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)

Session (session@randolphheights.org)

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

Or Email @ ken.highley@randolphheights.org

Looking Ahead

Gospel of John

02/05/23 -	- Mission of the Spirit	16:5-11
02/12/23 -	- Joy in Mourning	16:16-22
02/19/23 -	- Peace	16:27-33
02/26/23 -	- Our Lord's Prayer	17:1-20
03/05/23 -	- To be Sanctified	17:6-19
03/12/23 -	- To be On Mission	17:13-19
03/19/23 -	- His Children, Defined	17:6-24
03/26/23 -	- One in Love	17:20-26
04/02/23 -	- Eternal Life	17:1-5
04/09/23 -	- Easter Sunday	



Randolph Heights Presbyterian Church

435 Hamline Ave. South Saint Paul, MN 55105

March 12, 2023

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: John 17:13-19

"I am coming to you now, but I say these things while I am still in the world, so that they may have the full measure of my joy within them. I have given them your word and the world has hated them, for they are not of the world any more than I am of the world. My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one. They are not of the world, even as I am not of it. Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth. As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world. For them I sanctify myself, that they too may be truly sanctified."

- 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

May God the Father,
who does not despise the broken spirit,
give you a contrite heart.
May Christ,
who bore our sins in his body on the tree,
heal you by his wounds.
May the Holy Spirit,
who leads us into all truth,
speak to you words of pardon and peace. Amen.

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

Remember then that there is only one important time, and that time is now. The most important one is always the one you are with. And the most important thing is to do good for the one who is standing at your side. This is why we are here.

~ Jon J. Muth, 1960-, Illustrator/Writer, The Three Questions

We are not sent into this world mainly to enjoy the loveliness therein, nor to sit us down in passive ease; no, we were sent here for action. The soul that seeks to do the will of God with a pure heart, fervently, does not yield to the lethargy of ease.

~ Dorothea Dix, 1802-1887, Nurse, Advocate for Mentally Ill

I would like to buy \$3 worth of God please, not enough to explode my soul or disturb my sleep, but just enough to equal a cup of warm milk or a snooze in the sunshine. I don't want enough of him to make me love a black man or pick beets with a migrant. I want ecstasy, not transformation; I want the warmth of the womb, not a new birth. I want a pound of the eternal in a paper sack. I would like to buy \$3 dollars' worth of God please.

~ from collected writings 1971, Wilbur Rees, 1925-2018, Pastor/Author

An ambassador is not simply an agent; he is also a spectacle.

~ Walter Bagehot, 1826-1877, English Journalist / Essayist

I don't respect people who don't proselytize. I don't respect that at all. If you believe that there's a heaven and hell and people could be going to hell or not getting eternal life or whatever, and you think that it's not really worth telling them this because it would make it socially awkward.... How much do you have to hate somebody to believe that everlasting life is possible and not tell them that?

~Penn Jillette, famed atheist, illusionist and comedian

PRELUDE

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

All Sing: O God Our Help in Ages Past Under the shadow of your throne your saints have dwelt secure. sufficient is your arm alone, and our defense is sure.

O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, Will be our guard while troubles last, and our eternal home:

Before the hills in order stood, or earth received its frame, from everlasting you are God, to endless years the same.

A thousand ages in your sight are like an ev'ning gone, short as the watch that ends the night before the rising sun.

Call to Worship (from Psalm 96)

- L For great is the LORD and most worthy of praise; he is to be feared above all gods. For all the gods of the nations are idols, but the LORD made the heavens.
- A Splendor and majesty are before him; strength and glory are in his sanctuary.
- L Ascribe to the LORD, all you families of nations, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength. Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; bring an offering and come into his courts.
- A Worship the LORD in the splendor of his holiness; tremble before him, all the earth.
- Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth be glad; let the sea resound, and all that is in it. Let the fields be jubilant, and everything in them; let all the trees of the forest sing for joy.
- A Let all creation rejoice before the LORD, for he comes; he comes to judge the earth. He will judge the world in righteousness and the peoples in his faithfulness.

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.
- Co God, by your power may we, with all the saints, comprehend the breadth and length and height and depth of the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that we may be filled with your fullness. Amen.
 - based on Ephesians 3:18-19

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

Invitation to the Table

- 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)

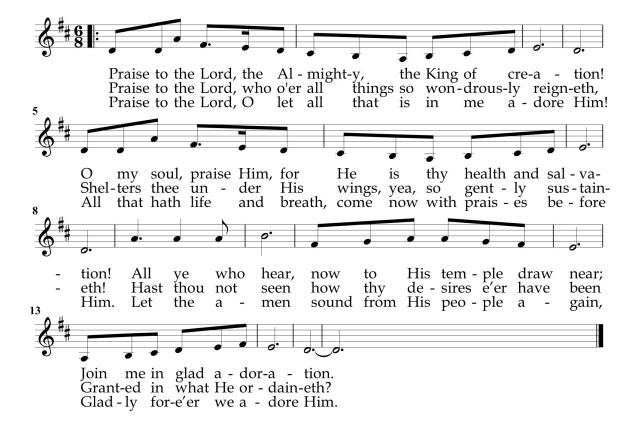
- O Lord, the God of our ancestor Israel, may you be praised forever and ever! Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the victory, and the majesty. Everything in the heavens and on earth is yours, O Lord, and this is your kingdom. We adore you as the one who is over all things. Wealth 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
- 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

Praise to the Lord

Joachim Neander tr. Catherine Wolf



All Sing: Blessed be Your Name

Blessed Be Your Name
In the land that is plentiful
Where Your streams of abundance flow
Blessed be Your name

Blessed Be Your name When I'm found in the desert place Though I walk through the wilderness Blessed Be Your name

Bridge: Every blessing You pour out, I'll Turn back to praise

When the darkness closes in, Lord Still I will say

Refrain: Blessed be the name of the Lord – Blessed be Your name!

Blessed be the name of the Lord – Blessed be Your glorious name!

Blessed be Your name When the sun's shining down on me When the world's 'all as it should be' Blessed be Your name

Blessed be Your name
On the road marked with suffering
Though there's pain in the offering
Blessed be Your name

Bridge2: You give and take away (2x)

My heart will choose to say, Lord, blessed be Your name

Words & Music: Ben & Matt Redman

MINISTRY OF THE WORD

Scripture John 17:6-19 (found on Page 15)

Series Gospel of John

Sermon Lord's Prayer – Missio

Profession of Faith

A This is the good news that we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved, if we hold it fast: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day, and that he appeared first to the women, then to Peter, and to the Twelve, and then to many faithful witnesses.

We believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God. Jesus Christ is the first and the last, the beginning and the end; he is our Lord and our God. —

~ based on Matthew 16:16; Mark 16:9; John 20:28; 1 Corinthians 15:1-6; Revelation 22:13

CONFESSION & RENEWAL

L Search me, O God, and know my heart; try me and know my thoughts. See if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting. – *Psalm* 139:23-24, *NRSV*

Lent is a journey of deepening reflection and renewal, an opportunity to make new commitments in faith. May we walk this journey by setting aside the burdens that would weigh us down.

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 Amen.

Silent and Personal Confession

Calmer of My Troubled Heart

Charles Wesley Mathew Smith



Calm-er of my troub-led heart Bid my un - be-lief de - part Com - fort me when - e'er I mourn With the hope of Thy re - turn



Speak and all my sor-rows cease Speak and all my soul is peace Hal-le-And till I Thy glo-ries see Help - me be-lieve in Thee



Renewal

- Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Happy are those to whom the Lord imputes no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit. —Psalm 32:1-2, NRSV
- *A* Thanks be to God!

Doxology

- L With thankfulness we give in gratitude and joy. With prayerfulness we give in sacrifice and love. With hopefulness we give in commitment to God.
- A 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.

Dedication

Α

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.

Preparation

L Lord God, help us turn our hearts to you and hear what you will speak, for you speak peace to your people through Christ, our Lord. Amen.