
Scripture Reading James 1:19-27

My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, because human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires. Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you.

Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it – not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it – they will be blessed in what they do.

Those who consider themselves religious and yet do not keep a tight rein on their tongues deceive themselves, and their religion is worthless. Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.

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 As God's own, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, and patience, forgiving each other as the Lord has forgiven you, and crown all these things with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.
– based on Colossians 3:12-14

May the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy



Saint Paul, MN

Randolph Heights
Presbyterian Church

435 Hamline Ave. South

February 18, 2024

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.

Pastoral Prayer

L O Savior God, look upon your church in its struggles. Have mercy on its weaknesses, give strength and courage to love the truth...
Look also upon the ministry of this congregation. Increase its courage, strengthen its faith, and inspire its witness to those in our sphere of influence and beyond, even to the ends of the earth. Have courage to join in Jesus' mission build and strengthen one-another.
Author of grace and God of love, send your Holy Spirit's blessing to your children here present. Keep our hearts and thoughts in Jesus Christ, your Son, our only Savior.

God is the one who makes us, loves us, and sustains us.
God is the one who makes, loves, and sustains the world.

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 To you, O LORD, do we lift up our souls. O God, in you we trust. Hear our prayers, O LORD and let our cries come to you.

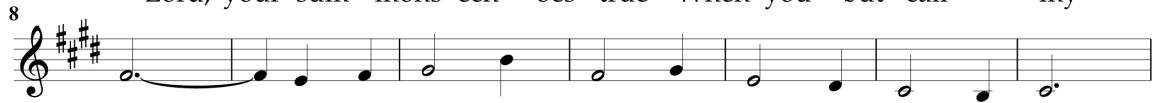
The Summons

Peacock Maule & Bell

Scottish Folk Song



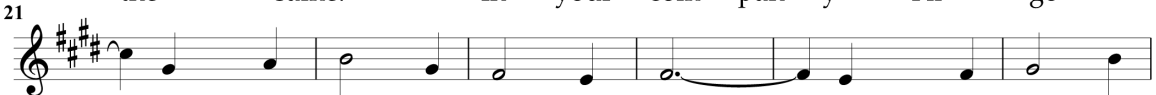
Will you come and fol - low me If I but call your
Will you leave your - self be - hind If I but call your
Will you love the 'you' you hide If I but call your
Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true When you but call my



name? Will you go where you don't know And ne - ver be
name? Will you care for cruel and kind And ne - ver be
name? Will you quell the fear in - side And ne - ver be
name. Let me turn and fol - low you And ne - ver be



the same? Will you let my love be shown,
the same? Will you risk the hos - tile stare
the same? Will you use the faith you've found
the same. In your com - pan - y I'll go



Will you let my name be known, Will you let my
Should your life at - tract or scare? Will you let me
To re - shape the world a - round, Through my sight and
Where your love and foot - steps show. Thus I'll move and



life be grown In you and you in me?
an - swer prayer In you and you in me?
touch and sound In you and you in me?
live and grow In you and you in me.

Reflections: *Just as our love for God begins with listening to God's Word, the beginning of love for other Christians is learning to listen to them. ~ D.B.*

Everyone feels benevolent if nothing happens to be annoying him at the moment.
~ C.S. Lewis, 1898-1963, British Writer

The great test of life is obedience to God. ... When obedience ceases to be an irritant and becomes our quest, in that moment God will endow us with power.
~ Ezra Taft Benson, 1899-1994, U.S. Secretary of Agriculture

Growth for the sake of growth is the ideology of the cancer cell.
~ Edward Abbey, 1927-1989, Author / Essayist, Environmentalist

Sometimes the process of growth looks a lot like destruction and pain. But you'll realize with time that you're not breaking; you're healing.
~ Brittany Burgunder, Author, Life-Coach, eating disorder specialist

Our grand business is not to see what lies dimly at a distance, but to do what lies clearly at hand. ~ Thomas Carlyle, 1795-1881, British Essayist, Historian

I never work better than when I am inspired by anger; for when I am angry, I can write, pray, and preach well, for then my whole temperament is quickened, my understanding sharpened, and all mundane vexations and temptations depart.
~ Martin Luther, 1483-1546, German Priest / Theologian

I am angry nearly every day of my life, Jo, but I have learned not to show it; and I still hope to learn not to feel it, though it may take me another forty years to do so.
~ Louisa May Alcott, 1832-1888, Author, Little Women

The closer you get to the truth, the clearer becomes the beauty, and the more you will find worship welling up within you. That's why theology and worship belong together.
~ N.T. Wright, Author / Professor, Former Bishop of Durham

Every action of our lives touches on some chord that will vibrate in eternity.
~ Edwin Hubbell Chapin, 1814-1880, Am. Preacher / Writer

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS (CON'T)

Pastor

Do you trust in Jesus Christ your Savior, acknowledge him Lord of all and Head of the church, and through him believe in one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit?

Do you accept the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be, by the Holy Spirit, the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ in the church universal, and God's Word to you?

Do you sincerely receive and adopt the essential tenets of the Reformed faith as expressed in the confessions of our church as authentic and reliable expositions of what Scripture leads us to believe and do, and **Will you** be instructed and led by those confessions as you lead the people of God?

Will you fulfill your ministry in obedience to Jesus Christ, under the authority of Scripture and continually be guided by our confessions?

Will you be governed by our church's polity, and will you abide by its discipline?

Will you be a friend among your colleagues in ministry, working with them subject to the ordering of God's Word and Spirit?

Will you in your own life seek to follow the Lord Jesus Christ, love your neighbors, and work for the reconciliation of the world?

Do you promise to further the peace, unity, and purity of the church?

Will you pray for and seek to serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love?

Call to Worship (fr. Ps 27)

- L Let us worship God, our light and our salvation. The Lord is the strong hold of our lives.
- A *We desire to live in God's house and to seek God in his holy temple. 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*

Prayer of Adoration (followed by Lord's Prayer)

- L O God of all creation, you alone are God. And you alone can satisfy our longing for a support that earth cannot give and that heaven will not take away.

Help us, in recognition of our common dependence on you, to acknowledge our need of one another. Let the oneness of our worship make us one in love and service.

Hear us now, as we prayer together, the words you taught your disciples:

- 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: Let us love and sing and wonder

Let us love and sing and wonder
Let us praise the Savior's name
He has hushed the law's loud thunder
He has quenched Mount Sinai's flame
He has washed us with His blood (3x)
He has brought us nigh to God

Let us love the Lord Who bought us
Pitied us when enemies
Called us by His grace and taught us
Gave us ears and gave us eyes
He has washed us with His blood (3x)
He presents our souls to God

Let us sing though fierce temptation
Threatens hard to bear us down
For the Lord, our strong salvation,
Holds in view the conqueror's crown
He, Who washed us with His blood, (3x)
Soon will bring us home to God

Let us wonder grace and justice
Join and point to mercy's store
When through grace in Christ our trust is
Justice smiles and asks no more
He Who washed us with His blood (3x)
Has secured our way to God

Let us praise and join the chorus
Of the saints enthroned on high
Here they trusted Him before us
Now their praises fill the sky
Thou hast washed us with Thy blood (3x)
Thou art worthy Lamb of God

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

Pastor

There are varieties of gifts, but it is the same Spirit who gives them.

People

There are different ways of serving God, but it is the same Lord who is served.

Pastor

God works through each person in a unique way, but it is God's purpose that is accomplished.

People

To each is given a gift of the Spirit to be used for the common good.

Pastor

Together we are the body of Christ, and individually members of it. We are called into the church of Jesus Christ by baptism and marked as Christ's own by the Holy Spirit. This is our common calling, to be disciples and servants of our Lord. Within the community of the church, some are called to particular service as Deacons, as Ruling Elders, and as Ministers of Word and Sacrament. This is Christ's gift to the church, assuring that his ministry continues among us providing for ministries of caring and compassion in the world, ordering the governance of the church, and preaching the Word and administering the sacraments.

Elder

Speaking for the people of Randolph Heights Presbyterian Church I present for the office of Deacon: Joe Englund, Elizabeth Elliot, Stephanie Highley and David Nye; to the office of Ruling Elder: Patty Spahn. Will those preparing to be installed present themselves before the congregation to answer the following questions:

MINISTRY OF THE WORD

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*

Scripture James 1:19-27 (found on Back)

Series James: Faith on the Ground

Sermon Receiving and Doing

Response

- L When we were baptized, God made clear his claim on us as his own, and we were received into the church. Those who serve publicly confirm what was sealed in their baptism, and offer themselves to God as his willing servants. We thank God for having given us this desire and pray that God's Spirit will strengthen all of us for continued service in Christ's kingdom.
- A *As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male or female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. – Galatians 3:27-28*
- L Brothers and sisters in Christ, we worship today in the context of a significant event in the life of our congregation: Installation to the office of Deacon and Elder. At this time, let us claim again God's promises to us. To recommit ourselves to service in Christ. To place our only hope and trust in God and pray for the work of God's Spirit in our midst.

Baptism is a sign of God's faithful covenant promises, under which we live as a congregation every day. Let us remember our baptism and be thankful!

CONFESSION & RENEWAL

- L The psalmist models a transparent faith with these words: Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my thoughts. See if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting. We express our longing for God's leading by our own transparent confession.
– *based on Psalm 139:23-24, NRSV*

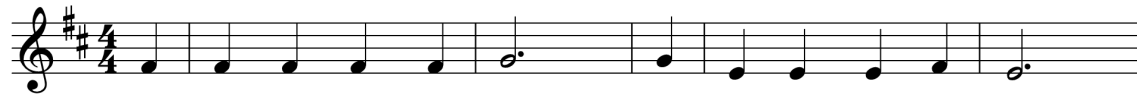
- A *Be mindful of your mercy, O LORD, and of your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.
Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions;
according to your steadfast love remember me,
for your goodness' sake, O LORD!*

*Good and upright is the LORD; therefore he instructs sinners in the way.
For your name's sake, O LORD, pardon my guilt, for it is great.
Turn to me and be gracious to me, for I am lonely and afflicted.
Relieve the troubles of my heart, and bring me out of my distress.
Consider my affliction and my trouble, and forgive all my sins.
– Psalm 25:6-8, 11, 16-18, NRSV*

Silent and Personal Confession

Not What My Hands Have Done

Horatio Bonar



Not what my hands have done can save my guil - ty soul,
Thy work a - lone, O Christ, can ease this weight of sin,
I bless the Christ of God, I rest on love di - vine,
I praise the God of grace, I trust his truth and might.



not what my toil - ing flesh has borne can make my spi - rit whole.
thy blood a - lone, O Lamb of God, can give me peace with - in.
and with un - falt - ring lip and heart I call this Sa - vior mine.
He calls me his, I call him mine, my God, my joy, my light.



Not what I feel or do can give me peace with God, not
Thy love to me, O God, not mine, O Lord, to thee, can
His cross dis - pels each doubt; I bu - ry in his tomb each
My Lord has saved my life, and free - ly par - don gives; I



all my prayers and sighs and tears can bear my aw - ful load.
rid me of this dark un - rest and set my spi - rit free.
thought of un - be - lief and fear, each ling - ring shade of gloom.
love be - cause he first loved me, I live be - cause he lives.

RENEWAL

L I will sprinkle clean water upon you, and you shall be clean from all your
uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. A new heart I will
give you, and a new spirit I will put within you; and I will remove from your
body the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. – *Ezekiel 36:25-26, 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. – *Psalms 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 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.*