
A Glance at the Week

Monday

6:30 pm Small Group

Wednesday

7:00 am Men's Discussion (*Zoom*)

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

Or Email @ ken.highley@randolphheights.org

Looking Ahead

Advent Series- John Series Coming Soon!

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
01/01/23 - Growth in Grace	John	15:1-11
01/08/23 - Vinedresser	John	15:1-5
01/15/23 - Friends	John	15:9-17
01/22/23 - The World Hates You	John	15:16-16:1
01/29/23 - (<i>Annual Meeting After Service</i>)		



Randolph Heights Presbyterian Church

435 Hamline Ave. South
Saint Paul, MN 55105

December 04, 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 1:46-55

And Mary said:

“My soul glorifies the Lord

and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
for he has been mindful

of the humble state of his servant.

From now on all generations will call me blessed,

for the Mighty One has done great things for me –
holy is his name.

His mercy extends to those who fear him,
from generation to generation.

He has performed mighty deeds with his arm;

he has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts.

He has brought down rulers from their thrones

but has lifted up the humble.

He has filled the hungry with good things

but has sent the rich away empty.

He has helped his servant Israel,

remembering to be merciful

to Abraham and his descendants forever,

just as he promised our ancestors.”

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 ultimate test of our spirituality is the measure of our amazement at the grace of God
~ *D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones (1899-1981), Welsh-born medical doctor and preacher*

And the day will come when the mystical generation of Jesus, by the supreme being as his father in the womb of a virgin will be classed with the fable of the generation of Minerva in the brain of Jupiter. But we may hope that the dawn of reason and freedom of thought in these United States will do away all this artificial scaffolding...
~ *Letters of Thomas Jefferson, {Letter to John Adams, April 11, 1823}*

Those who will never be fooled can never be delighted, because without self-forgetfulness there can be no delight, and this is a great and grievous loss.
~ *Alan Jacobs, The Narnian: The Life and Imagination of C.S. Lewis*

I’m convinced that the best solutions are often the ones that are counterintuitive – that challenge conventional thinking – and end in breakthroughs.
~ *Nathaniel Wyeth, 1911-1990, American Inventor*

The secret to freedom from enslaving patters of sin is worship. You need worship [together]. You need great worship [together]. You need weeping worship [together]. You need glorious worship [together]. You need to sense God’s greatness and to be moved by it [together] – moved to tears and moved to laughter [together] – moved by who God is and what He has done for you [together].
~ *Tim Keller, Retired Pastor / Author*

PRELUDE

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

All Sing: On This Day!

On this day earth shall ring with the song child-ren sing;
To the Lord, Christ our King, born on earth to save us;
Him the Father gave us.

His the doom, ours the mirth, when he came down to earth;
Beth-le-hem saw his birth; ox and ass be-side him,
from the cold would hide him

Glory to the Father, glory to the Son,
Glory to the Holy Ghost, to the three in one.

God's bright star, o'er his head, wise men three to him led;
kneel they low by his bed, lay their gifts be-fore him,
praise him and adore him.

On this day angels sing; with their song earth shall ring,
praising Christ, heaven's King, born on earth to save us;
peace and love he gave us.

Call to Worship *(from Psalm 96)*

L Sing a new song to the LORD! Let the whole earth sing to the LORD! Sing to the LORD; praise his name. Each day proclaim the good news that he saves. Publish his glorious deeds among the nations. Tell everyone about the amazing things he does.

A *Great is the LORD! He is most worthy of praise! He is to be feared above all gods.*

L O nations of the world, recognize the LORD; recognize that the LORD is glorious and strong. Let all the earth tremble before him. Tell all the nations, "The LORD reigns!"

A *Bring your offering and come into his courts. He will judge all peoples fairly.*

L Let the sea and everything in it shout his praise! Let the fields and their crops burst out with joy!

A *Let the trees of the forest sing for joy before the LORD, for he is coming! He is coming to judge the earth. He will judge the world with justice, and the nations with his truth.*

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 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

Advent Candle Lighting

L We relight the candle of HOPE and we light the candle for PEACE. As we prepare for the coming of Jesus, we remember that Jesus is our hope and our peace. From the prophet Isaiah:

A *For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. (light candle)*

L Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. (– John 14:27) Let us pray:

A *Gracious God, Grant that we may find peace as we prepare for our Lord's birth. May divisions in ourselves and with other be peacefully resolved. Help us to see the paths of peace in our lives, and then give us the courage to follow them. Lord, let us remember that you only, are the giver of lasting peace. 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*

Joy to the World

George Fredrick Handel

Isaac Watts



Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive her King; Let
Joy to the earth, the Sa - vior reigns! Let all our songs em - ploy; While
No more let sins and sor - rows grow, Nor thorns in - fest the ground; He
He rules the world with truth and grace, And makes the na - tions prove The



e - 'vry heart pre - pare Him room, And heav'n and na - ture sing, And
fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains Re - peat the sound-ing joy, Re-
comes to make His bless-ings flow Far as the curse is found, Far
glo - ries of His right-eous - ness, And won - ders of His love, And



heav'n and na - ture sing, And heav'n, and heav'n, and na - ture sing.
- peat the sound-ing joy, Re - peat, re - peat, the sound-ing joy.
as the curse is found, Far as, far as, the curse is found.
won - ders of His love, And won - ders, won - ders, of His love.

All Sing: Canticle of the Turning

My soul cries out with a joyful shout that the God of my heart is great,
And my spirit sings of the wondrous things
that you bring to the one who waits.
You fixed your sight on the servant's plight,
and my weakness you did not spurn,
So from east to west shall my name be blest. Could the world be about to turn?

Though I am small, my God, my all, you work great things in me.
And your mercy will last from the depths of the past
to the end of the age to be.

Your very name puts the proud to shame,
and to those who would for you yearn,
You will show your might, put the strong to flight, for the world is about to turn.

My heart shall sing of the day you bring.
Let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears,
For the dawn draws near,
And the world is about to turn.

From the halls of power to the fortress tower, not a stone will be left on stone.
Let the king beware for your justice tears
every tyrant from his throne.
The hungry poor shall weep no more,
for the food they can never earn;
There are tables spread, ev'ry mouth be fed, for the world is about to turn (*refrain*)

Though the nations rage from age to age, we remember who holds us fast:
God's mercy must deliver us
from the conqueror's crushing grasp.
This saving word that our forbears heard
is the promise that holds us bound,
'Til the spear and rod can be crushed by God, who is turning the world around (*refrain*)

MINISTRY OF THE WORD

Scripture Luke 1:46-55 (found on Page 15)

Series Advent

Sermon Mary's Song

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 The psalmist testifies: Come and hear, all you who fear God, and I will tell what he has done for me. If I had cherished iniquity in my heart, the Lord would not have listened. But truly God has listened; he has given heed to the words of my prayer. Blessed be God, because he has not rejected my prayer or removed his steadfast love from me. In the strength of this assurance, let us confess our sins to God.

– based on Psalm 66:16, 18-20, NRSV

CONFESSION

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

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!*

All Sing: The Seven Joys of Mary

The first good joy that Mary had, it was the joy of one:
To see the blessed Jesus Christ when he was first her son.
When he was first her son, good man: and blessed may he be,
Oh - Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, to all eternity. *(Repeat)*

The next good joy that Mary had, it was the joy of two:
To see her own son Jesus Christ to make the lame to go.
To make the lame to go, good man: and blessed may he be,
Oh - Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, to all eternity. *(Repeat)*

The next good joy that Mary had, it was the joy of three:
To see her own son Jesus Christ to make the blind to see.
To make the blind to see, good man: and blessed may he be,
Oh - Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, to all eternity. *(Repeat)*

The next good joy that Mary had, it was the joy of four:
To see her own son Jesus Christ to read the Bible o'er.
To read the Bible o'er, good man: and blessed may he be,
Oh - Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, to all eternity. *(Repeat)*

The next good joy that Mary had, it was the joy of five:
To see her own son Jesus Christ to bring the dead alive.
To bring the dead alive, good man: and blessed may he be,
Oh - Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, to all eternity. *(Repeat)*

(slower) The next good joy that Mary had, it was the joy of six:
To see her own son Jesus Christ upon the crucifix.
Upon the crucifix, good man: and blessed may he be,
A tempo Oh - Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, to all eternity. *(Repeat)*

The next good joy that Mary had, it was the joy of sev'n:
To see her own son Jesus Christ to wear the crown of heav'n.
To wear the Crown of heaven, good man: and blessed may he be,
Oh - Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, to all eternity. *(Repeat 3x)*

Doxology

- L What can I give him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb. If I were a wise man, I would do my part. Yet what I can, I give him, give him my heart.

*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.*