
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

Or Email @ ken.highley@randolphheights.org

Looking Ahead

Book of Acts -

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
08/21/22	26:15-32	Persuasion
08/28/22	27:13-33	Lord in the Storm
09/04/22	28:30-31	Finishing Well (Special Guest)
		<i>New Series Beginning ...</i>



Saint Paul, MN

**Randolph Heights
Presbyterian Church**

435 Hamline Ave. South

August 21, 2022

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: Acts 26:15-32

"Then I asked, 'Who are you, Lord?'

" 'I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting,' the Lord replied. 'Now get up and stand on your feet. I have appeared to you to appoint you as a servant and as a witness of what you have seen and will see of me. I will rescue you from your own people and from the Gentiles. I am sending you to them to open their eyes and turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.'

"So then, King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the vision from heaven. First to those in Damascus, then to those in Jerusalem and in all Judea, and then to the Gentiles, I preached that they should repent and turn to God and demonstrate their repentance by their deeds. That is why some Jews seized me in the temple courts and tried to kill me. But God has helped me to this very day; so I stand here and testify to small and great alike. I am saying nothing beyond what the prophets and Moses said would happen – that the Messiah would suffer and, as the first to rise from the dead, would bring the message of light to his own people and to the Gentiles."

At this point Festus interrupted Paul's defense. "You are out of your mind, Paul!" he shouted. "Your great learning is driving you insane."

"I am not insane, most excellent Festus," Paul replied. "What I am saying is true and reasonable. The king is familiar with these things, and I can speak freely to him. I am convinced that none of this has escaped his notice, because it was not done in a corner. King Agrippa, do you believe the prophets? I know you do." Then Agrippa said to Paul, "Do you think that in such a short time you can persuade me to be a Christian?"

Paul replied, "Short time or long – I pray to God that not only you but all who are listening to me today may become what I am, except for these chains." The king rose, and with him the governor and Bernice and those sitting with them. After they left the room, they began saying to one another, "This man is not doing anything that deserves death or imprisonment."

Agrippa said to Festus, "This man could have been set free if he had not appealed to Caesar."

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

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*

There is always a danger that we will make it appear externally that we believe in God when internally we don't. We say with our mouths that we believe in him, but we live with our lives like he never existed. That is the ever-present danger confronting religion. That's a dangerous type of atheism.
~ *Martin Luther King Jr. (1929-1968)*

How quick come the reasons for approving what we like.
~ *Jane Austen, Persuasion*

The real persuaders are our appetites, our fears, and above all, our vanity. The skillful propagandist stirs and coaches internal persuaders.
~ *Eric Hoffer, 1902-1983, Moral/Social Philosopher*

Compelling reason will never convince blinding emotion. ~ *Richard Bach, Author*

He who holds the truth within his heart should never fear that his tongue will lack the strength of persuasion. ~ *John Ruskin, 1819-1900, English Author*

No one after lighting a lamp puts it in a cellar or under a basket, but on a stand, so that those who enter may see the light. ~ *Luke 11:33*

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 71)*

L O LORD, I have come to you for protection; don't let me be disgraced.
Save me and rescue me, for you do what is right.

A *Turn your ear to listen to me, and set me free. Be my rock of safety where I can
always hide.*

L Give the order to save me, for you are my rock and my fortress. My God,
rescue me from the power of the wicked, from the clutches of cruel
oppressors.

A *O Lord, you alone are my hope. I've trusted you, O LORD, from childhood.*

L Yes, you have been with me from birth; from my mother's womb you
have cared for me. No wonder I am always praising you! My life is an
example to many, because you have been my strength and protection.

A *That is why I can never stop praising you; I declare your glory all day long. In
my old age, don't set me aside. Don't abandon me when my strength is failing.*

Pastoral Prayer

L O Lord and Father of the household of faith, we thank you for the gift of
faith worked within us by your Holy Spirit. We thank you for having
called us to yourself, for consecrating us to your service, for having set us
apart to the sacred ministry of prayer.

We pray for the church this morning in all her breadth and variety,
gathered out of every nation, family, people, and tongue, to be a kingdom
of priests serving you. Grant to the church genuine humility where there
is pride, unity where there is division. Grant to her truth where there is
error and wisdom where there is folly, that you might fulfill your purposes
for her.

Grant that in our own community and those to whom we have influence,
for those who are troubled, those who suffer, and those who are discouraged
might find support in time of need especially from your church.

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, give us a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of
Christ, so that the eyes of our hearts might be enlightened. Help us to
know the hope to which you have called us, the riches of the glorious
inheritance in the saints, and the immeasurable greatness of your power
at work in us. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

– based on Ephesians 1:17-19, NRSV

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

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

L O Lord, You are our strength.
The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer,
my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge,
my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.
I call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised,
and I am saved from my enemies."

God – Your ways are perfect;
the Word of the Lord proves true;
You are a shield for all those who take refuge in You.
For who is God, but the Lord?
And who is a rock, except our God?
"The Lord lives, and blessed be my rock;
And exalted be the God of my salvation"
~ based on Psalm 18

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 Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Asahel Nettelton

Robert Robinson



Come, Thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless-ing, Tune my heart to sing Thy
Here I raise my Eb - en - ez - er; Hith - er by Thy help I'm
O to grace how great a debt - or Dai - ly I'm con - strained to



5
grace; Streams of mer - cy, ne - ver ceas - ing, Call for
come; And I hope, by Thy good plea - sure, Safe - ly
9 be! Let that grace now, like a fet - ter, Bind my



songs of loud - est praise. Teach me some mel - o - dious
to ar - rive at home. Je - sus sought me when a
13 wand - 'ring heart to Thee. Prone to wand - er, Lord, I



son - net, Sung by flam - ing tongues a - bove. Praise the
strang - er, Wand - 'ring from the fold of God; He, to
17 feel it, Prone to leave the God I love; Here's my



mount! I'm fixed u - pon it, Mount of God's un - chang - ing love.
res - cue me from dan - ger, Int - er - posed His pre - cious blood.
heart, O take and seal it, Seal it for Thy courts a - bove.

Make Me a Captive, Lord

Leominster

George Matheson



Make me a ca - ptive, Lord, and then I shall be free; force
My heart is weak and poor un - til its mas - ter find; it
My will is not my own till thou hast made it thine; if



me to ren - der up my sword, and I shall con - queror
has no spring of ac - tion sure, it var - ies with the
it would reach a mon - arch's throne, it must its crown re -



be. I sink in life's a - larms when by my - self I stand; im -
wind. It can - not free - ly move till thou hast wrought its chain; en -
- sign; it on - ly stands un - bent a - mid the clash - ing strife, when



- pris - on me with - in thine arms, and strong shall be my hand.
- slave it with thy match - less love, and death - less it shall reign.
on thy bo - som it has leant, and found in thee its life.

MINISTRY OF THE WORD

Scripture Acts 26:15-32 (found on Page 15)

Series Summer Series in Acts

Sermon Persuasion

Profession of Faith

L As we are to walk humbly with our God in lives of gratitude, let us proclaim our faith together:

A *“Oh, that my words could be recorded.*

*Oh, that they could be inscribed on a monument,
carved with an iron chisel and filled with lead,
engraved forever in the rock.*

*“But as for me, I know that my Redeemer lives,
and he will stand upon the earth at last.*

*And after my body has decayed,
yet in my body I will see God!*

I will see him for myself.

Yes, I will see him with my own eyes.

I am overwhelmed at the thought!

Job 19:23-27

CONFESSION & RENEWAL

L Seeing that we have a great High Priest who has entered the inmost heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us therefore approach the throne of grace with fullest confidence, that we may receive mercy for our failures and grace to help in the hour of need. In the strength of this assurance, let us confess our sins to God. – *based on Hebrews 4:14, 16*

Confession & Renewal

A *Holy and merciful God, in your presence we confess our sinfulness,
our shortcomings, and our offenses against you. You alone know how often
we have sinned in wandering from your ways, in wasting your gifts,
in forgetting your love.*

*Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we are ashamed and sorry for all we have
done to displease you. Forgive our sins, and help us to live in your light
and walk in your ways, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.*

Silent and Personal Confession

Gloria Patri

Karl Digerness, 2009

♩ = 90



Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, glo - ry be to the Son,



Glo-ry be to the Spi-rit, Three in One. As it was in the be-gin-ing it



will be for-ev-er A-men, A-men, A-men.

WORDS OF RENEWAL

- L If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with you, so that you may be revered. O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is steadfast love, and with him is great power to redeem. It is he who will redeem Israel from all its iniquities. – *Psalm 130:3-4, 7-8, NRSV*
- A *Thanks be to God!*

Doxology

- L Remember the words the Lord Jesus himself said: “It is more blessed to give than to receive.” – from Acts 20:35, NIV

*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.*