freedom*

Whenever a new Christian comes into the church, I wince a bit, because I'm afraid that they will get the "religion disease," that the "church virus" will kill off the joy and freedom Jesus purchased on the cross to give them.
~ *Steve Brown, A Scandalous Freedom*

If you are a preacher of mercy, do not preach an imaginary but the true mercy. If the mercy is true, you must therefore bear the true, not an imaginary sin. God does not save those who are only imaginary sinners. Be a sinner, and let your sins be strong [or sin boldly], but let your trust in Christ be stronger, and rejoice in Christ who is the victor over sin, death, and the world. ... Do you think such an exalted Lamb paid merely a small price with a meager sacrifice for our sins? Pray hard for you are quite a sinner. ~ *Martin Luther, Pastor-Theologian*

There really is something neurotic about Christians who spend most of their time trying desperately to please a God who is already very pleased. They don't have any freedom, and they sometimes take away the freedom of others.
~ *Steve Brown, A Scandalous Freedom*

PRELUDE

Micah 6:6 – With what shall I come before the LORD and bow down before the exalted God?

All Sing: Come, Now is the Time to Worship

Come, now is the time to worship
Come, now is the time, to give your heart
Come, just as you are to worship
Come, just as you are before your God... Come

One day every tongue will confess you are God
One day every knee will bow
Still the greatest treasure remains for those who gladly choose you now

Call to Worship *(from Psalm 119)*

- L I will walk in freedom, for I have devoted myself to your commandments. I will speak to kings about your laws, and I will not be ashamed.
A *I honor and love your commands. I meditate on your decrees.*
- L Remember your promise to me; it is my only hope.
A *Your promise revives me; it comforts me in all my troubles.*
- L The proud hold me in utter contempt, but I do not turn away from your instructions.
A *I meditate on your age-old regulations; O LORD, they comfort me.*
- L Your decrees have been the theme of my songs wherever I have lived.
A *I reflect at night on who you are, O LORD; therefore, I obey your instructions.*

Pastoral Prayer

- L God Calls us to be a praying people. Let us join in prayer, offering our praise, thanksgiving, and intercession to God.

Open Petition

After each petition the Leader will say:

- L Lord in your mercy
A *Hear our prayer. (Response from Congregation)*

~or~

- L *Let us Give God Thanks*
A *We give You thanks O Lord.*

- L May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.
- Romans 15:13

The Lord's Table *(Offered 1st Sunday of Month)*

Invitation to the Table

L This is the joyful feast of the people of God! People will come from east and west, from north and south, and sit at the table in the kingdom of God. When our risen Lord was at table with his disciples, he took the bread, and blessed and broke it and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him. This is the Lord's table. Our Savior invites those who trust him to share the feast that he has prepared.

A *We receive this food gladly, believing, as we eat, that Jesus is our lifegiving food and drink and that he will come again to call us to the wedding feast of the Lamb.*

Prayer of Thanks

A *Almighty God, Source of all life and love,
we live in your world, which you are always
creating and sustaining by your power,
You have so made us that we can know and love you,
trust and serve you.*

*We give you thanks, that you loved the world so much
that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who has faith in him
may not die but have eternal life. Amen.*

Words of institution

L The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me." In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this in remembrance of me." For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. 1 Cor 11:23-26, NIV

Distribution of the Elements

Prayer of Adoration *(followed by Lord's Prayer)*

L Almighty and ever present God, you uphold heaven and earth and all creatures. All things come from your generous hand: You send the nourishing rain, the refreshing wind, the warming sun, the blustering snow. You make buds appear, flowers bloom, fruit grow, and harvests mature. Through each day of our lives, whether in sickness or health, prosperity or poverty, joy or sorrow, you are in control. Help us to be patient when things go against us, thankful when things go well, and always confident that nothing could ever separate us from your love. For your unending faithfulness, we thank and praise you. To you be glory, now and forever.

~ based on Heidelberg Catechism, Q&A's 27-28

A *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*

All Sing: Blessed Assurance

Blessed Assurance, Jesus is mine
Oh what a foretaste of glory divine
Heir of salvation, purchase of God
Born of His spirit, washed in his Blood

This is my story
This is my song
Praising my Savior
All the day long
This is my story
This is my song
Praising my Savior
All the day long

Perfect submission, perfect delight,
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
Angels descending, bring from above
Echoes of mercy, whispers of love.

Perfect submission, all is at rest
I in my savior am happy and blessed
Watching and waiting, looking above
Filled with His goodness, lost in His Love

All Sing: Open the Eyes of My Heart, Lord

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord, Open the eyes of my heart
I want to see You, I want to see You (Repeat Section)

To see You high and lifted up, shining in the light of Your glory
Pour out Your power and love, as we sing holy, holy, holy

Holy, holy, holy, holy, holy, holy
holy, holy, holy, I want to see you

MINISTRY OF THE WORD

Scripture Galatians 5:1-8 (found on Page 15)
Series Galatians Series—New Life—New Freedom
Sermon Freedom

Profession of Faith

L Now, as you publicly declare your faith, to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, and to confess the faith of the church, the faith in which you were baptized.

A *This is the good news that we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved, if we hold it fast: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day, and that he appeared first to the women, then to Peter, and to the Twelve, and then to many faithful witnesses.*

*We believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God.
Jesus Christ is the first and the last, the beginning and the end;
he is our Lord and our God. —*

~ based on Matthew 16:16; Mark 16:9; John 20:28; 1 Corinthians 15:1-6; Revelation 22:13

CONFESSION & RENEWAL

L When we gather to praise God, we remember that we are people who have preferred our wills to his. Accepting his power to become new persons in Christ, let us enter a time of preparation, so that we may confess our sin before God and one another.

Lamb of God (Grant us Your Peace)

Welcome Wagon

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world. Lamb of God, you
6 take a - way the sin of the world. Grant us your peace, grant us your
11 peace, Grant us your peace, grant us your peace.

Confession & Renewal

A *Gracious God, you call us to be servants who lovingly pour out our lives for those around us. Yet our hearts are often selfish. When we do serve others, we often secretly hope others will notice our humility so that we might be applauded and praised. Forgive us.*

Jesus, you gave up all power to become weak and helpless. You took on frail flesh in order to obey and suffer in our place. Thank-you for your gentle humility. Thank-you for suffering for our prideful hearts.

Holy Spirit, fill us with deep gratitude for our life in Christ. We have been freed from the power of sin, now free us from our pride. Show us our sinful thoughts and motives, then show us the cross and melt our hearts again. May Christ increase, and we decrease in our thoughts and desires, Amen.

Silent and Personal Confession

WORDS OF RENEWAL

L Through Jesus Christ forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you. In Christ we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace. – *from Acts 13:38; Ephesians 1:7, NRSV*

A *Thanks be to God!*

Doxology

L Let us give thanks to the Lord with all our being. In the company of the upright, let us honor God for the blessings and goodness we have received.

~ based on Psalm 111:1

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow.

Praise Him, all creatures here below.

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host.

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Amen.

Prayer of Dedication

A *Lord, we thank for Your faithfulness.
Thank you that we can always trust in You.
You are an abundant God and out of your great kindness
you have given us so much.*

We give you this offering today, and with it we also give ourselves.

Use this congregation, for your kingdom and your glory.

Extend and multiply its reach and influence we pray.

And may we be a great blessing to many. Amen.