
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.

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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



Randolph Heights Presbyterian Church

435 Hamline Ave. South
Saint Paul, MN 55105

January 19, 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 5:9-12 (NTFE)

- 9 "Blessings on the peacemakers! You'll be called God's children.
10 "Blessings on people who are persecuted because of God's saving plan!
The kingdom of heaven belongs to you.
11 "Blessings on you, when people slander you and persecute you, and say all kinds of wicked things about you falsely because of me! Celebrate and rejoice: there's a great reward for you in heaven. That's how they persecuted the prophets who went before you."

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 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 your way.
Amen.

Reflect, Resonate, Reevaluate, Respond

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

O the bliss of those who are always angry at the right time and never angry at the wrong time, who have every instinct, impulse and passion under control because they themselves are God-controlled, who have the humility to realize their own ignorance and their own weakness, for such people can indeed rule the world!
~ William Barclay, 1907-1978, Church of Scotland Pastor & Professor

Scripture scholars contend that the original language of the Beatitudes should not be rendered as "Blessed are the single-hearted" or "Blessed are the peacemakers" or "Blessed are those who struggle for justice." Greater precision in translation would say, "You're in the right place if...you are single-hearted or work for peace." The Beatitudes is not a spirituality, after all. It's a geography. It tells us where to stand."
~ Gregory Boyle, 1954- , Founder and Director of Homeboy Industries

Jesus does not limit the peacemaking to only one kind, and neither will his disciples. In the light of the gospel, Jesus himself is the supreme peacemaker, making peace between God and man, and man and man. Our peacemaking will include the promulgation of that gospel. It must also extend to seeking all kinds of reconciliation. Instead of delighting in division, bitterness, strife, or some petty "divide and conquer" mentality, disciples of Jesus delight to make peace wherever possible.
~ D.A. Carson, 1946- , Distinguished New Testament Scholar & Theologian

I have found truly jubilant Christians only in the Bible, in the Underground Church and in prison. ~ Richard Wurmbrand, 1909-2001, Romanian Lutheran Priest

At the Nicene Council, an important church meeting in the 4th century A.D., of the 318 delegates attending, fewer than 12 had not lost an eye or lost a hand or did not limp on a leg lamed by torture for their Christian faith.
~ Vance Havner, 1901-1986, revivalist preacher

Blessed are the peacemakers, and one sure way of peacemaking is to let the fire of contention alone. Neither fan it, nor stir it, nor add fuel to it, but let it go out by itself.
~ Charles Spurgeon, 1834-1892, 'Prince of Preachers'

PRELUDE

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

- L Great and loving God, we come before you emptied of all that would distract, seeking all that would redeem. Let these moments not become so routine as to be predictable, nor so familiar as to be conventional.
- A *Prepare us for the unexpected. Open us to the movement of the Holy Spirit in praise of our Savior. Amen.*

O Sing to the Lord

Brazilian Folk Song

O sing to the Lord, and sing God a new song. O sing to the
By His ho-ly pow'r our God has done won-ders. By His ho-ly
O shout to our God, who gave us the Spi - rit, O shout to our

7
Lord, and sing God a new song. O sing to the Lord, and
pow'r our God has done won-ders. By His ho-ly pow'r our
God, who gave us the Spi - rit, O shout to our God, who

12
sing God a new song. O sing to our God, Yes! sing to our God.
God has done won-ders. Oh sing to our God, oh, sing to our God.
gave us the Spi - rit, O sing to our God, O sing to our God.

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*

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

Call to Worship

- L Come, let us sing to the Lord! Let us shout joyfully to the Rock of our salvation. Let us come to him with thanksgiving. For the Lord is a great God, a great King above all gods.
- A *He holds in his hands the depths of the earth and the mightiest mountains. The sea belongs to him, for he made it. His hands formed the dry land, too.*
- L If only you would listen to his voice today! The Lord says, "Do not harden your hearts as Israel did at Meribah, as they did at Massah in the wilderness. For there your ancestors tested and tried my patience, even though they saw everything I did.
- A *Come, let us worship and bow down. Let us kneel before the Lord our maker, for he is our God. We are the people he watches over, the flock under his care.*

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*

Come, Ye Weary

Trad Melody

Joseph Hart

Come, ye wear-y, hea - vy la - den, lost and ru - ined
Come, ye thirst-y, come, and wel - come, God's free boun - ty
Let not con - science make you lin - ger, nor of fit - ness
Lo! th' - in - car - nate God, as - cen - ded, pleads the merit

4
by the fall; if you tar - ry till you're bet - ter,
glor - i - fy; true be - lief and true re - pen - tance,
fond - ly dream; all the fit - ness He re - quir - eth
of His blood; ven - ture on Him, ven - ture whol - ly;

7
you will ne - ver come at all.
ev - 'ry grace that brings you nigh. I will a - rise and go to Je - sus,
is to feel your need of Him.
let no o - ther trust in - trude. I will a - rise and go to Je - sus,

11
He will em - brace me in His arms; In the arms of my dear Sav - ior,
He will em - brace me in His arms; In the arms of my dear Sav - ior,

15

O there are ten thou - sand charms.

O there are ten thou - sand charms.

O God of Love, Forever Blest

Isaac Watts

Bruce Benedict

O God of love, for - e - ver blest, pit - y my suf - f'ring,
A - las for me, that i so - journ, so long in Me - shech's
I cried in trou - ble to the Lord, and he has an - swered

5
state. When will you set my soul at rest
land; That I have made my dwell - ing where
me. From ly - ing lips and craft - y tongue,

8
from lips that love de - ceit? Too long my soul (has made its
the tents of Ke - dar stand.
O Lord, my soul set free.

11
home) with those who lift (who lift) the sword I am for

14
peace; (but when I speak,) they make for war.

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 5:9-12 (*Found on Page 15*)

Series Sermon on the Mount

Sermon War & Peace

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

CONFESSION & RENEWAL

L The psalmist testifies: Come and hear, all you who fear God, and I will tell what he has done for me. If I had cherished iniquity in my heart, the Lord would not have listened. But truly God has listened; he has given heed to the words of my prayer. Blessed be God, because he has not rejected my prayer or removed his steadfast love from me. In the strength of this assurance, let us confess our sins to God.

– based on Psalm 66:16, 18-20, NRSV

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

Calmer of My Troubled Heart

Charles Wesley

Mathew Smith



Calm-er of my troub-led heart Bid my un - be-lief de-
Com-fort me when-e'er I mourn With the hope of Thy re-



- part Speak and all my sor - rows cease Speak and
- turn And till I Thy glo - ries see Help -



all my soul is peace Hal-le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu-
me be - lieve in Thee



- jah Hal-le - lu - jah, Hal - le - lu - jah

Renewal

L The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. He will not always accuse, nor will he keep his anger forever. He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far he removes our transgressions from us. As a father has compassion for his children, so the LORD has compassion for those who fear him.
— Psalm 103:8-13, NRSV

A *Thanks be to God!*

Doxology

L Freely you have received, freely give. —Matthew 10:8, NIV

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.*