
A Glance at the Week

Monday

7:00 am Men's Discussion (*Zoom*)

6:30 pm Small Group

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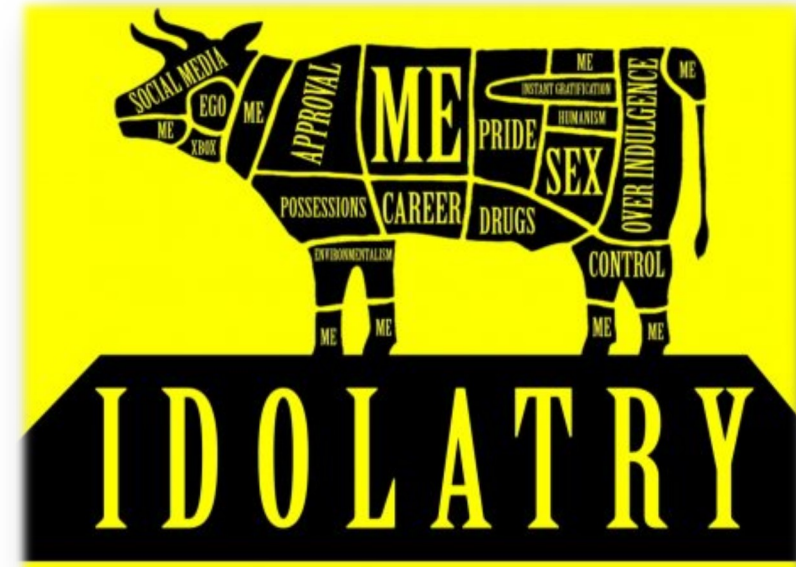
For Pastoral Communication, please call Pastor Ken @ 651-592-3320

Or Email @ ken.highley@randolphheights.org

Looking Ahead

Book of Acts -

06/26/22	14:8-23	Message Goes Out
07/03/22	15:1-11	Fine Tuning the Message
07/10/22	16:1-19	A Merchant, a Slave and a Soldier Pt 1
07/17/22	16:20-40	A Merchant, a Slave and a Soldier Pt 2
07/24/22	17:16-34	Paul @ Mars Hill
07/31/22	19:23-41	Idolatry
08/07/22	20:36-21:8	Needing Others
08/14/22	22:1-22	Courage



Saint Paul, MN

Randolph Heights
Presbyterian Church

435 Hamline Ave. South

July 31, 2022

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: Acts 19:23-41

About that time there arose a great disturbance about the Way. A silversmith named Demetrius, who made silver shrines of Artemis, brought in a lot of business for the craftsmen there. He called them together, along with the workers in related trades, and said: "You know, my friends, that we receive a good income from this business. And you see and hear how this fellow Paul has convinced and led astray large numbers of people here in Ephesus and in practically the whole province of Asia. He says that gods made by human hands are no gods at all. There is danger not only that our trade will lose its good name, but also that the temple of the great goddess Artemis will be discredited; and the goddess herself, who is worshiped throughout the province of Asia and the world, will be robbed of her divine majesty."

When they heard this, they were furious and began shouting: "Great is Artemis of the Ephesians!" Soon the whole city was in an uproar. The people seized Gaius and Aristarchus, Paul's traveling companions from Macedonia, and all of them rushed into the theater together. Paul wanted to appear before the crowd, but the disciples would not let him. Even some of the officials of the province, friends of Paul, sent him a message begging him not to venture into the theater.

The assembly was in confusion: Some were shouting one thing, some another. Most of the people did not even know why they were there. The Jews in the crowd pushed Alexander to the front, and they shouted instructions to him. He motioned for silence in order to make a defense before the people. But when they realized he was a Jew, they all shouted for about two hours: "Great is Artemis of the Ephesians!"

The city clerk quieted the crowd and said: "Fellow Ephesians, doesn't all the world know that the city of Ephesus is the guardian of the temple of the great Artemis and of her image, which fell from heaven? Therefore, since these facts are undeniable, you ought to calm down and not do anything rash. You have brought these men here, though they have neither robbed temples nor blasphemed our goddess. If, then, Demetrius and his fellow craftsmen have a grievance against anybody, the courts are open and there are proconsuls. They can press charges. If there is anything further you want to bring up, it must be settled in a legal assembly. As it is, we are in danger of being charged with rioting because of what happened today. In that case we would not be able to account for this commotion, since there is no reason for it." After he had said this, he dismissed the assembly.

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*

Send Out

L The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace. – Numbers 6:24-26, NIV

A 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.

Reflections

Listen with curiosity. Speak with honesty. Act with integrity. The greatest problem with communication is we don't listen to understand. We listen to reply. When we listen with curiosity, we don't listen with the intent to reply. We listen for what's behind the words.
~ Roy T. Bennett

Jack Taylor put it this way: "an idol is something you have to check with before you say yes to God".
~ Kris Vallotton, *Heavy Rain: Renew the Church, Transform the World*

The tiny Lilliputians surmise that Gulliver's watch may be his god, because it is that which, he admits, he seldom does anything without consulting.
~ Jonathan Swift, *Gulliver's Travels*

You can safely assume you've created God in your own image when it turns out that God hates all the same people you do. ~ Anne Lamott, 1954- , *Author*

Whatever controls us is our lord. The person who seeks power is controlled by power. The person who seeks acceptance is controlled by acceptance. We do not control ourselves. We are controlled by the lord of our lives.
~ Rebecca Pippert, *Out of the Saltshaker and Into the World*

Your pain could be God prying open your life and heart to remove a gift of His that you've been holding on to more dearly than Him. ~ Tullian Tchividjian

When people say, "I know God forgives me, but I can't forgive myself," they mean that they have failed an idol, whose approval is more important than God's.
~ Timothy Keller, *Counterfeit Gods*

PRELUDE

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

All Sing: Come Now is the Time to Worship

Come, now is the time to worship
Come, now is the time, to give your heart
Come, just as you are to worship
Come, just as you are before your God... Come

One day every tongue will confess you are God
One day every knee will bow
Still the greatest treasure remains for those who gladly choose you now

Call to Worship *(from Psalm 29)*

- L Honor the LORD, you heavenly beings; honor the LORD for his glory and strength.
A *Honor the LORD for the glory of his name. Worship the LORD in the splendor of his holiness.*
- L The voice of the LORD echoes above the sea. The God of glory thunders. The LORD thunders over the mighty sea.
A *The voice of the LORD is powerful; the voice of the LORD is majestic. The voice of the LORD splits the mighty cedars; the LORD shatters the cedars of Lebanon.*
- L In his Temple everyone shouts, "Glory!" The LORD rules over the flood waters. The LORD reigns as king forever.
A *The LORD gives his people strength. The LORD blesses them with peace.*

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 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.*

- L 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

L Brothers and sisters in Christ, the gospels tell us that on the first day of the week, the day on which our Lord rose from the dead, he appeared to some of his disciples and was made known to them in the breaking of bread. Come, then, to the joyful feast of our Lord.

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.*

Prayer of Thanks

A *Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us, that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, that we may be one with all who share this feast, united in ministry in every place. As this bread is Christ's body for us, send us out to be the body of Christ in the world.*

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, NIV

Distribution of the Elements

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

L Everlasting God, we delight to praise You as the everlasting King of glory! You are strong and mighty, and You reign unrivaled over-all. You grant justice to all the oppressed and You speak and make known Your will.

We delight to praise You as the everlasting King of grace! You remember that we are frail children of dust; You forgive all our sin; You redeem our lives from the slimy pit.

We delight to praise You as the everlasting King of love! You love us with an everlasting, steadfast love. You are slow to become angry. You are faithful to fulfill all your promises and You rescue us from all our foes.
~ based on Psalm 103

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*

All Sing: Now Thank We All Our God

Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things has done, in Whom this world rejoices;
Who from our mothers' arms has blessed us on our way
With countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
With ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us;
And keep us in His grace, and guide us when perplexed,
And free us from all ills in this world and the next!

All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,
The Son, and Him Who reigns with Them in highest heaven;
The one eternal God, Whom earth and heav'n adore;
For thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

For thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

All Sing: Be Thou My Vision

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art -
thou my best thought by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
thou my great Father, I thy true son;
thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.

Riches I heed not, nor vain empty praise,
thou mine inheritance, now and always:
thou and thou only, first in my heart,
High King of heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of heaven, my victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heav'n's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

MINISTRY OF THE WORD

Scripture Acts 19:23-41; (found on Page 14-15)

Series Summer Series in Acts

Sermon Idols of the Heart

Profession of Faith

L As we are to walk humbly with our God in lives of gratitude, let us proclaim our faith together:

A *This is the good news that we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved, if we hold it fast: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day, and that he appeared first to the women, then to Peter, and to the Twelve, and then to many faithful witnesses.*

We believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God. Jesus Christ is the first and the last, the beginning and the end; he is our Lord and our God. –

~ based on Matthew 16:16; Mark 16:9; John 20:28; 1 Corinthians 15:1-6; Revelation 22:13

CONFESSION & RENEWAL

L We cannot come before God unless we are first honest with ourselves about our own story of who we are, about how we recognize our personal brokenness, and about how well or poorly we care for others. In this spirit, let us enter a time of contemplation before God and one-another.

Lamb of God (Grant us Your Peace)

Welcome Wagon

The musical score is written on three staves in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 6/8 time signature. The melody is simple and contemplative. The lyrics are: "Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world. Grant us your peace, grant us your peace, Grant us your peace, grant us your peace." The score includes measure numbers 6 and 11.

Confession & Renewal

A *Wondrous God, we confess that at times our doubts and fears override our hope and faith. Forgive us when we lose sight of the joy of Your love and instead fall into despair and gloom.*

Build up our spirits, Lord, and help us to remember the promise of new life here and now. Give us a joy and peace to flow out into a broken world, to be instruments in building your kingdom.

We give thanks for Your Son, Jesus the Christ, who continues to offer us new life, who continues to turn us around and upside down, who continues to break down the walls of death in our own life. Forgive us, restore us and renew us. In the name of our risen Savior, Jesus the Christ, we pray. Amen.

Silent and Personal Confession

WORDS OF RENEWAL

L I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you; and I will remove from your body the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. I will put my Spirit within you, and make you follow my statutes and be careful to observe my ordinances. You shall live in the land that I gave to your ancestors, and you shall be my people, and I will be your God.
— from Ezekiel 36:25-28, NRSV

A *Thanks be to God!*

Doxology

L The one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly; the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Responding to God's bountiful gifts to us in Christ, we have opportunity to share out of our abundance.
— based on 2 Corinthians 9:6, 8, NRSV

*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.*

Prayer of Dedication

A *Lord, we thank 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.*