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



Randolph Heights Presbyterian Church

435 Hamline Ave. South Saint Paul, MN 55105

October 06, 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 Exodus 12:1-13

- 1 The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in Egypt, "This month is to be for you the first month, the first month of your year. Tell the whole community of Israel that on the tenth day of this month each man is to take a lamb for his family, one for each household. If any household is too small for a whole lamb, they must share one with their nearest neighbor, having taken into account the number of people there are. You are to determine the amount of lamb needed in accordance with what each person will eat.
- 5 The animals you choose must be year-old males without defect, and you may take them from the sheep or the goats. Take care of them until the fourteenth day of the month, when all the members of the community of Israel must slaughter them at twilight. Then they are to take some of the blood and put it on the sides and tops of the doorframes of the houses where they eat the lambs. That same night they are to eat the meat roasted over the fire, along with bitter herbs, and bread made without yeast. Do not eat the meat raw or boiled in water, but roast it over a fire with the head, legs and internal organs.
- 10 Do not leave any of it till morning; if some is left till morning, you must burn it. This is how you are to eat it: with your cloak tucked into your belt, your sandals on your feet and your staff in your hand. Eat it in haste; it is the Lord's Passover.
- 12 "On that same night I will pass through Egypt and strike down every firstborn of both people and animals, and I will bring judgment on all the gods of Egypt. I am the Lord. The blood will be a sign for you on the houses where you are, and when I see the blood, I will pass over you. No destructive plague will touch you when I strike Egypt.
 - 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-Sending Out

L Keep alert, stand firm in your faith, be courageous, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love. -1 Corinthians 16:13-14, NRSV

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

What are you doing right now that requires faith? ~ Francis Chan

Uncertainty provides rescue from being stuck in the familiar ways of life that keep us from moving forward into the purposes of God. Wandering into the wilderness of the unknown is God's divine reorientation, from what we know in the present to what God knows about the future.

~ Shelly Miller, from her book Searching for Certainty, 2020.

There would be no sense in saying you trusted a person if you would not take his advice. ~ *C.S. Lewis, 1898-1963, British writer*

The man of pseudo-faith will fight for his verbal creed but refuse flatly to allow himself to get in a predicament where his future must depend upon that creed being true. He always provides himself with secondary ways of escape; so that he will have a way out if the roof caves in. What we need very badly these days is a company of Christians who are prepared to trust God as completely now as they know that they must do at that last day.

~ A.W. Tozer, 1897-1963, writer, magazine editor

I do not put much stock in "believing in God." The grammar of "belief" invites a far too rationalistic account of what it means to be a Christian. "Belief" implies propositions about which you get to make up your mind before you know the work they are meant to do. ~ *Stanley Hauerwas, 1940- , American theologian*

God's grace and forgiveness, while free to the recipient, are always costly for the giver. From the earliest parts of the Bible, it was understood that God could not forgive without sacrifice. No one who is seriously wronged can 'just forgive' the perpetrator. But when you forgive, that means you absorb the loss and the debt. You bear it yourself. All forgiveness, then, is costly.

~ *Timothy Keller, 1950-2023, pastor, author*

We have all had the experience of finding that our reactions and perhaps even our deeds have denied beliefs we thought were ours.

~ James A. Baldwin. 1924-1987, writer, activist

PRELUDE

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

- L You whom I took from the ends of the earth, and called from its farthest corners, saying to you, "You are my servant, I have chosen you and not cast you off"; do not fear, for I am with you, do not be afraid, for I am your God;
- A I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my victorious right hand. *Isaiah 41:9-10, NRSV*



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*

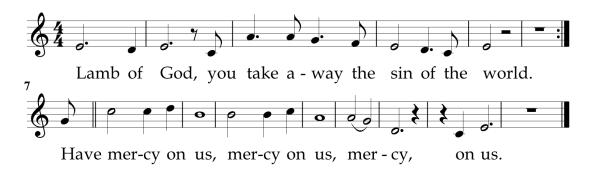
The Lord's Table (Offered 1st Sunday of Month)

Invitation to the Table

- L Congregation of Jesus Christ, 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 as Lord are now invited to come with gladness to the table of the Lord. The gifts of God for the people of God.
- 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 Remembering your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we take from your creation this bread and this wine and joyfully celebrate his dying and rising, as we await the day of his coming. With thanksgiving we offer our very selves to you to be a liing and holy sacrifice dedicated to your service.



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*,

Distribution of the Elements

Call to Worship

- L I love the Lord, for he heard my voice; he heard my cry for mercy. Because he turned his ear to me, I will call on him as long as I live.
- *A* For you, Lord, have delivered me from death, my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling, that I may walk before the Lord in the land of the living.
- L I trusted in the Lord when I said, "I am greatly afflicted"; in my alarm I said, "Everyone is a liar." What shall I return to the Lord for all his goodness to me?
- *A* Truly I am your servant, Lord; I serve you just as my mother did; you have freed me from my chains.

Prayer of Adoration (followed by Lord's Prayer)

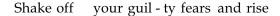
L Almighty and ever present God, you uphold heaven and earth and all creatures. All things come from your generous hand: You send the nourishing rain, the refreshing wind, the warming sun, the blustering snow. You make buds appear, flowers bloom, fruit grow, and harvests mature. Through each day of our lives, whether in sickness or health, prosperity or poverty, joy or sorrow, you are in control. Help us to be patient when things go against us, thankful when things go well, and always confident that nothing could ever separate us from your love. For your unending faithfulness, we thank and praise you. To you be glory, now and forever. ~ *based on Heidelberg Catechism, Q&A's 27-28*

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





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.

ScriptureExodus (beginning on Page 14)SeriesExodus: Salvation in the DesertSermonThe Lamb

Response

- *L* The Lord be with you.
- *A And also with you.*
- L Lift up your hearts!
- A We lift them up to the Lord.
- L Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- *A* It is right for us to give thanks and praise.
- L Let us pray together:
- A Holy and right it is, and our joyful duty to give thanks to you at all times and in all places, O Lord, our Creator, almighty and everlasting God! You created heaven with all its hosts and the earth with all its plenty. You have given us life and being, and you preserve us by your providence. But you have shown us the fullness of your love in sending into the world your Son, Jesus Christ, the eternal Word, made flesh for us and for our salvation. For the precious gift of this mighty Savior who has reconciled us to you, we praise and bless you, O God. With your whole church on earth and with all the company of heaven we worship and adore your glorious name.
- L Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.
- A Hosanna in the highest!
- L Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
- *A* Hosanna in the highest! Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest!
- *L* Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
- *A Hosanna in the highest!*

CONFESSION & RENEWAL

L I take joy in doing your will, my God, for your instructions are written on my heart." I have told all your people about your justice. I have not been afraid to speak out, as you, O Lord, well know. I have not kept the good news hidden in my heart; I have talked about your faithfulness and saving power. I have told everyone in the great assembly of your unfailing love and faithfulness. ~ *Psalm 40:8-10*

A Great God,

Before you we are full of vanity. Our sin has corrupted us as image bearers. Though your law is written on our hearts, we take little delight in it. You have delivered us from sin and death, and continue to deliver us from our foolish weakness. Yet, we are slow to proclaim your faithfulness. We look on our sin too lightly and take your grace and love for granted, forgive us.

You are our deliverer, for we cannot deliver ourselves. Help us to find in Jesus, the power of our salvation. Transform our lives into children who are thankful for your kindness, humble under your correction, watchful against temptation. Rescue us from our own self-sufficiency and may we look to Christ, our rock and redeemer. Amen.

Silent and Personal Confession



Renewal

- L Lord, you don't hold back your tender mercies. Your unfailing love and faithfulness protect us. We are poor and needy, may you keep us in your thoughts. You are our helper and our savior.
- A Thanks be to God!

Doxology

- L Our gifts are a sign of love, devotion, and praise. Through these, as through our praises, we acknowledge that you are our Lord.
- 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.