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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.*

*Office Admin (secretary@randolphheights.org)*

*Session (session@randolphheights.org)*

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

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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



Saint Paul, MN

**Randolph Heights  
Presbyterian Church**

435 Hamline Ave. South

**July 24, 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.*

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So Paul, standing in the midst of the Areopagus, said: "Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way you are very religious. For as I passed along and observed the objects of your worship, I found also an altar with this inscription: 'To the unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything. And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, that they should seek God, and perhaps feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us, for "In him we live and move and have our being"; as even some of your own poets have said, "'For we are indeed his offspring.'

Being then God's offspring, we ought not to think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of man. The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

Now when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some mocked. But others said, "We will hear you again about this." So Paul went out from their midst. But some men joined him and believed, among whom also were Dionysius the Areopagite and a woman named Damaris and others with them.

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 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.

### Scripture Reading: Acts 17:16-34

While Paul was waiting for them in Athens, he was greatly distressed to see that the city was full of idols. So he reasoned in the synagogue with both Jews and God-fearing Greeks, as well as in the marketplace day by day with those who happened to be there. A group of Epicurean and Stoic philosophers began to debate with him. Some of them asked, "What is this babbling trying to say?" Others remarked, "He seems to be advocating foreign gods." They said this because Paul was preaching the good news about Jesus and the resurrection. Then they took him and brought him to a meeting of the Areopagus, where they said to him, "May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting? You are bringing some strange ideas to our ears, and we would like to know what they mean." (All the Athenians and foreigners who lived there spent their time doing

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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*

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In the choir of life, it's easy to fake the words – but someday each of us will have to sing solo before God ~ *Michael P. Green, 1947-* ,

Jesus was the only One that ever raised the dead," The Misfit continued, "and He shouldn't have done it. He's thrown everything off balance. If He did what He said, then it's nothing for you to do but throw away everything and follow Him, and if He didn't, then it's nothing for you to do but enjoy the few minutes you got left, the best way you can, by killing somebody or burning down his house or doing some other meanness to him. ... No pleasure but meanness," he said and his voice had become almost a snarl. ~ *Flannery O'Connor, 'A Good Man Is Hard to Find'*

Reading ought to be an act of homage to the God of all truth. We open our hearts to words that reflect the reality he has created or the greater reality which he is. Christ, the incarnate Word, is the Book of Life in whom we read God.  
~ *Thomas Merton, Thoughts in Solitude*

Shall I tell you the secret of the whole world? It is that we have only known the back of the world. We see everything from behind, and it looks brutal. That is not a tree, but the back of a tree. That is not a cloud, but the back of a cloud. Cannot you see that everything is stooping and hiding a face? If we could only get round in front-  
~ *G.K. Chesterton (1874-1936), The Man Who Was Thursday*

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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: 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

### Call to Worship *(from Psalm 66)*

L Let the whole world bless our God and loudly sing his praises.

A *Our lives are in his hands, and he keeps our feet from stumbling.*

L You have tested us, O God; you have purified us like silver. You  
captured us in your net and laid the burden of slavery on our backs.  
Then you put a leader over us.

A *But now I come to your Temple with burnt offerings to fulfill the vows I made  
to you – yes, the sacred vows that I made when I was in deep trouble.*

L Come and listen, all you who fear God, and I will tell you what he did  
for me. For I cried out to him for help, praising him as I spoke. If I had  
not confessed the sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened.

A *But God did listen! He paid attention to my prayer. Praise God, who did not  
ignore my prayer or withdraw his unfailing love from me.*

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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*

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

## Begone Unbelief

Kevin Twitt

John Newton

Be - gone un - be - lief, My Sa - vior is  
Though dark be my way, Since he is my  
Why should I com - plain, Of want or dis -  
Since all that I meet will work for my  
3 near, And for my re - lief Will sure - ly ap -  
guide, 'Tis mine to o - bey, and His to pro -  
- tress Temp - ta - tion or pain? He told me no  
good, The bit - ter is sweet, The med - i - cine  
5 - pear: By faith let me wrest - le, with God in the  
- vide; Though cis - terns be bro - ken, And crea - tures all  
less The heirs of sal - va - tion, I know from his  
food; Though pain - ful at pre - sent, will cease be - fore  
7 storm And help me my Sa - vior, the faith to a -  
fail, The word he has spo - ken will sure - ly pre -  
word Through much trib - u - la - tion Must fol - low their  
long, And then, O! how glo - rious, The con - quer - or's  
9 - dorn And help me my Sa - vior, the faith to a - dorn -  
- vail. The word he has spo - ken will sure - ly pre - - vail.  
Lord Through much trib - u - la - tion Must fol - low their Lord  
song! And then, O! how glo - rious, The con - quer - or's - song!

\* Refrain after vs. 2 & 4 – Begone unbelief, the savior is here (3x)  
Though cisterns be broken and creatures all fail;  
The word He has spoken will surely prevail (2x)

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## MINISTRY OF THE WORD

Scripture Acts 17:16-34; (found on Page 14-15)

Series Summer Series in Acts

Sermon Paul @ Mars Hill

### *Profession of Faith*

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

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*

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## CONFESSION & RENEWAL

L We cannot come before God unless we are first honest with ourselves about our own story of who we are, about how we recognize our personal brokenness, and about how well or poorly we care for others. In this spirit, let us enter a time of contemplation before God and one-another.

### *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 whole note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and C5, then a half note B4, and finally a whole note A4. The second staff continues with quarter notes G4, A4, B4, and C5, then a half note B4, and finally a whole note A4. The third staff begins with a whole note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and C5, then a half note B4, and finally a whole note A4. 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 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 - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah Hal-le - lu - jah, Hal - le-lu - jah'.

\* coda – *Calmer of my troubled heart, bid my unbelief depart...*

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## Confession & Renewal

A *Wondrous God, we confess that at times our doubts and fears override our hope and faith. Forgive us when we lose sight of the joy of Your love and instead fall into despair and gloom.*

*Build up our spirits, Lord, and help us to remember the promise of new life here and now. Give us a joy and peace to flow out into a broken world, to be instruments in building your kingdom.*

*We give thanks for Your Son, Jesus the Christ, who continues to offer us new life, who continues to turn us around and upside down, who continues to break down the walls of death in our own life. Forgive us, restore us and renew us. In the name of our risen Savior, Jesus the Christ, we pray. Amen.*

## Silent and Personal Confession

### WORDS OF RENEWAL

L In a surge of anger I hid my face from you for a moment, but with everlasting kindness I will have compassion on you," says the Lord your Redeemer. "I, even I, am he who blots out your transgressions, for my own sake, and remembers your sins no more." "I have swept away your offenses like a cloud, your sins like the morning mist. Return to me, for I have redeemed you. – Isaiah 54:8; 43:25; 44:22, NIV

A *Thanks be to God!*

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## Doxology

L The one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly; the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Responding to God's bountiful gifts to us in Christ, we have opportunity to share out of our abundance.  
– based on 2 Corinthians 9:6, 8, 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.*