#### 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)

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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

April 6, 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 7:13-14

- "Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.
  - L This is the Word of the Lord.
  - *A* Thanks be to God!

#### BENEDICTION

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 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

Yea, though I walk through the valley of death, I will fear no evil.

Psalm 23:4

Pursue some path, however narrow and crooked, in which you can walk with love and reverence.

~ Henry David Thoreau, American poet, philosopher and naturalist (1817-1862)

Jesus went before us on the narrow path along which He beckons us to follow him.

~ Rose Phillipine Duchesne, French Saint and Educator (1769-1852)

The narrow path had opened up suddenly onto the edge of a great black lake. Perched atop a high mountain on the other side, its windows sparkling in the starry sky, was a vast castle with many turrets and towers.

~ J K Rowling, Author, 1965-

An individual has not started living until he can rise above the narrow confines of his individualistic concerns to the broader concerns of all humanity.

~ *Martin Luther King, Minister and civil rights activist (1929-1968)* 

Anybody who has been engaged seriously in scientific work of any kind realized that over the entrance to the gates of the temple of science are written the words: 'Ye must have faith'.

~ Max Planck, German quantum physicist and Nobel Prize winner (1858-1947)

The best and sweetest flowers of paradise God gives to His people when they are upon their knees. Prayer is the gate of heaven.

~ Thomas Brooks, Puritan Preacher (1608-1680)

Promptings for us to do good come from the Holy Ghost. These promptings nudge us further along the straight and narrow path of discipleship. The natural man doesn't automatically think of doing good. It isn't natural. How many people worry about the car behind them or the person below them? The natural man just doesn't do it. For us, however, these promptings enlarge our awareness of other people's needs and prod us to act accordingly.

~ Neal A Maxwell, American educator and religious leader in LDS, (1926-2004)

### **PRELUDE**

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

- Dear God, silence all voices within our minds but your own. Help us to seek and be able to follow your will. May our prayers be joined with those of our sisters and brothers in the faith.
- A Together may we glorify your name and enjoy your fellowship forever. In Jesus' name, Amen.

# Be Thou My Vision

tr. Mary Byrne

Trad. Irish Melody



### Pastoral Prayer

L O Savior God, look upon your church in its struggles. Have mercy on its weaknesses, give strength and courage to love the truth...

Look also upon the ministry of this congregation. Increase its courage, strengthen its faith, and inspire its witness to those in our sphere of influence and beyond, even to the ends of the earth. Have courage to join in Jesus' mission to build and strengthen one-another.

Author of grace and God of love, send your Holy Spirit's blessing to your children here present. Keep our hearts and thoughts in Jesus Christ, your Son, our only Savior.

### **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.
- O God, by your power may we, with all the saints, comprehend the breadth and length and height and depth of the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that we may be filled with your fullness. Amen.
  - based on Ephesians 3:18-19

### 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.

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

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

- I give you thanks, O Lord, with all my heart; I will sing your praises before the gods. I bow before your holy Temple as I worship.
- A I praise your name for your unfailing love and faithfulness; for your promises are backed by all the honor of your name.
- L Though the Lord is great, he cares for the humble, but he keeps his distance from the proud.
- A Though I am surrounded by troubles, you will protect me from the anger of my enemies.
- L You reach out your hand, and the power of your right hand saves me.
- A The Lord will work out his plans for my life for your faithful love, O Lord, endures forever. Don't abandon me, for you made me.

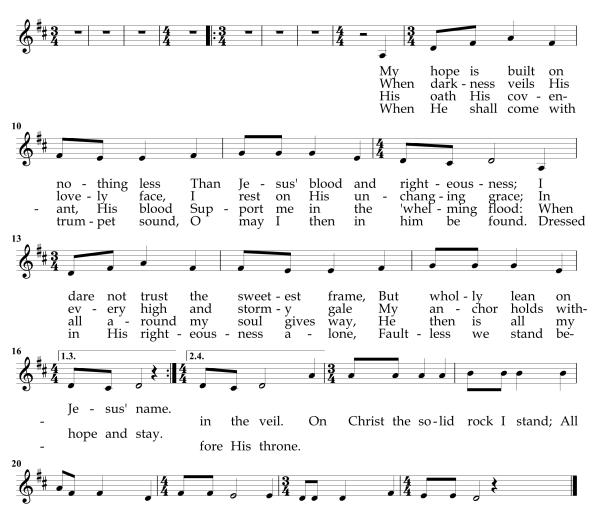
### Prayer of Adoration (followed by Lord's Prayer)

L God of our life, there are days when the burdens we carry chafe our shoulders and weigh us down; when the road seems dreary and endless, the skies grey and threatening; when our lives have no music in them, and our hearts are lonely, and our souls have lost their courage. But You Flood the path with light, You run our eyes to where the skies are full of promise; You tune our hearts to brave music; You give us the sense of comradeship with heroes and saints of every age; and so You quicken our spirits that we may be able to encourage the souls of all who journey with us on the road of life, to Your honor and glory.

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

### My Hope is Built on Nothing Less

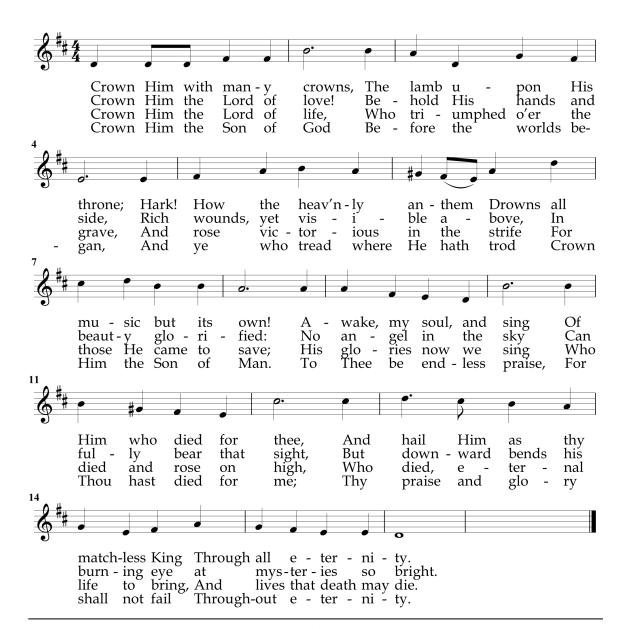


o-ther ground is sink-ing sand. All o-ther ground is sink-ing sand.

## Crown Him with Many Crowns

Matthew Bridges

George Elvey



#### MINISTRY OF THE WORD

### Preparation

L Lord God, help us to know your ways; teach us your paths. Lead us in your truth, and teach us, for you are the God of our salvation; for you we wait all day long. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen. – based on Psalm 25:4-5, NRSV

**Scripture** Matthew 7:13-14 (Found on Page 15)

**Series** Sermon on the Mount

**Sermon** Gates & Paths

### Response

A You are the way to fullness of life, Lord Jesus; that our hearts might be filled with joy, hope, and peace, we pray; that we might respond to opportunities, we pray; that we might be strengthened to face challenges, we pray; that we might become the persons we are called to be, we pray; that we might learn to respect our sisters and brothers, we pray; that we might see the needs of others and give help, we pray. Amen.

#### CONFESSION & RENEWAL

L The psalmist models a transparent faith with these words: Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my thoughts. See if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting. We express our longing for God's leading by our own transparent confession.

- based on Psalm 139:23-24, NRSV

A Be mindful of your mercy, O LORD, and of your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember me, for your goodness' sake, O LORD!

Good and upright is the LORD; therefore he instructs sinners in the way.

For your name's sake, O LORD, pardon my guilt, for it is great.

Turn to me and be gracious to me, for I am lonely and afflicted.

Relieve the troubles of my heart, and bring me out of my distress.

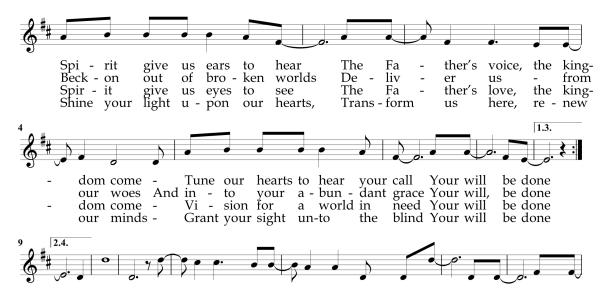
Consider my affliction and my trouble, and forgive all my sins.

– Psalm 25:6-8, 11, 16-18, NRSV

### Silent and Personal Confession

#### Your Will Be Done

Wes Reagan



Oh Je - sus, help us Lord, to fol - low you When you call our souls Your will,



be done You've called us out from death to life The Spi - rit's work, the King-



- dom come So bless the la-bor of our hands Your will be done

#### Renewal

- L Hear these comforting words: If you repent and believe in God's redeeming mercy, your sins are forgiven. Trust in God's promises and begin anew your life with God and all people in the name of Jesus Christ.
- *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**

*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.