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## 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.

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## Looking Ahead

### Book of Acts -

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	A Merchant, a Slave and a Soldier Pt 2
07/24/22	17:16-34	Paul @ Mars Hill
07/31/22	19:23-41	Idolatry
08/07/22	20:36-21:8	Needing Others
08/14/22	22:1-22	Courage

## Randolph Heights Presbyterian Church

435 Hamline Ave. South  
Saint Paul, MN 55105

### July 17, 2022

9:30am Discussion

10:30am Worship

[www.randolphheights.org](http://www.randolphheights.org)

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## 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.*

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. They brought them before the magistrates and said, "These men are Jews, and are throwing our city into an uproar by advocating customs unlawful for us Romans to accept or practice."

The crowd joined in the attack against Paul and Silas, and the magistrates ordered them to be stripped and beaten with rods. After they had been severely flogged, they were thrown into prison, and the jailer was commanded to guard them carefully. When he received these orders, he put them in the inner cell and fastened their feet in the stocks.

About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening to them. Suddenly there was such a violent earthquake that the foundations of the prison were shaken. At once all the prison doors flew open, and everyone's chains came loose. The jailer woke up, and when he saw the prison doors open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself because he thought the prisoners had escaped. But Paul shouted, "Don't harm yourself! We are all here!"

The jailer called for lights, rushed in and fell trembling before Paul and Silas. He then brought them out and asked, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" They replied, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved – you and your household." Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all the others in his house. At that hour of the night the jailer took them and washed their wounds; then immediately he and all his household were baptized. The jailer brought them into his house and set a meal before them; he was filled with joy because he had come to believe in God – he and his whole household.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

A Thanks be to God!

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## 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 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

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.

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## 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*

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The church...is not meant to call men and women out of the world into a safe religious enclave but to call them out in order to send them back as agents of God's kingship.  
*~Lesslie Newbigin (1909-1998), British theologian and missionary*

The gospel is not a set of techniques for making people Christians. Nor is it a set of systematic theological reflections, however important. The gospel is the announcement that Jesus is Lord - Lord of the world, Lord of the cosmos, Lord of the earth ... of whales and waterfalls, and of trees and tortoises. And as soon as we get this right we destroy in a stroke the disastrous dichotomy that has existed in people's minds.  
*~N. T. Wright, (1948-present), Anglican theologian, former Bishop of Durham*

There was once in man a true happiness of which there now remain to him only the mark and empty trace, which he in vain tries to fill from all his surroundings, seeking from things absent the help he does not obtain in things present. But these are all inadequate, because the infinite abyss can only be filled by an infinite and immutable object, that is to say, only by God Himself.  
*~ Blaise Pascal, Philosopher / Mathematician, Pensées, (thought #425)*

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## PRELUDE

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

*All Sing: Blessed Be the Lord Our God*

Blessed be the Lord, our God, the God of Israel,  
who alone does wondrous deeds,  
who alone does wondrous deeds.

Blessed be his glorious Name, His glorious Name forever,  
and may all be filled with his glory, alleluia!

*(Blessed be his glorious name. – 1st time through)*

*(Amen, amen, Amen, amen! - 2nd time through)*

## Call to Worship *(from Psalm 67)*

L May God be merciful and bless us. May his face smile with favor on us.

A *May your ways be known throughout the earth, your saving power among people everywhere.*

L May the nations praise you, O God. Yes, may all the nations praise you.

A *Let the whole world sing for joy, because you govern the nations with justice and guide the people of the whole world.*

L May the nations praise you, O God. Yes, may all the nations praise you. Then the earth will yield its harvests, and God, our God, will richly bless us.

A *Yes! God will bless us, and people all over the world will fear him.*

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## Pastoral Prayer

L O Savior God, look upon your church in its struggles. Have mercy on its weaknesses, give strength and courage to love the truth...

Look also upon the ministry of this congregation. Increase its courage, strengthen its faith, and inspire its witness to those in our sphere of influence and beyond, even to the ends of the earth. Have courage to join in Jesus' mission build and strengthen one-another.

Author of grace and God of love, send your Holy Spirit's blessing to your children here present. Keep our hearts and thoughts in Jesus Christ, your Son, our only Savior.

## 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*

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## 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*

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*

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

L Everlasting God, we delight to praise You as the everlasting King of glory! You are strong and mighty, and You reign unrivaled over-all. You grant justice to all the oppressed and You speak and make known Your will.

We delight to praise You as the everlasting King of grace! You remember that we are frail children of dust; You forgive all our sin; You redeem our lives from the slimy pit.

We delight to praise You as the everlasting King of love! You love us with an everlasting, steadfast love. You are slow to become angry. You are faithful to fulfill all your promises and You rescue us from all our foes.

*~ based on Psalm 103*

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*

*Come, Christians, Join to Sing*

Trad. Spanish Melody

Christian H. Batean

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Come, Christ - ians, join to sing Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
Come, lift your hearts on high, Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
Praise yet our Christ a - gain, Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

Loud praise to Christ our King; Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
Let prais - es fill the sky; Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
Life shall not end the strain; Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

Let all, with heart and voice, Be - fore His throne re - jice;  
He is our Guide and Friend; To us He'll con - de - scend;  
On hea - ven's bliss - ful shore, His good - ness we'll a - dore,

Praise is His gra - cious choice. Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
His love shall ne - ver end. Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
Sing - ing for - ev - er - more, "Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!"

*All Sing: Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone)*

Amazing grace  
How sweet the sound  
That saved a wretch like me  
I once was lost, but now I'm found  
Was blind, but now I see

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear  
And grace my fears relieved  
How precious did that grace appear  
The hour I first believed

My chains are gone, I've been set free  
My God, my Savior has ransomed me  
And like a flood His mercy reigns  
Unending love, Amazing grace

The Lord has promised good to me  
His word my hope secures  
He will my shield and portion be  
As long as life endures (*Refrain*)

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow  
The sun forbear to shine  
But God, who called me here below  
Will be forever mine, will be forever mine

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## MINISTRY OF THE WORD

**Scripture** Acts 16:13-34; (found on Page 14-15)  
**Series** Summer Series in Acts  
**Sermon** A Merchant, A Slave, and a Soldier Pt 2

### *Profession of Faith*

L As we are to walk humbly with our God in lives of gratitude, let us hear again his Word:

A *While we were still weak,  
at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.  
Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person –  
though perhaps for a good person, someone might actually dare to die.  
But God proves his love for us  
in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.  
Much more surely then,  
now that we have been justified by his blood,  
will we be saved through him from the wrath of God.  
For if while we were enemies,  
we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son,  
much more surely, having been reconciled,  
will we be saved by his life. – Romans 5:6-10, NRSV*

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## CONFESSION & RENEWAL

L Don't let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, and trust also in me. There is more than enough room in my Father's home. If this were not so, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you? When everything is ready, I will come and get you, so that you will always be with me where I am. – *John 14:1-3*

### *Calmer of My Troubled Heart*

Charles Wesley

Mathew Smith

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#) and a time signature of 6/8. It consists of three staves of music. The first staff begins with a common rest and a fermata over the first note. The lyrics are: "Calm-er of my troub-led heart Bid my un - be-lief de - part Com - fort me when - e'er I mourn With the hope of Thy re - turn". The second staff begins with a measure rest and a fermata over the first note. The lyrics are: "Speak and all my sor-rows cease Speak and all my soul is peace Hal-le- And till I Thy glo-ries see Help - me be - lieve in Thee". The third staff begins with a measure rest and a fermata over the first note. The lyrics are: "- lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah Hal-le - lu - jah, Hal - le-lu - jah".

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## Confession & Renewal

A *Holy God,  
We often come before you with troubled hearts. We are fearful about our relationships, our families, and our futures. It is difficult to believe in you in a way that would bring comfort to our hearts. We confess our struggles before you.*

*Jesus,  
Thank you for your fearless faith. Those wondrous things you have done, for the joy set before you. You suffered far more than we can imagine. Thank-you that you will provide a lasting comfort for our broken hearts.*

*Holy Spirit,  
Help us to believe in Christ. Help us to believe that in his death we died, and in his resurrection, we are raised to new life. Give us a joy and peace to flow out into a broken world. Help us to live in the light of our full forgiveness and live with confidence in your overflowing grace. Amen.*

## Silent and Personal Confession

### WORDS OF RENEWAL

L For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life. Jesus told her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Anyone who believes in me will live, even after dying. Everyone who lives in me and believes in me will never ever die. Do you believe this?"

A *Thanks be to God!*

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## 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.*