

---

## A Glance at the Week

**Monday**

**6:30 pm** Small Group

**Tuesday**

**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))

*Session* ([session@randolphheights.org](mailto:session@randolphheights.org))

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

*Or Email @ [ken.highley@randolphheights.org](mailto:ken.highley@randolphheights.org)*



## Looking Ahead

### Summer in Psalms

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 - Thirst for God	Psalms 42/43
08/06/23 - In Search of ...	Psalm 63
08/13/23 - Worship	Psalm 95
08/20/23 - God's Love	Psalm 107
08/27/23 - (Guest)	Psalm
09/03/23 - Rejoicing and Weeping	Psalm 126

## Randolph Heights Presbyterian Church

435 Hamline Ave. South  
Saint Paul, MN  
55105

### August 27, 2023

9:30am Discussion

10:30am Worship

[www.randolphheights.org](http://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: Psalm 131 (NIV)

A song of ascents. Of David.

My heart is not proud, Lord,  
my eyes are not haughty;

I do not concern myself with great matters  
or things too wonderful for me.

2 But I have calmed and quieted myself,  
I am like a weaned child with its mother;  
like a weaned child I am content.

3 Israel, put your hope in the Lord  
both now and forevermore.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

A Thanks be to God!

---

## 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 The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Peace be to the brothers and sisters, and love with faith, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Grace be with all who love our Lord Jesus Christ with love incorruptible.  
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

Through pride we are ever deceiving ourselves. But deep down below the surface of the average conscience a still, small voice says to us, something is out of tune.

*~ Carl Gustav Jung, 1875-1961, Swiss Psychiatrist*

Christianity is not about our disciplined pursuit of God, but about God's relentless pursuit of us- to the point of dying on a cross for us that we might become friends.

*~ Peter Scazzero, 1956- , Psychotherapist, Author*

One of the shortest Psalms to read, one of the longest to learn.

*~ Charles Spurgeon, 1834-1892, English Pastor*

The transition from a sucking infant to a weaned child, from squalling baby to quiet son or daughter, is not smooth. It is stormy and noisy. It is no easy thing to quiet yourself: sooner may we calm the sea or rule the wind or tame a tiger than quiet ourselves. It is a pitched battle. The baby is denied expected comforts and flies into rages or sinks into sulks. There are sobs and struggles. The infant is facing its first great sorrow and it is in sore distress. But 'to the weaned child his mother is his comfort though she has denied him comfort. It is a blessed mark of growth out of spiritual infancy when we can forgo the joys which once appeared to be essential, and can find our solace in him who denies them to us.'

*~ Eugene Peterson, A Long Obedience in the Same Direction*

We are not called to be awesome, not called to be amazing, nor called to be 'more'. We are called to be loved. We are called to calm and quiet our souls in the arms of the one who is awesome; the one who is more; and in the arms of one who is exceedingly able to do beyond what we could ever ask or imagine.

*~ Scott Sauls, Pastor, Sermon Clip*

The point of this verse [v.2] is blunted by the RSV, which pictures a baby pacified at its mother's breast; whereas the psalm emphasizes the word 'weaned', thereby drawing an analogy between the child which no longer frets for what it used to find indispensable, and the soul which has learnt a comparable lesson.

*~ Derek Kidner, 1913-2008, British Old Testament Scholar*

---

## PRELUDE

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

### Opening

- L LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory in the heavens.  
A *Through the praise of children and infants you have established a stronghold against your enemies, to silence the foe and the avenger. – Psalm 8:1-2, NIV*

*All Sing: Not to Us, O Lord*

Not to us, O Lord, Not to us, O Lord  
But to Thy name give glory  
To Thy name give praise

We were weak, You made us strong  
You gave us hope when hope was gone  
So, when we lift our song of praise  
With single voice and mind,  
Our thankful hearts will say... *(Refrain)*

### Call to Worship

- L Lift up your heads, you gates; be lifted up, you ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.  
A *Who is this King of glory?*
- L The LORD strong and mighty, the LORD mighty in battle.  
A *Lift up your heads, you gates; lift them up, you ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.*

---

## Pastoral Prayer

- L Almighty God, Father of mercies, we give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life, but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ, for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.

And we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up ourselves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. 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 May the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts be pleasing in your sight, Lord, our Rock and our Redeemer.

*– from Psalm 19:14, NIV*

---

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

### *Invitation to the Table*

- L Professing & baptized members of a church in which Jesus Christ is professed as Lord and Savior: the Lord has prepared his table for all who love him and trust in him alone for their salvation. All who are truly sorry for their sins, who sincerely believe in the Lord Jesus as their Savior, and who desire to live in obedience to him, are now invited to come with gladness to the table of the Lord.
- 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.*
- L Let us give thanks together:

### *Prayer of Thanks* (from a fourth-century liturgy from the city of Alexandria.)

- A *It is truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks, for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and forever. Fountain of all life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance. Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day, and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we glorify your name and lift our voices in joyful praise:*

All Sing:     *Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of Power and Might,  
Heaven and Earth are filled with Your Glory. (2x)  
Hosanna! Hosanna! In the highest! (2x)*

### *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*

---

## Adoration

- L Glorious God, we give you thanks: in your Son, Jesus Christ. You have given us every spiritual blessing in the heavenly realms. You chose us, before the world was made, to be your holy people, without fault in your sight. You adopted us as your children in Christ. You have set us free by his blood; you have forgiven our sins. You have made known to us your secret purpose, to bring heaven and earth into unity in Christ. You have given us your Holy Spirit, the seal and pledge of our inheritance. All praise and glory be yours, O God, for the richness of your grace, for the splendor of your gifts, for the wonder of your love. — based on Ephesians 1:3-18
- 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: O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing

Oh for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise  
The glories of my God and King the triumphs of His grace

Jesus! the name that charms our fears that bids our sorrows cease  
'Tis music in the sinner's ears 'tis life and health and peace

He breaks the power of canceled sin He sets the prisoner free  
His blood can make the foulest clean His blood availed for me

He speaks, and listening to His voice new life the dead receive  
The mournful, broken hearts rejoice the humble poor believe

Hear Him, ye deaf; His praise, ye dumb Your loosened tongues employ  
Ye blind, behold your Savior come and leap, ye lame, for joy

Glory to God, and praise and love be ever, ever given  
By saints below and saints above the church in earth and heaven

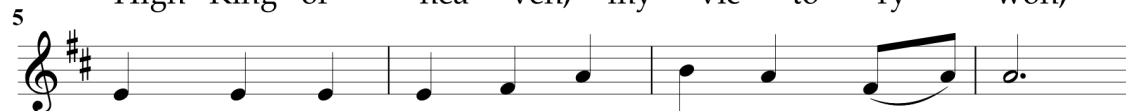
## Be Thou My Vision

tr. Mary Byrne

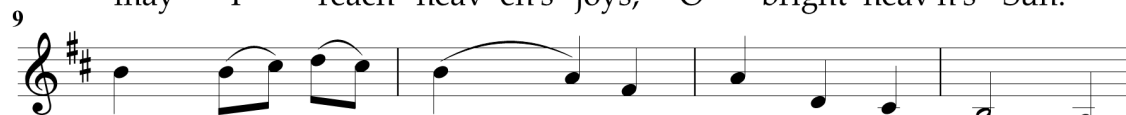
Trad. Irish Melody



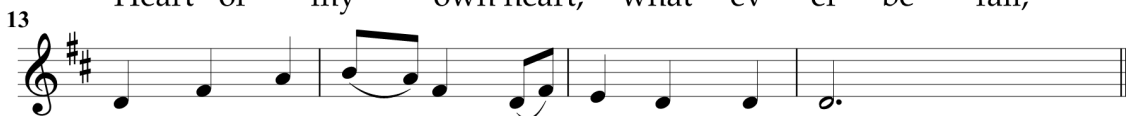
Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;  
Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;  
Rich - es I heed not, nor vain emp - ty praise,  
High King of hea - ven, my vic - to - ry won,



naught be all else to me, save that thou art  
I e - ver with thee and thou with me, Lord;  
thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:  
may I reach heav-en's joys, O bright heav'n's Sun!



thou my best thought by day or by night,  
thou my great Fa - ther, I thy true son;  
thou and thou on - ly, first in my heart,  
Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pre - sence my light.  
thou in me dwell - ing, and I with thee one.  
High King of hea - ven, my trea - sure thou art.  
still be my vi - sion, O Ru - ler of all.

---

## MINISTRY OF THE WORD

**Scripture** Psalm 131 (*found on Page 15*)  
**Series** Summer in the Psalms  
**Sermon** The Gift of Limitation

### ***Profession of Faith***

A *Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.*  
*Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you,*  
*we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.*  
*Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,*  
*Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;*  
*have mercy on us.*  
*You are seated at the right hand of the Father;*  
*receive our prayer.*  
*For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,*  
*you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,*  
*with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.*

---

## CONFESSION & RENEWAL

L *When we see God's beautiful holiness, we recognize our own lack of holiness. God is light and truth, yet we live among shadows and lies. People of God, let us acknowledge who and whose we are; let us ask our powerful God to illumine us with grace and truth in Jesus, our Lord.*

A *God blesses those who realize their need for him, for the kingdom of heaven is given to them. But we have been proud in spirit, inflated with pride in our own self-sufficiency. We have forgotten how needy we are.*

*God blesses those who mourn, for they will be comforted. But we have not mourned over our sins, instead we have insulated ourselves from those around us, from their pain, needs, loneliness, and suffering. We have even hardened ourselves so that we are unaware that our own lives cause grief to the Lord.*

*God blesses those who are gentle and lowly, for the whole earth will be their inheritance. But we have valued toughness over gentleness. We have too often chosen to be concerned with ourselves rather than with our brothers and sisters and neighbors. Like the prodigal son, we want to satisfy ourselves rather than our Father.*

*Lord, please show us your mercy.*  
*Lord, have mercy upon us in the name of the Father,*  
*Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.*

### **Silent and Personal Confession**

## Glory Be to God the Father

Horatio Bonar

Glo - ry be to God the Fa - ther,  
Glo - ry be to him who loved us,  
Glo - ry, bless - ing, praise e - ter - nal!

Glo - ry be to God the Son,  
Washed us from each spot and stain;  
Hear the choir of an - gels sing;  
Glo - ry be to God the Spir -  
Glo - ry be to him who bought  
Glo - ry to the King of na -

- it: Great Je - ho - vah, Three in One!  
us, Heav'n and earth your prais - es bring! Sing - ing glo -  
tions; Hear the praise cre - a - tion brings. Sing - ing glo -

- ry, sing - ing glo - ry. Glo - ry to the Lamb that once was slain!  
- ry, sing - ing glo - ry. Glo - ry, glo - ry to the King of kings!

## Renewal

L The LORD is faithful in all his words, and gracious in all his deeds.  
The LORD upholds all who are falling, and raises up all who are  
bowed down. — Psalm 145:13-14, NRSV

A *Thanks be to God!*

## 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

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 you 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 Lord God, may your Word be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen. — based on Psalm 119:105, NRSV