A Glance at the Week

Monday
7:00 am Men's Discussion (Zoom)
6:30 pm Small Group

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

Book of Acts -

06/12/22	10:27-47	The Spirit goes to the Gentiles
06/19/22	11:19-30	Snapshot of the Church
06/26/22	14:8-23	Message Goes Out
07/03/22	15:1-11	Fine Tuning the Message
07/10/22	16:1-19	A Merchant, a Slave and a Soldier pt 1
07/17/22	16:20-40	Pt 2
07/24/22	17:16-34	Paul @ Mars Hill
07/31/22	19:23-41	Idolatry



Randolph Heights Presbyterian Church

435 Hamline Ave. South

July 10, 2022

9:30am Discussion 10:30am Worship www.randolphheights.org

Saint Paul, MN

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.

During the night Paul had a vision of a man of Macedonia standing and begging him, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." After Paul had seen the vision, we got ready at once to leave for Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them.

From Troas we put out to sea and sailed straight for Samothrace, and the next day we went on to Neapolis. From there we traveled to Philippi, a Roman colony and the leading city of that district of Macedonia. And we stayed there several days.

On the Sabbath we went outside the city gate to the river, where we expected to find a place of prayer. We sat down and began to speak to the women who had gathered there. One of those listening was a woman from the city of Thyatira named Lydia, a dealer in purple cloth. She was a worshiper of God. The Lord opened her heart to respond to Paul's message. When she and the members of her household were baptized, she invited us to her home. "If you consider me a believer in the Lord," she said, "come and stay at my house." And she persuaded us.

Once when we were going to the place of prayer, we were met by a female slave who had a spirit by which she predicted the future. She earned a great deal of money for her owners by fortune-telling. She followed Paul and the rest of us, shouting, "These men are servants of the Most High God, who are telling you the way to be saved." She kept this up for many days. Finally Paul became so annoyed that he turned around and said to the spirit, "In the name of Jesus Christ I command you to come out of her!" At that moment the spirit left her.

When her owners realized that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace to face the authorities.

- 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

May the Spirit of truth lead you into all truth, giving you grace to confess that Jesus Christ is Lord and to proclaim the wonderful works of God; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. Amen.

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.

Scripture Reading: Acts 16:4-19

As they traveled from town to town, they delivered the decisions reached by the apostles and elders in Jerusalem for the people to obey. So the churches were strengthened in the faith and grew daily in numbers.

Paul and his companions traveled throughout the region of Phrygia and Galatia, having been kept by the Holy Spirit from preaching the word in the province of Asia. When they came to the border of Mysia, they tried to enter Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus would not allow them to. So they passed by Mysia and went down to Troas.

Reflections

Listen with curiosity. Speak with honesty. Act with integrity. The greatest problem with communication is we don't listen to understand. We listen to reply. When we listen with curiosity, we don't listen with the intent to reply. We listen for what's behind the words.

~ Roy T. Bennett

We need to cultivate the courage to be uncomfortable and to teach the people around us how to accept discomfort as a part of growth.

~ Brené Brown, Professor/author/Speaker

In order to swim one takes off all one's clothes--in order to aspire to the truth one must undress in a far more inward sense, divest oneself of all one's inward clothes, of thoughts, conceptions, selfishness etc., before one is sufficiently naked.

~ Soren Kierkegaard, Philosopher

Conversion is a change of masters. ~ Charles Spurgeon,

The best argument for Christianity is Christians...But the strongest argument against Christianity is also Christians – when they are somber and joyless, when they are self-righteous and smug...But, though it is just to condemn some Christians for these things,...it is not just to condemn Christianity itself for them. Indeed, there are impressive indications that the positive quality of joy is found in Christianity – and possibly nowhere else. ~ *Sheldon Vanauken* (1914-1996), *American author*

The needs of the world are much deeper than political freedom and security, much deeper than social injustice and economic development, much deeper than democracy and progress. The deeper needs of the world belong to the sphere of the mind, the heart, and the spirit, a sphere to be penetrated with the light and grace of Jesus Christ

~Dr. Charles Malik (1906-1987), Lebanese thinker and diplomat

PRELUDE

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

All Sing: You are With Me (Ps 139)

How precious are Your thoughts, O God.

How vast is the sum of them.

I would spend days and nights counting them and never reach the end; And when I awake - You are with me. (repeat)

So search me; know my heart.

Test me; know my thoughts.

Lead me in your ways.

Search me, test me, lead me... In Your ways.

Words & Music by: The Crossing Music

Call to Worship (from Psalm 97)

- L The Lord reigns, let the earth be glad; let the distant shores rejoice. Clouds and thick darkness surround him; righteousness and justice are the foundation of his throne.
- A His lightning lights up the world; the earth sees and trembles.
- All who worship images are put to shame, those who boast in idols worship him, all you gods!
- A Zion hears and rejoices and the villages of Judah are glad because of your judgments, Lord. For you, Lord, are the Most High over all the earth; you are exalted far above all gods.
- Let those who love the Lord hate evil, for he guards the lives of his faithful ones and delivers them from the hand of the wicked.
- A Light shines on the righteous and joy on the upright in heart. Rejoice in the Lord, you who are righteous, and praise his holy name.

Pastoral Prayer

Creator Spirit, create in us eagerness to care for the world. Spirit of Christ, fill us with urgency to share our joy in our Savior and Lord. Spirit of holiness, transform our lives to be beacons in a world of shadows. Spirit of truth, compel us to see the truth and make us advocates of justice. Spirit of wisdom, shower us with wisdom, that we may best discern how to serve the world. Advocate, intercede on our behalf for these and other unspoken requests that weigh heavy on our hearts and minds. Amen.

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 O God, by your power may we, with all the saints, comprehend the breadth and length and height and depth of the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that we may be filled with your fullness. Amen.
 - based on Ephesians 3:18-19

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

Invitation to the Table

- L Brothers and sisters in Christ, the gospels tell us that on the first day of the week, the day on which our Lord rose from the dead, he appeared to some of his disciples and was made known to them in the breaking of bread. Come, then, to the joyful feast of our Lord.
- 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 Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us, that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, that we may be one with all who share this feast, united in ministry in every place. As this bread is Christ's body for us, send us out to be the body of Christ in the world.

Words of institution

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 Lord, our Lord, you are so awesome! You are beyond what we can imagine possible. When we take a look at all that you have done and all that you have made, we wonder why you care for people like us. You have given us an honorable position on this earth of ours to care for the things you have made, to preserve them and maintain them. You have entrusted living things to us! Lord, our Lord, the whole earth recognizes how awesome you are! Amen. based on Psalm 8
- 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: All Creatures of Our God and King

All creatures of our God and King Lift up your voice and with us sing O praise Him! Alleluia! Thou, burning sun with golden beam Thou, silver moon with softer gleam O praise Him! O praise Him! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Let all things their Creator bless
And worship Him in humbleness
O praise Him! Alleluia
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son
And praise the Spirit, Three-in-One!
O praise Him! O praise Him!
Alleluia! Alleluia!

All the Redeemed washed by His blood Come and rejoice in His great love O praise Him! Alleluia! Christ has defeated every sin Cast all your burdens now on Him O praise Him! O praise Him! Alleluia! Alleluia!

He shall return in pow'r to reign Heaven and earth will join to say O praise Him! Alleluia! Then who shall fall on bended knee? All creatures of our God and King O praise Him! O praise Him! Alleluia! Alleluia! All Sing: Let us love and sing and wonder

Let us love and sing and wonder Let us praise the Savior's name He has hushed the law's loud thunder He has quenched Mount Sinai's flame He has washed us with His blood (3x) He has brought us nigh to God

Let us love the Lord Who bought us Pitied us when enemies Called us by His grace and taught us Gave us ears and gave us eyes He has washed us with His blood (3x) He presents our souls to God

Let us sing though fierce temptation Threatens hard to bear us down For the Lord, our strong salvation, Holds in view the conqueror's crown He, Who washed us with His blood, (3x) Soon will bring us home to God

Let us wonder grace and justice Join and point to mercy's store When through grace in Christ our trust is Justice smiles and asks no more He Who washed us with His blood (3x) Has secured our way to God

Let us praise and join the chorus Of the saints enthroned on high Here they trusted Him before us Now their praises fill the sky Thou hast washed us with Thy blood (3x) Thou art worthy Lamb of God

MINISTRY OF THE WORD

Scripture Acts 16:4-19; (found on Page 14-15)

Series Summer Series in Acts

Sermon A Merchant, A Slave, and a Soldier Pt 1

Profession of Faith

- As we are to walk humbly with our God in lives of gratitude, let us hear again his Word:
- A God commands us to serve him alone as God, to serve him according to his Word, to speak of him only with deep respect and love, to attend faithfully the assembly of God's people on the day of rest, and every day to let the Lord work in us through his Spirit; to respect and cooperate with all God-given authority, to nurture human life as God's precious gift, to use the resources of this earth as stewards of God's creation, to use the gift of speech for promoting the truth in love, and to exercise purity of heart in all of life.

 May the Spirit of God guide us to be obedient to this Word. Amen!

CONFESSION & RENEWAL

L The proof of God's amazing love is this: While we were sinners, Christ died for us. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. Trusting in God's faithfulness and compassion, let us confess our sin before God and one another. – based on Romans 5:8; Hebrews 4:16, NRSV

All Sing: Calmer of My Troubled Heart

Calmer of my troubled heart, Bid my unbelief depart Speak and all my sorrows cease, Speak and all my soul is peace

> Hallelujah, Hallelujah Hallelujah, Hallelujah

Comfort me whene'er I mourn, With the hope of Thy return And till I Thy glories see, Help me believe in Thee

Confession & Renewal

A God of Grace and Mercy,

With all you have done, especially in sending your son, we find sin continues to have power over us. We forget who you are and what you have done for us. We are often self-absorbed and struggle to love others rather than please ourselves. Forgive us, Lord.

Jesus,

Thank you for giving up the glory of heaven to please your father and rescue us from ourselves. You denied yourself the adoration and praise you deserved. You entered a world of people who would misunderstand, reject and even hate you. Yet, you always put the needs of others before your own, thank-you.

Holy Spirit,

Remind us often that Jesus has already carried the cross for us, and will now carry it with us day by day. Increase our joy in the cross of Christ, and our wonder and admiration for all that was accomplished. Melt our hearts till we delight in Jesus as our precious treasure. Amen.

Silent and Personal Confession

WORDS OF RENEWAL

L The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. He will not always accuse, nor will he keep his anger forever. He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far he removes our transgressions from us. As a father has compassion for his children, so the LORD has compassion for those who fear him. — *Psalm 103:8-13, NRSV*

A Thanks be to God!

Doxology

L Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come into his courts. Worship the LORD in holy splendor; tremble before him, all the earth. —Psalm 96:8-9, NRSV

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.