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## 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](mailto:secretary@randolphheights.org))

*Session* ([session@randolphheights.org](mailto:session@randolphheights.org))

*For Pastoral Communication, please call Pastor Ken @ 651-592-3320*

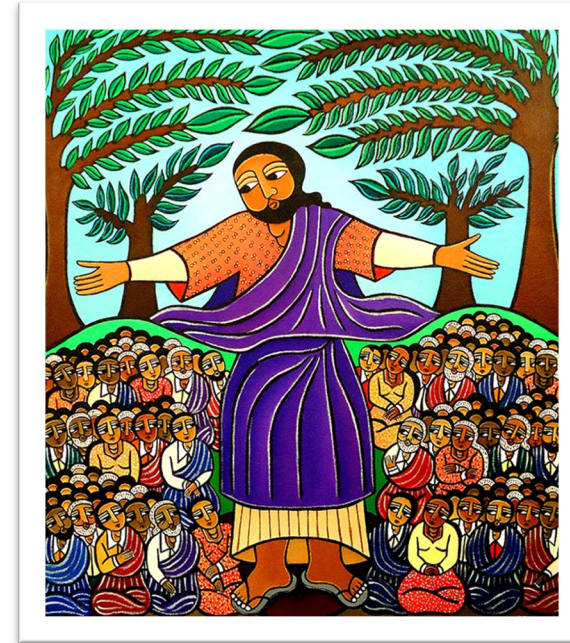
*Or Email @ [ken.highley@randolphheights.org](mailto:ken.highley@randolphheights.org)*

## 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 12, 2025**

9:30am Discussion

10:30am Worship

[www.randolphheights.org](http://www.randolphheights.org)

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## 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.*

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## 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:

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

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

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## 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 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.

## Looking Ahead

*Sermon on the Mount*

*Beatitudes Pt 1*

*Beatitudes Pt 2 'Mercy & Purity'*

*War & Peace*

*Salt & Light*

*Jesus vs. The Law*

*Healing Relationships*

*Education Weekend (Special Speaker)*

*Keeping Your Word*

*More than a Prayer*

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## Reflect, Resonate, Reevaluate, Respond

*Blessed are they who have no  
locks on their door.  
~ Fyodor Dostoyevsky*

One must be a sea, to receive a polluted stream without becoming impure.  
~ Friedrich Nietzsche, from *Thus Spoke Zarathustra*

No one is more dangerous than he who imagines himself pure in heart: for his purity, by definition, is unassailable. ~ James Baldwin, from *Nobody Knows My Name*

For children are innocent and love justice, while most of us are wicked and naturally prefer mercy. ~ G.K. Chesterton, 1874-1936, Author, Christian apologist

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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

A pure heart won't get us out of conflict and controversy. It may well be the very thing that gets us into it. ~ John Hagee, 1940- , Pastor, televangelist

If you wait until your motives are pure and unselfish before you do something, you will wait forever. ~ Tim Keller, 1950-2023, Pastor, Author

God bestows more consideration on the purity of the intention with which our actions are performed than on the actions themselves. ~ Augustine of Hippo, 354-430

Even if we stand at the very summit of virtue, it is by mercy that we shall be saved.  
~ John Chrysostom, 407ad – death, 'Golden-Mouthed'

The so-called innocence of children is more a matter of weakness of limb, than purity of heart. ~ Augustine of Hippo, philosopher, theologian

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## 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.*

*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*)

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## Pastoral Prayer

- L Great God, glorify yourself in all the earth. Be glorified in creation, be glorified in your church. Though we are small, and you are so grand, help us to magnify your name. Help us to make your name and the nature of your grace larger and easier for people to see. Help us to live and to worship in such a way that we become like magnifying glasses through which our neighbors and coworkers and children and friends can see you come into focus in ways they may not have seen before. When people ask for an explanation of the hope we have, give us the words to answer thoughtfully and well. When people wonder out loud who Jesus is and why he matters, help us to reply in words that will echo the sweetness of your gospel. Help us to magnify your name, O Lord, so that you may be glorified in all the earth. Be glorified in all we do. We pray it ever and only in Jesus' precious name. 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*

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## 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.*

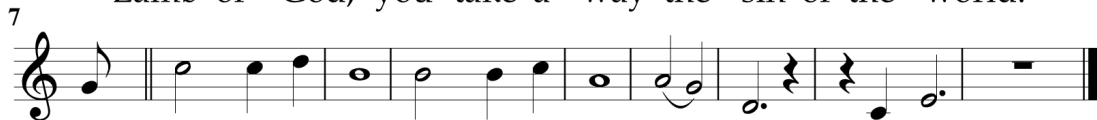
L Let us give thanks together:

### *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 living 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*

- 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*

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## Call to Worship

- L Trust in the LORD at all times, you people; pour out your hearts to him, for God is our refuge.
- A *Surely the lowborn are but a breath, the highborn are but a lie. If weighed on a balance, they are nothing; together they are only a breath.*
- L Do not trust in extortion or put vain hope in stolen goods; though your riches increase, do not set your heart on them.
- A *One thing God has spoken, two things I have heard: "Power belongs to you, God, and with you, Lord, is unfailing love"; and, "You reward everyone according to what they have done."*

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

- L O God, in creation you fashion us in your image, in Christ you reveal to us your love, through the Holy Spirit you welcome us into the fellowship of believers; we bow in gratitude before you. We constantly distort your image, but still you restore it. We daily betray your love, but still you extend it. We often disrupt fellowship, but still you bless it. Come unto us at this time and in this place, O Lord, that your image in us might be revealed, your love for us returned, and our fellowship in Christ renewed. Amen.
- 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 Heard the Voice of Jesus Say*

KINGSFOLD (Tune)

Horatius Bonar



I heard the voice of Je-sus say, "Come un-to me and  
I heard the voice of Je-sus say, "Be-hold, I free-ly  
I heard the voice of Je-sus say, "I am the dawn-ing



rest. Lay down, O wear-y one, lay down your head u-pon my  
give the liv-ing wa-ter, thirs-ty one; stoop down and drink and  
light. Look un-to me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be



breast." I came to Je-sus as I was, so wear-y, worn, and sad. In  
live." I came to Je-sus, and I drank of that life-giv-ing stream. My  
bright." I looked to Je-sus, and I found in him my star, my sun, and



him I found a rest-ing place, and he has made me glad.  
thirst was quenched, my soul re-vived, and now I live in him.  
in that light of life I'll walk till trav'-ling days are done.

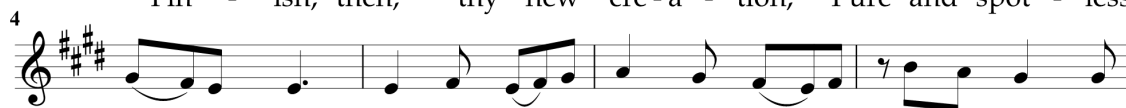
*Love Divine All Loves Excelling*

Wesley

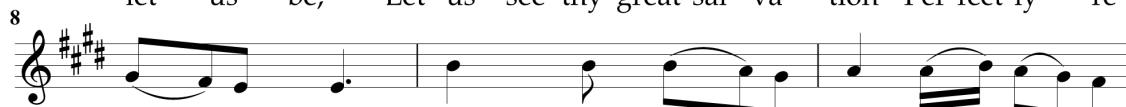
BEECHER



Love di-vine, all loves ex-cel-ling, Joy of Heav'n to  
Breathe, O breathe thy lov-ing Spi-rit In-to ev-'ry  
Come, Al-might-y to de-liv-er; Let us all thy  
Fin-ish, then, thy new cre-a-tion; Pure and spot-less



Earth come down, Fix in us thy hum-ble dwel-ling, All thy faith-ful  
troub-led breast; Let us all in thee in-her-it, Let us find thy  
grace re-ceive; Sud-den-ly re-turn, and ne-ver, Ne-ver more thy  
let us be; Let us see thy great sal-va-tion Per-fect-ly re-



mer-cies crown; Je-sus, thou art all com-pas-sion,  
pro-mised rest; Take a-way our love of sin-ning;  
tem-ples leave. Thee we would be al-ways bles-sing,  
- stored in thee; Changed from glo-ry in-to glo-ry



Pure, un-bound-ed love thou art; Vi-sit us with  
Al-pha and O-meg-a be; End of faith as  
Serve thee as thy host a-bove, Pray, and praise thee  
Till in Heav'n we take our place, Till we cast our



thy sal-va-tion, En-ter ev-'ry tremb-ling heart.  
its be-gin-ning, Set our hearts at lib-er-ty.  
with-out ceas-ing, Glo-ry in thy per-fect love.  
crowns be-fore thee, Lost in won-der, love, and praise!

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## 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 2, 'Mercy & Purity'*

### Response

L What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us?

A *He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else?*

L Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn?

A *It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us.*

L Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

A *No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

– *Romans 8:31-35, 37-39, NRSV*

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## CONFESSION & RENEWAL

L 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

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*All Sing: And Can it Be*

And can it be that I should gain  
An int'rest in the Savior's blood?  
Died He for me, who caused His pain?  
For me, who Him to death pursued?  
    Amazing love! Amazing love!  
    How can it be that you would die for me? (Refrain 2x)

'Tis mystery the Immortal dies!  
Who can explain His strange design?  
In vain the firstborn seraph tries  
To sound the depths of love divine!  
    'Tis mercy all! 'Tis mercy all!  
    Let earth adore, angels inquire no more. (Refrain 2x)

He left His Father's throne above,  
So free, so infinite His grace;  
Emptied Himself of all but love,  
And bled for Adam's helpless race;  
    'Tis mercy all, 'Tis mercy all!  
    Immense and free, His mercy found out me. (Refrain 2x)

Long my imprisoned spirit lay  
Fast bound in sin and nature's night;  
You came and shown the living way;  
I woke, my dungeon flamed with light;  
    My chains fell off, my chains fell off!  
    My heart was free, I went and followed Him. (Refrain 2x)

No condemnation now I dread;  
Jesus, and all in Him is mine!  
Alive in Him, my living Head,  
And clothed in righteousness divine,  
    Bold I approach the eternal throne,  
    and claim my crown, claim it through Christ alone. (Refrain 2x)  
    (and claim my crown, claim it through Christ alone.)

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## 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.  
A *Thanks be to God!* *– Psalm 145:13-14, NRSV*

## Doxology

L 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.

Gloria Patri

Karl Digerness, 2009

Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, glo - ry be to the Son,  
Glo-ry be to the Spi-rit, Three in One. As it was in the be-gin-ning it  
will be for-ev-er A-men, A - men, A-men.

## 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.*