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

Sermon on the Mount

Jesus and The Law Spiral of Anger Education Weekend (Special Speaker) Keeping Your Word (integrity) Turn Your Cheek More than a Prayer Treasures Healing Relationships The Way



Randolph Heights Presbyterian Church

435 Hamline Ave. South Saint Paul, MN 55105

March 30, 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.

- ¹⁻² "Do not judge, or you too will be judged. For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.
- ³⁻⁵ "Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye? How can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' when all the time there is a plank in your own eye? ⁵You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye.
- ⁶ "Do not give dogs what is sacred; do not throw your pearls to pigs. If you do, they may trample them under their feet, and turn and tear you to pieces.
- ⁷ "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. ⁸For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.
- ⁹⁻¹² "Which of you, if your son asks for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake? If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him! So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets.
 - 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 God the Father, who does not despise the broken spirit, give you a contrite heart.
May Christ, who bore our sins in his body on the tree, heal you by his wounds.
May the Holy Spirit, who leads us into all truth, speak to you words of pardon and peace. Amen.

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.

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

Anxiety is love's greatest killer.

~ Anais Nin

Jesus is referring, not to official lawcourts, but to the judgments and condemnations that occur within ordinary lives, as people set themselves up as moral guardians and critics of one another. ~ *NT Wright, 1948- , former bishop of Durham*

The current popular notion that judging others is in itself a sin leads to such inappropriate maxims as 'I'm okay and you're okay.' It encourages a conspiracy of moral indifference which says, "If you never tell me that anything I'm doing is wrong, I'll never tell you that anything you're doing is wrong.

~ Elisabeth Elliot, 1926-2015, from Leadership Vol. 3, no. 1.

Remember particularly that you cannot be a judge of anyone. For no one can judge a criminal until he recognizes that he is just such a criminal as the man standing before him, and that he perhaps is more than all men to blame for that crime. When he understands that, he will be able to be a judge. Though that sounds absurd, it is true. ~ *Fyodor Dostoyevsky*, 1821-1881, *The Brothers Karamazov*

To be alive is to be addicted, and to be alive and addicted is to stand in need of grace. ~ *Gerald G. May,* 1940-2005, *American Psychologist and theologian*

We cannot prioritize our doing before being, our assignment before healing, our service before freedom. ~ *Rebekah Lyons, Author of 'You Are Free'*

The cynic is one who never sees a good quality in a man, and never fails to see a bad one. ~ *Henry Ward Beecher, 1813-1887, clergyman, social reformer*

It is a simple, straightforward, and often neglected fact: The opposite of love is not hate. The opposite of love is fear. It is just that basic. For fear is the breeding ground — the simmering cauldron so to speak — of all the resentments, bitterness, anger, and destructive behaviors that constitute and give rise to hate. It doesn't matter whether our hatred targets others or is turned inward in a form of self-loathing. The opposite of love is not hate. The opposite of love is fear.

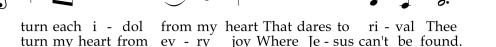
~ Bishop Robert O'Neill, Episcopalian Priest

PRELUDE

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

- L May we tune our ears to hear you knocking, O God, as you stand outside the locked doors of our hearts, waiting and wanting to enter.
- A Help us to throw open those doors, that in this time of worship you may come in as a living presence and we may offer to you our praise and thanksgiving.





me to know your sa - cred will And learn to love You more.

Pastoral Prayer

L Almighty God, Father of mercies, we give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life, but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ, for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.

And we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up ourselves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. 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 Journey with us, holy God, as we continue our way to the cross. Sharpen our focus, that our attention may center more on you than ourselves. Lead us through the shadows of darkness and prepare our hearts, that we might be a people of prayer, ready to perceive and respond to your Son and our Savior, Jesus Christ. In his name we pray. Amen.

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.

By His wounds, his wounds, will we be healed And for our transgression, 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*,

Distribution of the Elements

Call to Worship

- L Seek the Lord while he may be found; call on him while he is near.
- A Let the wicked forsake their ways and the unrighteous their thoughts.
- L Let them turn to the Lord, and he will have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will freely pardon.
- *A* Turn us again, O God of our salvation that the light of Your face may shine on us.

Prayer of Adoration (followed by Lord's Prayer)

L Loving God, you created heaven and earth out of nothing. You uphold and rule heaven and earth by your eternal counsel and providence. We give you praise, almighty God.

God of eternity, you not only created each of us, but you sustain and form each of us with your Holy Spirit. We worship you, Creator God. You pro vide whatever we need for body and soul. You guide us and guard us. We trust in you, God, our Maker; Jesus, our Mediator; Holy Spirit, our Comforter.

In the midst of this Lenton journey, allow us to look back and to look ahead, to see the places in the past where your promises have upheld us, and to look to an unknown future with confidence and trust in you.

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

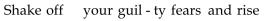
A Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen



Kevin Twit Charles Wesley shake off your guil - ty fears: A - rise, my soul, a - rise, He e - ver lives a - bove, for me to in - ter-cede; Five bleed-ing wounds He bears; re - ceived on Cal - var-y; My God is re - con-ciled; His pard - ning voice I hear; The bleed-ing sac - ri - fice, be - half ap-pears; on my His pre - cious blood, to plead; His all re - deem - ing love, They pour ef - fect - ual prayers; they strong-ly plead for me: He owns me for His child; Ι long - er fear can no Be - fore the throne my Sure - ty stands, Be - fore the throne His blood a - toned His blood a - toned for ev - ry race, for-give," they cry, "For - give him, O "For - give him, O With con - fi - dence I now draw nigh, With con - fi - dence 11 stands, My name is writ - ten mv Sure - tv on His hands. for ev - ry race, And sprin-kles now the throne of grace. for-give," they cry, "Nor let that ran - somed sin - ner die!" now draw nigh, And "Fa - ther, Ab - ba, Fa - ther," cry. 15 1.3. 2.4. A-rise, a - rise, a-rise A-rise, my soul, a-rise. 20

Arise My Soul Arise





MINISTRY OF THE WORD

Preparation

L Gracious God, give us humble, teachable, and obedient hearts, that we may receive what you have revealed, and do what you have commanded. Amen.

ScriptureMatthew 7:1-12 (Found on Page 15)SeriesSermon on the MountSermonRelationship

Response

- L You are the God of all hope, we are deeply aware of the world's grief and pain – and our own. Comfort us, we pray, with the sure knowledge that our Lenten journey culminates in Easter joy.
- A By Christ's power our old selves are crucified, put to death, and buried with him, so that the evil desires of the flesh may no longer rule us, but that instead we may offer ourselves as a sacrifice of gratitude to him.

– Heidelberg Catechism, Q&A 43

CONFESSION & RENEWAL

L The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise. – *Psalm 51:17, NRSV*

Holy God, help us to reflect that we are quick to look through the window and slow to look in the mirror. We are quick to see how others stumble, but we do not see how we contribute to their stumble. Help us to own our faults, to look in the mirror, and also to see the love you still have for us.

A Holy and merciful God, we confess to you and to one another, that we have sinned by our own fault in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone.

We have not listened to your call to serve as Christ served us. We have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved your Holy Spirit. Have mercy on us, O God.

We confess to you, our unfaithfulness: the pride, hypocrisy, and impatience in our lives.

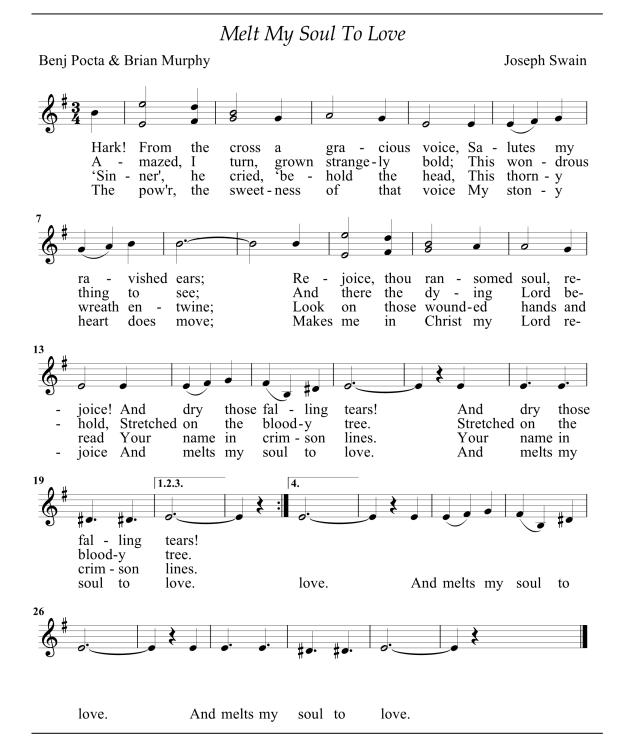
Our self-indulgent appetites and ways and our exploitation of other people.

Our dishonesty in daily life and work.

Our negligence in prayer and our failure to commend the faith that is in us.

Accept our confession, O God, for the wrongs we have done. For all false judgments, for uncharitable thoughts toward others, and for our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us. Hear us, O God, for your mercy is great. Amen.

Silent and Personal Confession



Renewal

- L Those who love me, I will deliver, says the Lord; I will protect those who know my name. When they call to me, I will answer them; I will be with them in trouble, I will rescue them and honor them and show them my salvation. Receive the good news of the gospel: In Jesus Christ we are for given. based on Psalm 91:14-15, NRSV
- *A Thanks be to God!*

Doxology

- L As you draw us into a renewing relationship of love, may we respond with gratitude as we offer the substance of our souls to continue the ministry of Christ.
- *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

Α

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.