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## 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](mailto:secretary@randolphheights.org))

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

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## Looking Ahead

### Summer in Psalms

06/04/23 - A Meditation	Psalm 1
06/11/23 - Deeply Emotional Prayer	Psalm 3
06/18/23 - Finding our Identity	Psalm 8
06/25/23 - Taking Refuge	Psalm 11
07/02/23 - Finding Certainty	Psalm 14
07/09/23 - Anxiety	Psalm 27
07/16/23 - Beauty of God	Psalm 27
07/23/23 - Confession	Psalm 32
07/30/23 - Finding God	Psalms 42/43

## Randolph Heights Presbyterian Church

435 Hamline Ave. South  
Saint Paul, MN  
55105

### July 09, 2023

9:30am Discussion

10:30am Worship

[www.randolphheights.org](http://www.randolphheights.org)

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## 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.*

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## Scripture Reading: Psalm 27 (NLT)

A psalm of David.

The LORD is my light and my salvation— so why should I be afraid?  
The LORD is my fortress, protecting me from danger,  
so why should I tremble?  
When evil people come to devour me,  
when my enemies and foes attack me, they will stumble and fall.  
Though a mighty army surrounds me, my heart will not be afraid.  
Even if I am attacked, I will remain confident.  
The one thing I ask of the LORD— the thing I seek most—  
is to live in the house of the LORD all the days of my life,  
delighting in the LORD's perfections and meditating in his Temple.  
For he will conceal me there when troubles come;  
he will hide me in his sanctuary.  
He will place me out of reach on a high rock.  
Then I will hold my head high above my enemies who surround me.  
At his sanctuary I will offer sacrifices with shouts of joy,  
singing and praising the LORD with music.  
Hear me as I pray, O LORD. Be merciful and answer me!  
My heart has heard you say, "Come and talk with me."  
And my heart responds, "LORD, I am coming."  
Do not turn your back on me. Do not reject your servant in anger.  
You have always been my helper.  
Don't leave me now; don't abandon me, O God of my salvation!  
Even if my father and mother abandon me, the LORD will hold me close.  
Teach me how to live, O LORD.  
Lead me along the right path, for my enemies are waiting for me.  
Do not let me fall into their hands.  
For they accuse me of things I've never done;  
with every breath they threaten me with violence.  
Yet I am confident I will see the LORD's goodness  
while I am here in the land of the living.  
Wait patiently for the LORD. Be brave and courageous.  
Yes, wait patiently for the LORD.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

A Thanks be to God!

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## BENEDICTION

*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 Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen. – *1 Timothy 1:17, NIV*

Go forth in the name of the Lord. This is God's charge: We should believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and love one another, just as he commanded us. – *based on 1 John 3:23, 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.

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## Reflections

These are the few ways we can practice humility:  
To speak as little as possible of one's self. / Never to stand on one's dignity.  
To be kind and gentle even under provocation. / To choose always the hardest.  
~ *Mother Teresa, The Joy in Loving: A Guide to Daily Living*

I think that taking life seriously means something such as this: that whatever man does on this planet has to be done in the lived truth of the terror of creation, of the grotesque, of the rumble of panic underneath everything. Otherwise it is false. Whatever is achieved must be achieved with the full exercise of passion, of vision, of pain, of fear, and of sorrow. How do we know, that our part of the meaning of the universe might not be a rhythm in sorrow?

~ *Ernest Becker, 1924-1974, Cultural Anthropologist / Author*

I have held many things in my hands, and I have lost them all; but whatever I have placed in God's hands, that I still possess. ~ *Martin Luther (1483-1546)*

The soul is torn apart in a painful condition as long as it prefers the eternal because of its Truth but does not discard the temporal because of familiarity.

~ *St. Augustine of Hippo (354-430), Theologian and philosopher*

There's an invitation to redemption and that our best self found in Jesus is only found to the extent that we can go through our pain, including our pain of anxiety.

~ *Curtis Chang, Author, Theologian*

It is the dogma that is the drama -- not beautiful phrases, nor comforting sentiments, nor vague aspirations to loving-kindness and uplift, nor the promise of something nice after death -- but the terrifying assertion that the same God who made the world lived in the world and passed through the grave and gate of death. Show that to the non-believer, and they may not believe it; but at least they may realize that here is something that a man might be glad to believe.

~ *Dorothy L. Sayers, 1893-1957, Author, Creed or Chaos? Why Christians Must Choose Either Dogma or Disaster; Or, Why It Really Does Matter What You Believe*

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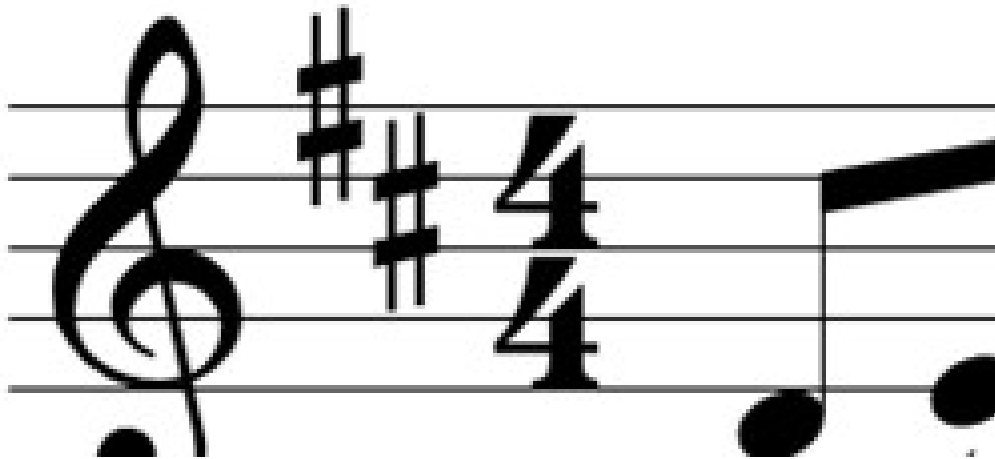
## PRELUDE

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

### Opening

L Blessed are you, Lord God, King of the universe. In your wisdom you have made all creation to worship you. You call us to worship you now in this time and place, in unity with prophets, martyrs, and saints from all times and places.

A *As we prepare for worship, we pray that you will quiet our hearts, that we may hear your voice in your Word. We pray that you will stir our hearts, that we may more faithfully follow Jesus, and that you will be glorified by the praise and prayers we offer you.*



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## 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 Gracious God, accept all these prayers offered in Jesus' name, and give us now the strength to wait patiently for your answer, and to live faithfully in response to your call. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

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## 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*

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## Worship & Adoration

L Let us worship God, our light and our salvation.  
A *The Lord is the stronghold of our lives.*

L We desire to live in God's house and to seek God in his holy temple.  
A *We have come with shouts of joy, to sing and to make music to the Lord.*

L Let us worship God in spirit and in truth.  
A *Teach us your ways and make straight our paths in this hour of worship and always. (based on Psalm 27; John 4:23)*

L We praise you for creating this world in all its beauty, for redeeming the world through Christ, our Lord, and for sending us the gift of your 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 in your world. 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*

*I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say*

KINGSFOLD (Tune)

Horatius Bonar



I heard the voice of Je-sus say, "Come un - to me and  
I heard the voice of Je-sus say, "Be - hold, I free - ly  
I heard the voice of Je-sus say, "I am the dawn-ing



rest. Lay down, O wear-y one, lay down your head u - pon my  
give the liv - ing wa - ter, thirs - ty one; stoop down and drink and  
light. Look un - to me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be



breast." I came to Je-sus as I was, so wear-y, worn, and sad. In  
live." I came to Je-sus, and I drank of that life-giv - ing stream. My  
bright." I looked to Je-sus, and I found in him my star, my sun, and



him I found a rest-ing place, and he has made me glad.  
thirst was quenched, my soul re-vived, and now I live in him.  
in that light of life I'll walk till trav'-ling days are done.

*All Sing: The Wonderful Cross*

When I survey the wondrous Cross  
On which the Prince of Glory died  
My richest gain, I count but loss  
And pour contempt on all my pride

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,  
Save in the death of Christ my God!  
All the vain things that charm me most,  
I sacrifice them to His blood.

Refrain: Oh the wonderful Cross,  
Oh the wonderful Cross  
Bids me come and die and find  
That I may truly live

See from His head, His hands, His feet  
Sorrow and love flow mingled down  
Did ever such love and sorrow meet?  
Or thorns compose, so rich a crown (Refrain)

Were the whole realm of nature mine  
That were an offering far too small  
Love so amazing, so divine  
Demands my soul, my life, my all (Refrain)

*Chris Tomlin, J.D. Walt, Jesse Reeves*

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## MINISTRY OF THE WORD

**Scripture** Psalm 27 (*found on Page 14-15*)  
**Series** Summer in the Psalms  
**Sermon** Road Through Anxiety

### *Profession of Faith*

A *While we were still weak,  
at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.  
Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person –  
though perhaps for a good person, someone might actually dare to die.  
But God proves his love for us  
in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.  
Much more surely then,  
now that we have been justified by his blood,  
will we be saved through him from the wrath of God.  
For if while we were enemies,  
we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son,  
much more surely, having been reconciled,  
will we be saved by his life. – Romans 5:6-10, NRSV*

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## CONFESSION & RENEWAL

L *Don't let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, and trust also in me. There is more than enough room in my Father's home. If this were not so, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you? When everything is ready, I will come and get you, so that you will always be with me where I am. – John 14:1-3*

A *Heavenly Father,  
Many times we have troubled hearts and minds. We worry about relationships, health, finances, family, future, and many other things. We have a hard time believing in you in a way that would bring comfort and confidence to our hearts. We doubt your love and concern for us, and even your very existence. Thank-you for Jesus' fearless faith. He has persevered through far greater trials than anything we will ever suffer.*

*Holy Spirit, help us to believe in Christ. Give us a joy and a peace that should flow from the reality of what Christ has done for us. Help us to live in the light of full forgiveness and in the sufficiency of your mercy and grace. In Jesus name we pray, 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

5  
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

9  
- lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah Hal-le - lu - jah, Hal - le-lu - jah

The musical score is written on three staves in G major (one sharp) and 6/8 time. The first staff contains the first two lines of the hymn. The second staff begins with a measure rest and contains the next two lines. The third staff contains the final line of the hymn. The lyrics are placed below the notes.

## Renewal

L You did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ.

A *Thanks be to God!* – Romans 8:15-17, NRSV

## Doxology

L Freely you have received, freely give. – Matthew 10:8, NIV

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

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.*

## Preparation

L Teach us your way, O Lord, and lead us on a level path. Give us understanding, and we will keep your law and obey it with all our hearts.  
– based on Psalm 27:11, Psalm 119:33-34, NRSV