
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)

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

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Looking Ahead

Knowing God Series-

10/16/22 - God's Love	Hosea	3:1-5;11:1-11
10/23/22 - God's Justice	Psalm	146:1-10
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
12/04/22 - Mary's Song	Luke	1:46-55
12/11/22 - Christmas Wisdom	Luke	2:8-14
12/18/22 - High & Lofty One	Matthew	1:20-23
12/25/22 - What's in a Name	Matthew	2:1-8

Randolph Heights Presbyterian Church

435 Hamline Ave. South
Saint Paul, MN 55105

November 27, 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 Luke 2:25-35; Romans 1:1-4

Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying:

“Sovereign Lord, as you have promised,
you may now dismiss your servant in peace.
For my eyes have seen your salvation,
which you have prepared in the sight of all nations:
a light for revelation to the Gentiles,
and the glory of your people Israel.”

The child's father and mother marveled at what was said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother: “This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too.”

Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God – the gospel he promised beforehand through his prophets in the Holy Scriptures regarding his Son, who as to his earthly life was a descendant of David, and who through the Spirit of holiness was appointed the Son of God in power by his resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our 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 Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope." May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. – Romans 15:12-13, NRSV

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

The Bible is God's anthropology rather than man's theology.
~ Abraham Joshua Heschel (1907-1972), Rabbi, Theologian

I am just a human being trying to make it in a world that is rapidly losing its understanding of being human. ~ John Trudell, 1946-2015, Author, Actor, Musician

God's love is precisely what the first Christians did feel. They had experienced Jesus' love and had become convinced that Jesus was God incarnate. Once that love reached them, it could not be stopped.
~ Huston Smith, 1919-2016, Philosophy Chair at MIT

The purpose of life is not to be happy. It is to be useful, to be honorable, to be compassionate, to have it make some difference that you have lived and lived well.
~ Ralph Waldo Emerson, 1803-1882, Essayist, Lecturer

Man's maker was made man that He, Ruler of the stars, might nurse at His mother's breast; that the Bread might hunger, the Fountain thirst, the Light sleep, the Way be tired on its journey; that Truth might be accused of false witnesses, the Teacher be beaten with whips, the Foundation be suspended on wood; that Strength might grow weak; that the Healer might be wounded; that Life might die.
~ Augustine of Hippo, 354-430, Theologian and Philosopher

PRELUDE

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

- L O God, you pour out the Spirit of grace and love. Deliver us from cold hearts and wandering thoughts, that with steady minds and burning zeal we may worship you in spirit and truth. Amen.

All Sing: Come, Lord Jesus, Come

Come, Lord Jesus, come.

Come, Lord Jesus, come.

For what we've left undone, For fear that leaves us numb,
For all we can't outrun, That we need rescue from.

If death is overcome And new life is begun,
The world will be undone. Come, Lord Jesus, come.

Call to Worship *(from Psalm 80)*

- L Listen, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph's descendants like a flock. O God, enthroned above the cherubim, display your radiant glory

A *Show us your mighty power. Come to rescue us!*

- L Turn us again to yourself, O God. Make your face shine down upon us. Only then will we be saved.

A *Turn us again to yourself, O God of Heaven's Armies. Make your face shine down upon us. Only then will we be saved.*

- L Come back, we beg you, O God of Heaven's Armies. Look down from heaven and see our plight. Take care of this grapevine that you yourself have planted, this son you have raised for yourself.

A *Then we will never abandon you again. Revive us so we can call on your name once more. Make your face shine down upon us. Only then will we be saved.*

Pastoral Prayer

- L Root of Jesse, as you rise as a sign for all the peoples, and call forth the worship of all the nations, come quickly to deliver us from sin and death. Key of David, scepter over the house of Israel, your covenant people, open our hearts, our lives, our futures. Set free all who are imprisoned, all those who live in the valley of the shadow of death. Ruler of all nations, Lord of all time and space, you hold humanity together. As you lovingly formed us from the dust of the earth, lovingly reform, save, and renew us. Immanuel, our Lord, our hope and desire, come mightily to save us; our trust is in you. We rejoice in your faithfulness. Our hearts overflow with hope as we express our longing for the advent of our Lord. Prepare us to receive, honor, and follow him, our Messiah, the King of kings and Lord of lords. 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 Strengthen us, O God, in the power of your Spirit, to loose the chains that bind and claim your blessing for all people. Keep us faithful in your service until Christ comes in final victory and we shall feast with all your saints in the joy of your eternal realm. In Christ and in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God. 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 life-giving 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

Advent Candle Lighting

L Today we light the first candle of the Advent wreath. This is the candle of HOPE. With Christians around the world, we use this light to help us prepare our hearts and minds for the coming of God's Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ.

A *"The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness – on them light has shined." – Isaiah 9:2 (light candle)*

L Together, let us pray:

A *Lord as we look to the birth of Jesus, grant that the light of your love for us will help us to become lights in the lives of those around us. Prepare our hearts for the joy and gladness of your coming, for Jesus is our hope. Amen.*

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

L Lord God Almighty, King of glory and love eternal, you are worthy at all times to receive adoration, praise, and blessing; we praise you now for sending your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ, for whom our hearts wait, and to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, be honor and dominion, now and for ever. Amen.

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 Nettleton

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
be! Let that grace now, like a fet - ter, Bind my



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



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



17 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.

*"Then Samuel took a stone and set it between Mizpah and Shen, and named it Ebenezer, saying,
"Thus far the LORD has helped us." ~ 1Samuel 7:12*

In the Bleak Mid Winter

Gustav Holst

Christina Rossetti



- In the bleak mid - win - ter, fros - ty wind made moan,
Our God, hea - ven can't hold him, nor - earth sus - tain;
- An - gels and arch - an - gels may have gath - ered there,
- What - can I give him, poor - as I am?



6 earth stood hard as i - ron, wa - ter like a stone;
heav'n and earth shall flee a - way when he comes to reign.
cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim thro - nged the air;
If I were a shep - herd, I would bring a lamb;



10 snow had fa - llen, snow on snow-, snow on snow,
In the bleak mid win - ter a sta - ble place su - fficed the
but his mo - ther on - ly - , in her mai - den bliss,
if I were a Wise - Man - , I would do my part; yet



14 in the bleak mid - win - ter, long a - go.
Lord - God Al - mighty, Je - sus Christ.
wor - shiped the be - lov - ed with - a kiss.
what - can I give him: give - my heart.

MINISTRY OF THE WORD

Scripture Luke 2:25-35; Romans 1:1-4 (found on Page 15)
Series Fall Series: Knowing God
Sermon God And Incarnation

Profession of Faith

A *As followers of Jesus Christ,
living in this world –
which some seek to control,
and others view with despair –
we declare with joy and trust:
Our world belongs to God!
Remembering the promise
to reconcile the world to himself,
God joined our humanity in Jesus Christ –
the eternal Word made flesh.
He is the long-awaited Messiah,
one with us and one with God,
fully human and fully divine,
conceived by the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
We long for that day when our bodies are raised,
the Lord wipes away our tears,
and we dwell forever in the presence of God.
We will take our place in the new creation,
where there will be no more death,
or mourning or crying or pain,
and the Lord will be our light.
Come, Lord Jesus, come.*

CONFESSION & RENEWAL

L God's Word assures us: If we say that we have no sin, we deceive our selves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. In humility and faith let us confess our sin to God. – *based on 1 John 1:8-9*

CONFESSION & RENEWAL

A *Lord, we have not kept watch for you. We have occupied ourselves with our own concerns. We have not waited to find your will for us. We have not noticed the needs of the people around us. We have not acknowledged the love that has been shown to us. Forgive us for our lack of watchfulness. Help us to wait to know your will. Help us to look out for the needs of others. Help us to work and watch for your coming. Amen.*

Silent and Personal Confession

On This Day

Personent Hodie

Piae Cantiones, 1582



On this day earth shall ring with the song child - ren sing;
His the doom, ours the mirth, when he came down to earth;
God's bright star, o'er his head, wise men three to him led;
On this day an - gels sing; with their song earth shall ring,



To the Lord, Christ our King, born on earth to save us;
Beth - le - hem, saw his birth; ox and ass be - side him,
kneel they low by his bed, lay their gifts be - fore him,
prai - sing Christ, hea - ven's King, born on earth to save us;



Him the Fa - ther gave us.
from the cold would hide him Glo-ry to the Fa-ther, glo-ry to the
praise him and a - dore him.
peace and love he gave us.



Son, Glo-ry to the Ho-ly Ghost, to the three in one.

WORDS OF RENEWAL

L The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness." People of God: Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose coming we announce in this season, is our righteousness. In Christ, we are made right with God.

—based on Jeremiah 33:14-16, NRSV

A Thanks be to God!

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 *God of hope,
you gave your Son to free a lost world.
You give your Spirit to comfort and encourage.
You give us hope for a future free of pain, sorrow, and tears.
You promise us a future with you.
In gratitude, we bring you our time, talents, and tithes.
May our gifts be used so that many others will taste and see
the goodness of knowing you.
In Jesus' name we pray.
Amen.*