## 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) Session (session@randolphheights.org) For Pastoral Communication, please call Pastor Ken @ 651-592-3320



# Looking Ahead

#### Epistle of James

Wise Relationships *James 3:9-18* Fights and Wars *James* 4:1-3 Relationship James 4:4-10 Guest 2 Peter 1:1-11 Communication James 4:11,12 5:12 Forgetting James 4:13-17 Materialism James 5:1-6 Patience James 5:7-11 Healing James 5:13-18 Renewal James 5:16-20



Saint Paul, MN

# June 02, 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.

## Scripture Reading James 5:13-18 (NTFE)

13 Are any among you suffering? Let them pray. Are any cheerful? Let them sing psalms. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church, and they should pray over the sick person, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. Faithful prayer will rescue the sick person, and the Lord will raise them up. If they have committed any sin, it will be forgiven them. So confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed.

When a righteous person prays, that prayer carries great power.

- 17 Elijah was a man with passions like ours, and he prayed and prayed that it might not rain — and it did not rain on the earth for three years and six months. Then he prayed again, the sky gave rain, and the earth produced its fruit.
  - 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 Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. 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.

## Reflect, Resonate, Reevaluate, Respond

The primary use of prayer, ... is not for expressing ourselves but in becoming ourselves, and we cannot do that alone. In praying the Psalms with others, then, we learn to become more and more ourselves in the company of the faithful. ~ *W. David O. Taylor, 1972- , Professor of Theology, The Open and Unafraid* 

There are only two kinds of people: the righteous who think they are sinners and the sinners who think they are righteous. ~ Blaise Pascal, 1623-1662, Pensées

Faith, if you like, can be defined like this: It is a man insisting upon thinking when everything seems determined to bludgeon and knock him down in an intellectual sense. The trouble with the person of little faith is that, instead of controlling his own thought, his thought is being controlled by something else [circumstances, for example], and, as we put it, he goes round and round in circles. That is the essence of worry. . . . That is not thought; that is the absence of thought, a failure to think. ~ *D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones, 1899-1981, Studies in the Sermon on the Mount* 

Christian hope rests upon the fact not that evil can be ignored, or that it will simply fade away, but that it has been judged at the cross.

~ David F. Wells, 1939-, (Zimbabwe) theologian, professor and author

As a pastor, I've had people come to me and confess that they struggle with almost every kind of sin. Almost. I cannot recall anyone ever coming to me and saying, "I spend too much money on myself. I think my greedy lust for money is harming my family, my soul, and people around me.

~ Timothy Keller, 'We Can't See Our Own Greed', Preaching Today

Every day God patiently bears with us, and every day we are tempted to become impatient with our friends, neighbors, and loved ones. And our faults and failures before God are so much more serious than the petty actions of others that tend to irritate us! God calls us to graciously bear with the weaknesses of others, tolerating them and forgiving them even as He has forgiven us.

~ Jerry Bridges, 1929-2016, The Practice of Godliness (NavPress, 1996).

## Prelude

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

- L Holy, holy God, we worship and adore you Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Today in our worship we long for a glimpse of your glory, seen perfectly in Christ, our Lord.
- A As we worship, may we gain new insight about the mystery and wonder of your love. And may we sense new ways to mirror that love in our world, through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

## All Sing: Blessed Be the Lord Our God

Blessed be the Lord, our God, the God of Israel,

who alone does wondrous deeds,

who alone does wondrous deeds.

Blessed be his glorious Name,

His glorious Name forever,

and may all the earth be filled with his glory, alleluia!

(Blessed be his glorious name. – 1st time through)

(Amen, amen, Amen, amen! - 2nd time through)

# Pastoral Prayer

- L Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- A It is right to give our thanks and praise.
- L Gracious Father, giver of all good things: For our home on earth and for your unfailing mercy,
- A we give you thanks.
- L Christ, our Redeemer: For your sacrifice on the cross and for rising from death so that we might live,
- A we give you thanks and praise.
- L Holy Spirit, giver of life: For your abiding presence in our lives and for comforting and guiding us,
- A we give you thanks, praise, and glory.
- L O triune God: To you be glory and praise now and forever. Let us pray:

# 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 Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us, granting us, in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. Amen.

## 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

- 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.
  - \* The Mystery of Faith –

Christ has died, Christ is Risen Christ will come again! (2x)Emmanuel, Emmanuel Christ will come again! (2x)Christ has died, Christ is Risen Christ will come again!

## 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

# Call to Worship

- L I will exalt you, LORD, for you rescued me. You refused to let my enemies triumph over me. O LORD my God, I cried to you for help, and you restored my health.
- *A* You brought me up from the grave, O LORD. You kept me from falling into the pit of death.
- L Sing to the LORD, all you godly ones! Praise his holy name.
- A For his anger lasts only a moment, but his favor lasts a lifetime!
- L "What will you gain if I die, if I sink into the grave? Can my dust praise you? Can it tell of your faithfulness? Hear me, LORD, and have mercy on me. Help me, O LORD."
- A You have turned my mourning into joyful dancing. You have taken away my clothes of mourning and clothed me with joy, that I might sing praises to you and not be silent. O LORD my God, I will give you thanks forever! (Ps. 30)

# Prayer of Adoration (followed by Lord's Prayer)

L O Lord, How we marvel at the depth of your love. How we wonder at the waves of your grace. How we are astounded by the glorious balance of the earth. We are in awe of the vastness of the universe. We are so privileged to be called your children. We are accepted and forgiven and embraced. You are almighty, above and beyond everything. You are victorious. Darkness, sin and death are under your feet. You are holy, beautiful and full of love. How we adore You.

Hear us now, as we pray 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: Heal Us, Emmanuel

(Refrain) Heal us, Emmanuel, here we are, we long to feel Thy touch Deep wounded souls to Thee we fly, O Savior hear our cry

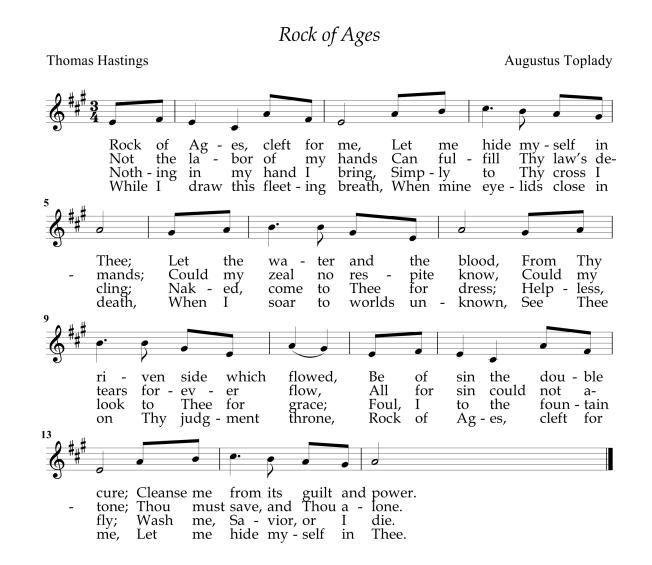
Our faith is feeble, we confess, We faintly trust Thy word But will You pity us the less? Be that far from You Lord! (Refrain)

Remember him who once applied, With trembling for relief "Lord, I believe," with tears he cried, "O help my unbelief!" (Refrain)

She, too, who touched you in the press, And healing virtue stole Was answered, Daughter, go in peace, Thy faith has made thee whole (Refrain)

Like her, with hopes and fears we come, To touch You if we may O send us not despairing home, Send none unhealed away (Refrain)

> Words: Wm Cowper Tune: Kevin Twit



#### MINISTRY OF THE WORD

#### Preparation

L O God, our guide, set your path clearly before us and lead us to follow you willingly for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

ScriptureJames 5:13-17 (found on Page 15)Series Faith on the GroundSermonPrayer & Healing

#### Response

A Holy Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, send your Holy Spirit to awaken us. Send your grace to forgive us, your truth to instruct us, your mercy to relieve us. Holy Father, you created the world through your mediating Son and brooding Spirit. Lord Jesus Christ, on the Father's mission you redeemed the world your Father loves. Holy Spirit of Father and Son, you blew power into the church and sent her out to the world. Majestic God, triune from all ages, brimming with life upon life in triplicate verve, you poured out life to create, save, and inspire. And so we worship and adore you. Amen.

## **CONFESSION & RENEWAL**

L A scribe came up and said to him, "Teacher, I will follow you wherever you go." And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head." Mt 8:19-20

#### A Lord God,

It is easy to declare our willingness to go where you command and to follow where you lead, yet we confess, we are weak and oftentimes, fickle. We are easily distracted from your ways, and are quick to follow our own hearts instead. As we plan our futures, we think more of our safety and comfort, rather than laying down our lives for the sake of your kingdom. We are slow to consider the calling upon our lives.

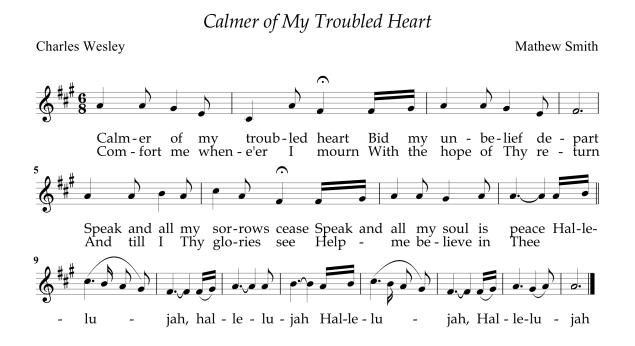
#### Jesus,

Thank-you that you did not guard your own interests, but chose to leave the comfort and richness of heaven for our sake. You did not build a safe and comfortable home for yourself, rather, made yourself vulnerable to those you came to save. Your obedient self-sacrifice enables us to stand before the Father, forgiven of our self-centeredness and clothed in your obedience.

#### Holy Spirit,

Teach us what it means to pick up our cross daily and follow you. Help us to set aside our desires, as we remember the ultimate cost you paid, for laying aside your life. Enlarge our selfish hearts and fill them with love for you and our neighbor. Amen.

## Silent and Personal Confession



#### Renewal

- L Let us give thanks to God, because of the grace given to us in Jesus Christ! And in every way, may we be enriched in him, in our speech and knowledge, not lacking in any gift. Let us live with anticipation, for the revealing of Christ, who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
- *A* Thanks be to God!

## Doxology

- L Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come into his courts. Worship the LORD in holy splendor; tremble before him, all the earth. *Psalm 96:8-9*, *NRSV*
- APraise 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.