## 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

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# Looking Ahead

#### Knowing God-

09/11/22 - To Know God	Jeremiah	31:31-34
09/18/22 - The Only One	Exodus	20:1-6
09/25/22 - God's Holiness	Isaiah	6:1-13
10/02/22 - God's Covenant	Hebrews	6:12-20
10/09/22 - God's Majesty	Psalm	33:6-22
10/16/22 - God's Love	Hosea	3:1-5;11-1-11
10/23/22 - God's Justice	Matthew	11:20-30
10/30/22 - God's Face	Psalm	27
11/06/22 - God's Grace		
11/13/22 - God's Righteousness		

Randolph Heights Presbyterian Church 435 Hamline Ave. South

Saint Paul, MN

# September 18, 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 Exodus 20:1-6

And God spoke all these words:

"I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.

"You shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commandments.

- 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

*One* who sees his life as a voyage of discovery and runs the risk of failure has a better feel for faithfulness than the timid man who hides behind the law and never finds out who he is at all. ~ *Brennan Manning: The Ragamuffin Gospel: Good News for the Bedraggled, Beat-Up, and Burnt Out* 

The worst part of success is trying to find someone who is happy for you. ~ *Bette Midler* 

"All husbands are unfaithful in one way or another." Lillian and Daisy glanced at each other with raised brows. "Father isn't," Lillian replied smartly.

Mercedes responded with a laugh that sounded like crackling leaves being crushed underfoot. "Isn't he, dear? Perhaps he has stayed true to me physically – one can never be certain about these things. But his work has proved a more jealous and demanding mistress than a flesh-and-blood woman could ever be. All his dreams are invested in that collection of buildings and employees and legalities that absorb him to the exclusion of all else. If my competition had been a mortal woman, I could have borne it easily, knowing that passion fades and beauty lasts but an instant. But his company will never fade or sicken – it will outlast us all. If you have a year of your husband's interest and affection, it will be more than I have ever had. ~ *Lisa Kleypas, It Happened One Autumn* 

What is kinder--to believe the best of people and burden them with a nobility beyond their endurance--or to see them as they are, and accept it because it makes them comfortable? ~ Ayn Rand, The Fountainhead

Action expresses priorities. ~ *Mahatma Gandhi* 

#### 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 19)

- L The heavens proclaim the glory of God. The skies display his craftsmanship. Day after day they continue to speak; night after night they make him known.
- *A* They speak without a sound or word; their voice is never heard.
- L Yet their message has gone throughout the earth, and their words to all the world. God has made a home in the heavens for the sun. It bursts forth like a radiant bridegroom after his wedding. It rejoices like a great athlete eager to run the race.
- A The sun rises at one end of the heavens and follows its course to the other end. Nothing can hide from its heat.
- L The instructions of the LORD are perfect, reviving the soul. The decrees of the LORD are trustworthy, making wise the simple. The commandments of the LORD are right, bringing joy to the heart. The commands of the LORD are clear, giving insight for living.
- *A* Reverence for the LORD is pure, lasting forever. The laws of the LORD are true; each one is fair. They are more desirable than gold, even the finest gold. They are sweeter than honey, even honey dripping from the comb.

## Pastoral Prayer

L The prayer our Savior taught us begins with the words "Our Father in heaven." With this address, Christ aims to stir in our hearts a childlike awe and trust because through Christ God has become our Father. God, our Father, loves us and desires what is best for us. God, our Father, an swers our prayers. So let us come with reverence and confidence, trusting in our Father's mercies through Jesus Christ.

– based on Heidelberg Catechism, Q&A 120

We join our hearts and voices to offer our prayers 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 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, the God of our ancestor Israel, may you be praised forever and ever! Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the victory, and the majesty. Everything in the heavens and on earth is yours, O Lord, and this is your kingdom. We adore you as the one who is over all things. Wealth and honor come from you alone, for you rule over everything. Power and might are in your hand, and at your discretion people are made great and given strength. ~ 1 *Chronicles 29: 10-12* 
  - Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Α

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: How Great Thou Art

O Lord my God! When I in awesome wonder Consider all the worlds Thy hands have made, I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder, Thy power throughout the universe displayed.

> Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee: How great Thou art, how great Thou art! Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee: How great Thou art, how great - Thou - art!

And when I think that God, His Son not sparing, Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in; That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing, He bled and died to take away my sin: (Chorus)

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in humble adoration, And there proclaim, my God, how great Thou art! (Chorus)

#### Mv hope is built on When dark - ness veils His His oath His cov - en-When He shall come with Than Je - sus' blood and right - eous - ness; no - thing less chang - ing His love - lv face, rest on un grace; In Sup 'whel - ming flood: Ĥis blood the When ant. port me in sound, O trum - pet may then in him be found. Dressed 13 But dare not trust the sweet - est frame, whol - lv lean on high My holds withand storm - v gale an chor ev erv Hé all a - round my soul gives way, then is all my His right - eous - ness ă lone, Fault - less we stand bein -16 1.3. 2.4. Je - sus' name. Christ the so-lid rock I stand; All in the veil. On hope and stay. fore His throne. 20

o-ther ground is sink-ing sand. All o-ther ground is sink-ing sand.

#### MINISTRY OF THE WORD

ScriptureExodus 20:1-6 (found on Page 15)Series Fall Series: Knowing GodSermonThe Only One

## Profession of Faith

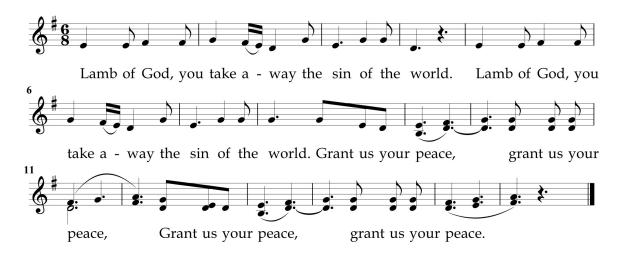
- L Brothers and sisters, from time to time we experience a new beginning in our faith journey, when the Holy Spirit breaks into our lives to inspire us, to lead us, and to deepen our commitment to Christ. May today be such a day!
- A We are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom we also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God. – Ephesians 2:19-22, NRSV

#### **CONFESSION & RENEWAL**

L When we see God's beautiful holiness, we recognize our own lack of holiness. God is light and truth, yet we live among shadows and lies.
People of God, let us acknowledge who and whose we are; let us ask our powerful God to illumine us with grace and truth in Jesus, our Lord.

#### *Lamb of God (Grant us Your Peace)*

#### Welcome Wagon



A Have mercy on me, O God, in your faithful love, in your great tenderness wipe away my offences; wash me thoroughly from my guilt, purify me from my sin. For I am well aware of my offences, my sin is constantly in mind. Against you, you alone, I have sinned, I have done what you see to be wrong, that you may show your saving justice when you pass sentence, and your victory may appear when you give judgment, remember, I was born guilty, a sinner from the moment of conception. But you delight in sincerity of heart, and in secret you teach me wisdom.

God, create in me a clean heart, renew within me a resolute spirit, do not thrust me away from your presence, do not take away from me your spirit of holiness. Give me back the joy of your salvation, sustain in me a generous spirit. Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will speak out your praise. Sacrifice gives you no pleasure, burnt offering you do not desire. Sacrifice to God is a broken spirit, a broken, contrite heart you never scorn. ~Psalm 51:1-6, 10-12, 15-17, NJB

## Silent and Personal Confession

WORDS OF RENEWAL

- L I will sprinkle clean water upon you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you; and I will remove from your body the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. – *Ezekiel 36:25-26, NRSV*
- A Thanks be to God!

## Doxology

L Our God, we thank you and praise your glorious name! But who am I, and who are my people, that we could give anything to you? Everything we have has come from you, and we give you only what you first gave us! ~ 1 *Chronicles* 29:13

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.