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

Knowing God Series-

09/25/22	- God's Holiness	Isaiah	6:1-13
10/02/22	- God's Covenant	Deuteronom	y29:9-20
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	Ephesians	2:1-10
11/13/22	- God's Righteousness	Psalm	19:1-14
11/20/22	- God's Sovereignty	Hebrews	12:12-13
11/27/22	- God's Incarnation	Romans	1:1-4



Randolph Heights Presbyterian Church 435 Hamline Ave. South

Saint Paul, MN

October 16, 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 Hosea 11:1-11

"When Israel was a child, I loved him, and I called my son out of Egypt. But the more I called to him, the farther he moved from me, offering sacrifices to the images of Baal and burning incense to idols. I myself taught Israel how to walk, leading him along by the hand. But he doesn't know or even care that it was I who took care of him. I led Israel along with my ropes of kindness and love. I lifted the yoke from his neck, and I myself stooped to feed him.

"But since my people refuse to return to me, they will return to Egypt and will be forced to serve Assyria.War will swirl through their cities; their enemies will crash through their gates.They will destroy them, trapping them in their own evil plans.For my people are determined to desert me.They call me the Most High, but they don't truly honor me.

"Oh, how can I give you up, Israel? How can I let you go? How can I destroy you like Admah or demolish you like Zeboiim? My heart is torn within me, and my compassion overflows. No, I will not unleash my fierce anger.

I will not completely destroy Israel, for I am God and not a mere mortal. I am the Holy One living among you, and I will not come to destroy. For someday the people will follow me.

I, the Lord, will roar like a lion. And when I roar, my people will return trembling from the west.

Like a flock of birds, they will come from Egypt. Trembling like doves, they will return from Assyria.

And I will bring them home again," says the Lord.

- 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

Here's the paradox. We can fully embrace God's love only when we recognize how completely unworthy of it we are. ~ *Ann Tatlock, Author, The Returning*

Legalism says God will love us if we change. The gospel says God will change us because He loves us. ~ *Tullian Tchividjian, Pastor/Author*

The same God who loves us as we are also loves us too much to leave us as we are. Perhaps because we tend to hold to ideas about God that reflect our own suppositions and fears, more than God's self-revelation. We reduce God to our own dimensions, ascribing to him our own reactions and responses, especially our own petty kind of love, and so end up believing in a God cast in our own image and likeness.

But the true God, the living God, is entirely "other":. Precisely from this radical otherness derives the inscrutable and transcendent nature of divine love-- for which our limited human love is but a distant metaphor. God's love is much more than our human love simply multiplied and expanded. God's love for us will ever be mystery; unfathomable, awesome, entirely beyond human expectation.

~ Joseph Langford, co-founder w/ Mo. Theresa, Missionaries of Charity Fathers

But the man who is not afraid to admit everything that he sees to be wrong with himself, and yet recognizes that he may be the object of God's love precisely because of his shortcomings, can begin to be sincere. His sincerity is based on confidence, not in his own illusions about himself, but in the endless, unfailing mercy of God.

~ Thomas Merton, No Man Is an Island

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 the earth 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 107)

- L Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good! His faithful love endures forever. Has the Lord redeemed you? Then speak out! Tell others he has redeemed you from your enemies.
- A For he has gathered the exiles from many lands, from east and west, from north and south. Some wandered in the wilderness, lost and homeless. Hungry and thirsty, they nearly died.
- L "Lord, help!" they cried in their trouble, and he rescued them from their distress. He led them straight to safety, to a city where they could live.
- A Let them praise the Lord for his great love and for the wonderful things he has done for them. For he satisfies the thirsty and fills the hungry with good things.
- L When they decrease in number and become impoverished through oppression, trouble, and sorrow, the Lord pours contempt on their princes, causing them to wander in trackless wastelands. But he rescues the poor from trouble and increases their families like flocks of sheep.
- A The godly will see these things and be glad, while the wicked are struck silent. Those who are wise will take all this to heart; they will see in our history the faithful love of the Lord.

Pastoral Prayer

L Great God, glorify yourself in all the earth. Be glorified in creation, be glorified in your church. Though we are small, and you are so grand, help us to magnify your name. Help us to make your name and the nature of your grace larger and easier for people to see. Help us to live and to worship in such a way that we become like magnifying glasses through which our neighbors and coworkers and children and friends can see you come into focus in ways they may not have seen before. When people ask for an explanation of the hope we have, give us the words to answer thoughtfully and well. When people wonder out loud who Jesus is and why he matters, help us to reply in words that will echo the sweetness of your gospel. Help us to magnify your name, O Lord, so that you may be glorified in all the earth. Be glorified in all we do. We pray it ever and only in Jesus' precious name. 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 Ever-faithful God, you have knit together as one body in Christ those who have been your people in all times and places. Keep us in communion with all your saints, following their example of faith and life, until that day when all your saints will dwell together in the joy of your eternal kingdom. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

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

Invitation to the Table

- L Come to this table: you who have much faith, and you who would like to have more; you who have been to this sacrament often, and you who have not been for a long time; you who have tried to follow Jesus, and you who have failed. Come. It is Christ who invites us to meet him here.
- *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 With joy we praise you, gracious God, for you created heaven and earth, made us in your image, and kept covenant with us – even when we fell into sin. We give you thanks for Jesus Christ, our Lord, who by his life, death, and resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore we join our voices with all the saints and angels and the whole creation to proclaim the glory of your name.

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 We praise and honor you for creating this world in all it's beauty, for redeeming the world through Christ, our Lord, and for sending us the gift of the Holy Spirit to encourage, instruct, and sustain us. We long for your Spirit to work among us now, to inspire our praise, to challenge us with your truth and to equip us for service to your world.

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: And Can it Be

And can it be that I should gain An int'rest in the Savior's blood? Died He for me, who caused His pain? For me, who Him to death pursued? Amazing love! Amazing love! How can it be that you would die for me? (*Refrain 2x*)

'Tis mystery the Immortal dies! Who can explain His strange design? In vain the firstborn seraph tries To sound the depths of love divine! 'Tis mercy all! 'Tis mercy all! Let earth adore, angels inquire no more. (*Refrain 2x*)

He left His Father's throne above, So free, so infinite His grace; Emptied Himself of all but love, And bled for Adam's helpless race; 'Tis mercy all, 'Tis mercy all! Immense and free, His mercy found out me. (*Refrain 2x*)

Long my imprisoned spirit lay Fast bound in sin and nature's night; You came and shown the living way; I woke, my dungeon flamed with light;

My chains fell off, my chains fell off! My heart was free, I went and followed Him. (*Refrain* 2*x*)

No condemnation now I dread; Jesus, and all in Him is mine! Alive in Him, my living Head, And clothed in righteousness divine, Bold I approach the eternal throne, and claim my crown, claim it through Christ alone. (*Refrain 2x*)

MINISTRY OF THE WORD

ScriptureHosea 11:1-11 (found on Page 15)Series Fall Series: Knowing GodSermonGod's Love

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 The LORD is my shepherd;

I have all that I need. He lets me rest in green meadows; he leads me beside peaceful streams. *He renews my strength.* He guides me along right paths, bringing honor to his name. Even when I walk through the darkest valley, *I will not be afraid,* for you are close beside me. Your rod and your staff protect and comfort me. You prepare a feast for me in the presence of my enemies. You honor me by anointing my head with oil. My cup overflows with blessings. Surely your goodness and unfailing love will pursue me all the days of my life, and I will live in the house of the LORD forever.

CONFESSION & RENEWAL

L Jesus said: "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets." As God has instructed us in these great commandments, and because we have not lived in full obedience, let us now confess our sins to God, trusting Christ as our Savior and Lord. – *based on Matthew* 22:37-40, NRSV

A God of Grace and Mercy,

We confess that our hearts are prone to wander from you. We do not tremble in the awe at the wonder of your majesty. Our eyes covet and our minds continue to focus on ourselves rather than our neighbor. Forgive us.

Jesus,

You always revered your father, and delighted to obey his will. Thank-you for your great obedience and faithfulness, when ours is weak and small. Help us to see clearly the work you accomplished and the peace you have made between us and the Father.

Holy Spirit,

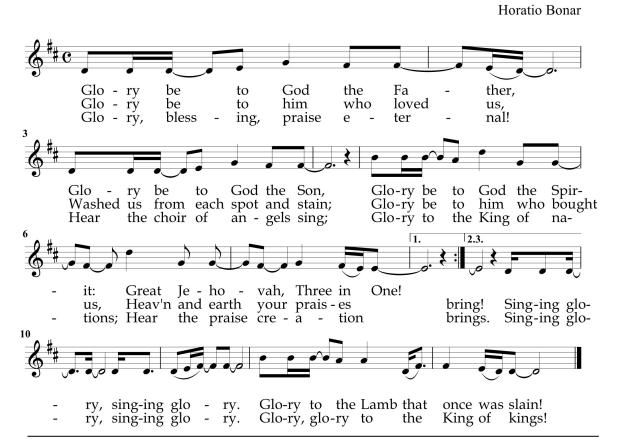
Transform our hearts and renew our minds. Help us to obey out of joyful reverence for our God who has loved us so much. Teach us to see God's word as a perfect guide for our steps. And may we revel in the freedom that is ours in Christ. Have your way with us according to your good pleasure, in Christ's name we pray, Amen.

Silent and Personal Confession

WORDS OF RENEWAL

- L The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. As a father has compassion for his children, so the LORD has compassion for those who fear him. For he knows how we were made; he remembers that we are dust. But the steadfast love of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear him, and his righteousness to children's children, to those who keep his covenant and remember to do his commandments. *Psalm 103:8, 13-14, 17-18, NRSV*
- *A Thanks be to God!*

Glory Be to God the Father



Doxology

L The earth is the LORD's and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it. – *Psalm 24:1, 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.