#### A Glance at the Week

Monday
6:30 pm Small Group

Tuesday7:00 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

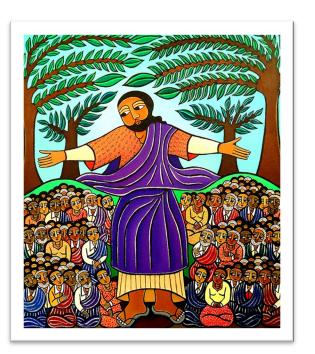
Or Email @ ken.highley@randolphheights.org

# Looking Ahead

The Sermon on the Mount Series

Beatitudes Pt 1

Beatitudes Pt 2



# Randolph Heights Presbyterian Church

435 Hamline Ave. South Saint Paul, MN 55105

January 05, 2025

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 Matthew 5:1-10

Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, 2 and he began to teach them. He said:

- "Blessed are the poor in spirit, 3 for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, 4 for they will be comforted. 5 Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, 6 for they will be filled. Blessed are the merciful, 7 for they will be shown mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, 8 for they will see God. 9 Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, 10 for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
  - 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

May almighty God make you faithful to his calling, cheerful in his service, and fruitful for his kingdom.

The blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be upon you, and through you with all those to whom he sends you. Amen.

#### Exodus 40:20-37

- He took the tablets of the covenant law and placed them in the ark, attached the poles to the ark and put the atonement cover over it. Then he brought the ark into the tabernacle and hung the shielding curtain and shielded the ark of the covenant law, as the LORD commanded him.
- Moses placed the table in the tent of meeting on the north side of the tabernacle outside the curtain and set out the bread on it before the LORD, as the LORD commanded him.

## Reflect, Resonate, Reevaluate, Respond

A truth that's told with bad intent
Beats all the lies you can invent.

~ William Blake

To share your weakness is to make yourself vulnerable; to make yourself vulnerable is to show your strength. ~ *Christopher James Gilbert, 1987- , Author, Philosophy, Musician* 

If you do not tell the truth about yourself you cannot tell it about other people.

~ Virginia Woolf, 1882–1941, English writer

Without transformation, you can assume you're at a high moral, spiritual level just because you call yourself Lutheran or Methodist or Catholic. I think my great disappointment as a priest has been to see how little actual spiritual curiosity there is in so many people.

~ Richard Rohr, 1943-, Franciscan Priest

You are who you are when nobody's watching.

~ Stephen Fry, 1957-, media personality, writer

The torment of precautions often exceeds the dangers to be avoided. It is sometimes better to abandon one's self to destiny.

~ Napoleon Bonaparte, 1769-1821, military officer, statesman

I count him braver who overcomes his desires than him who conquers his enemies; for the hardest victory is over self.

~ Aristotle, 384-322bc, Philosophy and Polymath

#### **PRELUDE**

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

- L O God, may you pour out Your Spirit of grace and love.
- A Deliver us from cold hearts and wandering thoughts, that with steady minds and burning zeal we may worship you in spirit and truth. Amen.

#### O God Our Help in Ages Past

KINGSFOLD (Tune)

Isaac Watts



Un - der the sha-dow of your throne your saints have dwelt se-Be - fore the hills in or-der stood, or earth re-ceived its A thou-sand age-s in your sight are like an ev' - ning



- cure; suf - fi-cient is your arm a - lone, and our de-fense is frame, from ev - er - last - ing you are God, to end-less years the gone, short as the watch that ends the night be - fore the ri - sing



sure. O God, our help in same. O God, our help in sun. O God, our help in sun. O God, our help in a-ges past, our hope for years to come, Will a-ges past, our hope for years to come, Will



be our guard while troub-les last, and our e - ter-nal home: be our guard while troub-les last, and our e - ter-nal home: be our guard while troub-les last, and our e - ter-nal home:

### Pastoral Prayer

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our rock, our fortress, and our deliverer. Let us remember his mercy, for he is gracious and compassionate. We thank you for calling us to faith in Christ, for putting your Spirit within us, for giving us the mind of Christ, for gathering us into your church. We thank you, Lord, for extending your grace to us, for calling us to a life of gratitude, for calling us to service in your kingdom. Thanks be to God! Let us give thanks to the Lord, for he satisfies the thirsty, he fills the hungry with good things, and he heals the afflicted. Let us celebrate his abundant goodness. We thank you, gracious Father, that you provide for all our needs, for the food on our tables, for the clothes on our bodies, for the beds we sleep in, and for the dwellings that shelter us. We praise you for all your gifts that go beyond our basic needs, for the things that make our work easier, for the conveniences of modern life, for the beauty and pleasure that you bring into our lives. Thanks be to God! 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 Hear our prayer, O LORD; give ear to our supplications in your faithfulness; answer us in your righteousness. *Psalm 143:1, NRSV*

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

#### *Invitation to the Table*

- 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.



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world.



Have mer-cy on us, mer-cy on us, mer-cy, on us.

#### Words of institution

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 Sing a new song to the Lord, who has worked wonders, whose right hand and holy arm have brought salvation.
- A The Lord has made known salvation; has shown justice to the nations; has remembered truth and love for the house of Israel.
- L All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. Shout to the Lord, all the earth, sing out your joy.
- A Sing psalms to the Lord with the harp, with the sound of music. With trumpets and the sound of the horn acclaim the King, the Lord. based on Psalm 98:1-6

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

L LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory in the heavens. 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* 

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

#### Make Me a Captive, Lord

Leominster

George Matheson



Make me a ca-ptive, Lord, and then I shall be My heart is weak and poor un - til its mas - ter My pow'r is faint and low Till I have learned to My will is not my own till thou hast made it



free; force up me to ren - der sword, my has spring of find; it no ac - tion it sure, It lacks the need - ed fire glow, It serve; it would reach a thine: mon - arch's throne,



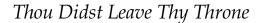
I shall con-queror be. I sink in life's a - larms when var - ies with the wind. It can-not free - ly move till lacks the breeze to nerve. It can-not drive the world Unmust its crown re - sign; it on - ly stands un - bent a-



by my - self I stand; im - pris - on me withthou hast wrought its chain; en - slave it with thy - til it - self be driv'n; Its flag can on - ly - mid the clash - ing strife, when on thy bo - som

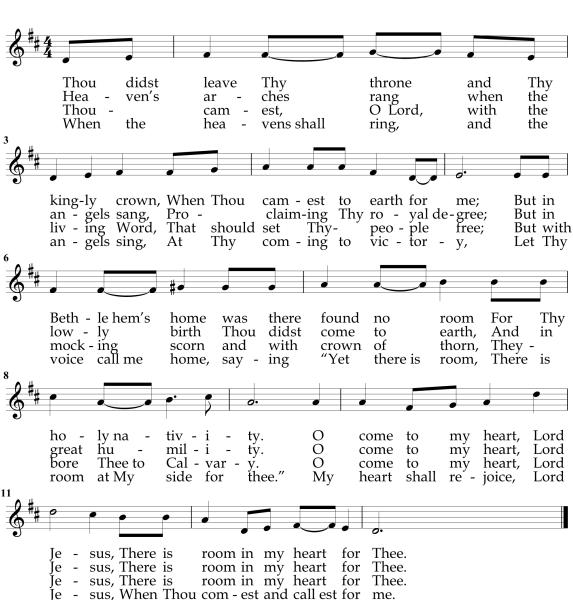


- in thine arms, and strong shall be my hand. match-less love, and death-less it shall reign. be un-furled When thou shalt breathe from heav'n. it has leant, and found in thee its life.



Timothy Matthews

E.S. Elliot



#### 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.

**Scripture** Matthew 5:1-10 (Found on Page 15)

**Series** Sermon on the Mount

**Sermon** Beatitudes Pt 1

## Response

Jesus Christ has been ordained by God the Father and has been anointed with the Holy Spirit to be our chief prophet and teacher who fully reveals to us the secret counsel and will of God concerning our deliverance; our only high priest who has delivered us by the one sacrifice of his body, and who continually pleads, our cause with the Father; and our eternal king who governs us by his Word and Spirit, and who guards us and keeps us in the freedom he has won for us. He ascended to heaven to show there that he is head of his church, the one through whom the Father rules all things. *In all distress and persecution, with uplifted head,* we confidently await the very judge, who has already offered himself to the judgment of God in our place and removed the whole curse from us. Christ will cast all his enemies into everlasting condemnation, but will take all his chosen ones to himself into the joy and glory of heaven. - from Heidelberg Catechism, Q&A's 31, 50, 52

#### CONFESSION & RENEWAL

- 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

#### All Sing: Change My Heart Oh God

Change my heart oh God Make it ever true Change my heart oh God May I be like You

You are the potter
I am the clay
Mold me and make me
This is what I pray

#### 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

- Lord God, heavenly King, we offer these our gifts as 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.