
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

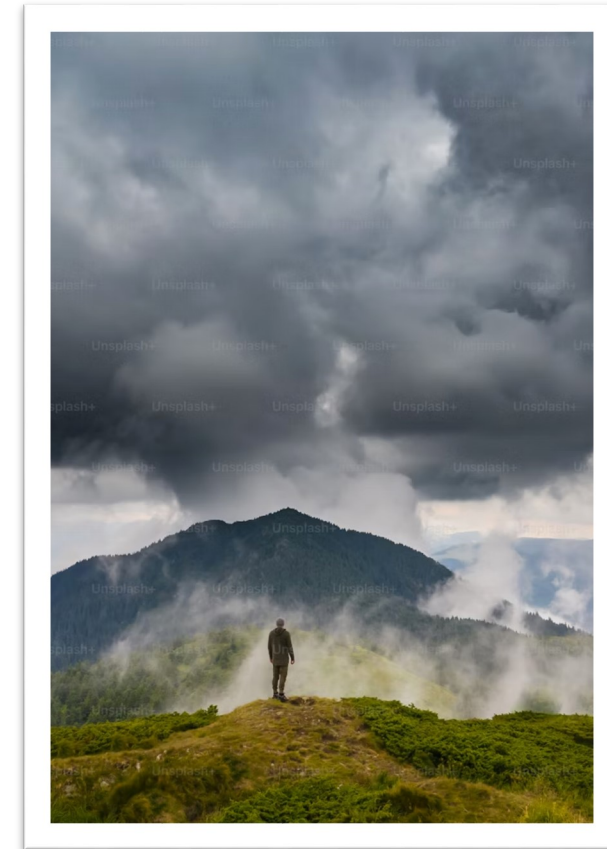
Or Email @ ken.highley@randolphheights.org

Looking Ahead

The Gospel According to Moses

Thru the Book of Exodus

Beginning in September



Randolph Heights Presbyterian Church

435 Hamline Ave. South
Saint Paul, MN 55105

August 25, 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 Psalm 131 (NLT)

A song for pilgrims ascending to Jerusalem. A psalm of David.

- 1 Lord, my heart is not proud;
my eyes are not haughty.
I don't concern myself with matters too great
or too awesome for me to grasp.
- 2 Instead, I have calmed and quieted myself,
like a weaned child who no longer cries for its mother's milk.
Yes, like a weaned child is my soul within me.
- 3 O Israel, put your hope in the Lord –
now and always.

L This is the Word of the Lord.
A Thanks be to God!

A song of ascents for David

LORD, my heart has not been haughty,
Nor have my eyes looked too high,
Nor have I striven for great things,
Nor for things too wondrous for me.
But I have calmed and contented myself
Like a weaned babe on its mother-
Like a weaned babe I am with myself.
Wait, O Israel, for the LORD,
Now and forever more.

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

*You must not fool yourself—
and you are the easiest person to fool....*

What we suffer from today is humility in the wrong place. Modesty has moved from the organ of ambition. Modesty has settled upon the organ of conviction, where it was never meant to be. A man was meant to be doubtful about himself, but undoubting about the truth. ~ G. K. Chesterton, 1874-1936, *Orthodoxy*

Nothing gives rest but the sincere search for truth. ~ Blaise Pascal

Pride juggles with her toppling towers,
They strike the sun and cease,
But the firm feet of humility,
They grip the ground like trees. ~ G. K. Chesterton, *The Ballad of the White Horse*

But the man who is not afraid to admit everything that he sees to be wrong with himself, and yet recognizes that he may be the object of God's love precisely because of his shortcomings, can begin to be sincere. His sincerity is based on confidence, not in his own illusions about himself, but in the endless, unfailing mercy of God.
~ Thomas Merton, 1915-1968, *Trappist monk, theologian*

If I crave happiness, I will receive misery. If I crave to be loved, I will receive rejection. If I crave significance, I will receive futility. If I crave control, I will receive chaos. If I crave reputation, I will receive humiliation. But if I long for God and His wisdom and mercy, I will receive God and wisdom and mercy. Along the way, sooner or later, I will also receive happiness, love, meaning, order, and glory.
~ David Powlison, from *Seeing With New Eyes*, 1949-2019, *Teacher / Counselor*

No soul can be really at rest until it has given up all dependence on everything else and has been forced to depend on the Lord alone. As long as our expectation is from other things, nothing but disappointment awaits us.
~ Hannah Whitall Smith, 1832-1911, *Speaker in the Holiness movement*

Waiting is difficult. It requires an attitude of humility and hope that few of us come by naturally. And so we must cultivate that perspective. If we are going to learn to wait, then we must ... wait. ~ Ben Patterson, 1969- , *Author / Campus Pastor*

PRELUDE

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

L Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid:

A *Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name through Christ, our Lord.*

All Sing: Here I am to Worship

Vs 1 Light of the world
You stepped down into darkness
Opened my eyes, let me see
Beauty that made this heart adore You
Hope of a life spent with You

Chorus Here I am to worship
Here I am to bow down
Here I am to say that You're my God
You're altogether lovely
Altogether worthy
Altogether wonderful to me

Vs 2 King of all days
Oh, so highly exalted
Glorious in heaven above
Humbly You came to the earth You created
All for love's sake became poor (*Chorus*)

Bridge Well, I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross
Well, I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross (*Chorus*)

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 Triune God: To you be glory and praise to you, 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 To you, O LORD, do we lift up our souls. To you, O LORD, do we lift up our voices, O God, in you we trust. Amen – *from Psalm 25:1-2, NRSV*

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.*

* *By His Wounds (can be sung as a round)*

*By his wounds, his wounds, will we be healed.
And for our transgressions, His passion, has made us well.
Let us come again and feed on Him, our Lord Emmanuel.*

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 The earth is the LORD's and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it;

A *for he has founded it on the seas, and established it on the rivers.*

L Who shall ascend the hill of the LORD? And who shall stand in his holy place?

A *Those who have clean hands and pure hearts, who do not lift up their souls to what is false, and do not swear deceitfully. – Psalm 24:1-4, NRSV*

Prayer of Adoration (followed by Lord's Prayer)

L God, our Creator, from nothing you made our world. You formed us, love us, and give us all that we need. God, our Redeemer, you rescued us from sin. You have given us new life and hope of healing to the world. God, our Comforter, you are with us always. You comfort us, renew us, and guide us into your truth. Almighty God, for your gracious love for us, we praise you.

Hear us now, as we pray together, the words Jesus taught his 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*

I Lift My Eyes (Psalm 121)

Andrew Bast

♩=84



I lift my eyes up to the Hill - - From
He will not let your foot be moved - - The
He is your Lord, HE is your Keep - er He
The Lord will keep you from all e - vil The



where does my - help - come? My help it comes -
One who keeps you will not sleep Be - hold, he who keeps
is the shade at your right hand. The sun shall nei - ther
Lord will keep you all your life. The Lord will keep your



from the Lord - Who made heav - en and the earth.
Is - ra - el will Nei - ther slum - ber nor - sleep My
strike you by day Nor the moon by night - -
go - ing out and Com - ing in for - ev - er more.



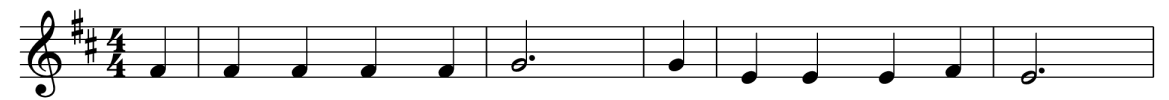
help it comes from you Lord, My help it comes from you. My



help it comes from you Lord, My help it comes from you.

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.

MINISTRY OF THE WORD

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.

—based on Psalm 85:8

Scripture Psalm 131 (*found on Page 15*)

Series Pilgrim Journey (Psalms of Ascents)

Sermon Posture

Response

A *God of all history, thank you for your Word.*

*Through your Word we learn that you love your people dearly,
and we learn that we are your people.*

Thank you that your Word shapes our identity.

Thank you that your Word gives us hope for the future.

As your Word is read and preached, we receive your Word.

*Send your Spirit so that we can know our role in your ongoing work
in our world. 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. 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,

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

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: William Cowper

Tune: Kevin Twit

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 The one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly; the one who sows
bountifully will also reap bountifully. Responding to God's bountiful gifts to
us in Christ, we have opportunity to share out of our abundance.

— based on 2 Corinthians 9:6, 8, 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.*