A Glance at the Week

Monday 6:30 pm Small Group

Wednesday 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

Gospel of John

| 02/05/23 - Mission of the Spirit 02/12/23 - Joy in Mourning | 16:5-11 16:16-22 |
|--|---------------------|
| 02/19/23 - Peace | 16:27-33 |
| 02/26/23 - Our Lord's Prayer 03/05/23 - To be Sanctified | 17:1-20 17:6-19 |
| 03/12/23 - To be On Mission | 17:13-19 |
| 03/19/23 - His Children, Defined 03/26/23 - One in Love | 17:6-24 17:20-26 |
| 04/02/23 - Eternal Life | 17:1-5 |
| 04/09/23 - Easter Sunday | |

Randolph Heights Presbyterian Church 435 Hamline Ave. South

Saint Paul, MN

February 19, 2023

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: John 16:27-33

No, the Father himself loves you because you have loved me and have believed that I came from God. I came from the Father and entered the world; now I am leaving the world and going back to the Father."

Then Jesus' disciples said, "Now you are speaking clearly and without figures of speech. Now we can see that you know all things and that you do not even need to have anyone ask you questions. This makes us believe that you came from God."

"Do you now believe?" Jesus replied. "A time is coming and in fact has come when you will be scattered, each to your own home. You will leave me all alone. Yet I am not alone, for my Father is with me.

"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

- 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 May the grace of Christ, which daily renews us, and the love of God, which enables us to love all, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, which unites us in one body, make us eager to obey the will of God until we meet again, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. - based on 2 Corinthians 13:13-14

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

Why can't people just sit and read books and be nice to each other? — *David Baldacci, The Camel Club*

Persecution is easier to understand when it's physical: torture, death, imprisonment... American persecution is like an advanced stage of cancer; it eats away at you, yet you cannot feel it. This is the worst kind of persecution. *~An underground house church leader in the Middle East*

Christianity, if false, is of no importance, and if true, of infinite importance. The only thing it cannot be is moderately important. ~ *C. S. Lewis* (1898-1963)

Thou hast made us for thyself, O Lord, and our heart is restless until it finds its rest in thee. ~ *Augustine of Hippo, Confessions*

God cannot give us a happiness and peace apart from Himself, because it is not there. ~ *C.S. Lewis, Mere Christianity*

I know you believe you understood what you think I said, but I am not sure you realize that what you heard is not what I meant.

~ Robert McCloskey (1914-2003), Author and Illustrator

Everybody wants to save the earth; nobody wants to help Mom do the dishes. ~P.J. O'Rourke, American satirist and journalist

Prelude

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

All Sing: Blessed Be the Lord Our God

Blessed be the Lord, our God, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous deeds, who alone does wondrous deeds. Blessed be his glorious Name, His glorious Name forever, and may all the earth be filled with his glory, alleluia!

> (Blessed be his glorious name. – 1st time through) (Amen, amen, Amen, amen! - 2nd time through)

Call to Worship (from Psalm 72)

- *L* Give your love of justice to the king, O God, and righteousness to the king's son.
- A Help him judge your people in the right way; let the poor always be treated fairly.
- L May the king's rule be refreshing like spring rain on freshly cut grass, like the showers that water the earth. May he reign from sea to sea, and to the ends of the earth.
- A He feels pity for the weak and the needy, and he will rescue them. He will redeem them from oppression and violence, for their lives are precious to him.
- L Long live the king! May the people always pray for him and bless him all day long. May the king's name endure forever; may it continue as long as the sun shines. May all nations be blessed through him and bring him praise.
- A Praise the Lord God, the God of Israel, who alone does such wonderful things. Praise his glorious name forever! Let the whole earth be filled with his glory. Amen and amen!

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 Come to this table: you who have much faith, and you who would like to have more; you who have been to this sacrament often, and you who have not been for a long time; you who have tried to follow Jesus, and you who have failed. Come. It is Christ who invites us to meet him here.
- *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 With joy we praise you, gracious God, for you created heaven and earth, made us in your image, and kept covenant with us – even when we fell into sin. We give you thanks for Jesus Christ, our Lord, who by his life, death, and resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore we join our voices with all the saints and angels and the whole creation to proclaim the glory of your name.

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

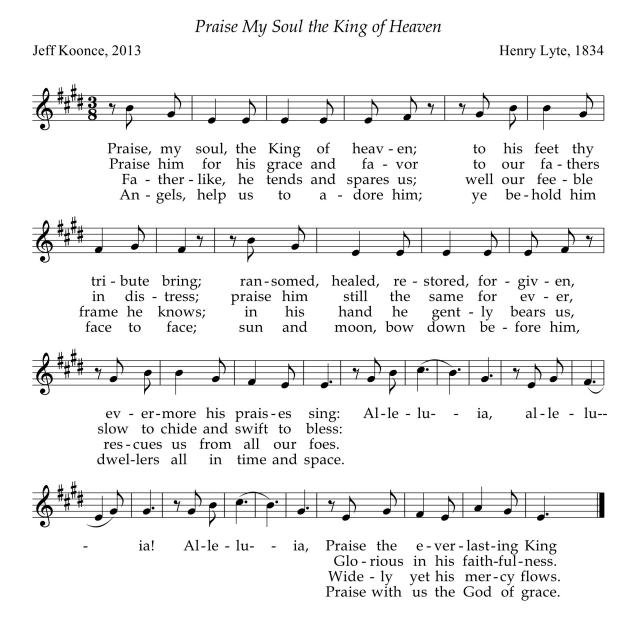
Prayer of Adoration (followed by Lord's Prayer)

- L Blessed are you, Lord God. In your wisdom you have made all creation to worship you. You call us to worship you now in this time and place, in unity with prophets, martyrs, and saints from all times and places. As we worship, we pray that you will quiet our hearts, that we may hear your voice in your Word. You are God, who stirs our hearts, that we may more faithfully follow Jesus. You are God, that you will be glorified by the praise and prayers we offer you. We praise you this morning in the name of Jesus Christ, who with the Father and the Spirit is one God, blessed forever. Amen.
 - Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Α

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



** Alleluia ... Praise the everlasting King!

All Sing: Canticle of the Turning My soul cries out with a joyful shout that the God of my heart is great, And my spirit sings of the wondrous things that you bring to the one who waits. You fixed your sight on the servant's plight, and my weakness you did not spurn, So from east to west shall my name be blest. Could the world be about to turn?

Though I am small, my God, my all, you work great things in me. And your mercy will last from the depths of the past to the end of the age to be. Your very name puts the proud to shame, and to those who would for you yearn, You will show your might, put the strong to flight, for the world is about to turn.

My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your justice burn. Wipe away all tears, For the dawn draws near, And the world is about to turn.

From the halls of power to the fortress tower, not a stone will be left on stone. Let the king beware for your justice tears every tyrant from his throne. The hungry poor shall weep no more, for the food they can never earn; There are tables spread, ev'ry mouth be fed, for the world is about to turn (*refrain*)

Though the nations rage from age to age, we remember who holds us fast:

God's mercy must deliver us

from the conqueror's crushing grasp.

This saving word that our forbears heard

is the promise that holds us bound,

Til the spear and rod can be crushed by God, who is turning the world around-refrain

MINISTRY OF THE WORD

ScriptureJohn 16:27-33 (found on Page 15)Series Gospel of JohnTruth ... Peace ... Dare to Live

Profession of Faith

A You are the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end.You existed before time and created everything that exists.You are our God and we submit our loyalty to You.

We acknowledge that You are the only living God and that there are no other gods. Father, You are compassionate and merciful, slow to get angry and filled with unfailing love. You shower compassion on all Your creation.

Revering You is pure, lasting forever. Father, Your Word is more desirable than gold, yes, even the finest gold. Your Word is sweeter than honey dripping from the honeycomb. Father, You are great and greatly to be praised and we bless You today.

CONFESSION & RENEWAL

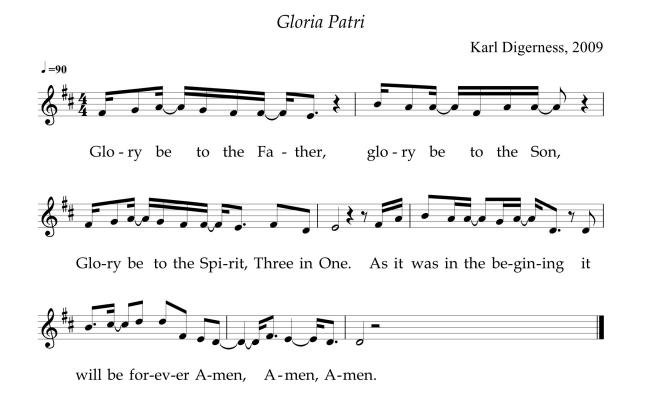
- L But the Lord watches over those who fear him, those who rely on his unfailing love. He rescues them from death and keeps them alive in times of famine. We put our hope in the Lord. He is our help and our shield. In him our hearts rejoice, for we trust in his holy name. Let your unfailing love surround us, Lord, for our hope is in you alone. ~ Ps 33:18-22
- A Heavenly Father, we confess our ingratitude towards you. We hesitate to put our hope fully in you. We often demand answers now, rather than wait for your timing. Forgive us.

Jesus, thank-you for dying in our place. You had unshakable hope in the midst of life's worst circumstances. Because of this, you will not point out our mountain of sin, for you have leveled the mountain.

Holy Spirit, help us to cling to the cross and find shelter by his side. Cause us to place our hope in our savior and his righteousness. And when our souls give way to fear and temptation, root us again, upon our firm foundation, Jesus Christ, Amen.

Silent and Personal Confession

Confession & Renewal



- L Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another, for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven and transformed! Praise be to God! *– based on 2 Corinthians 3:17-18, NRSV*
- *A Thanks be to God!*

Doxology

L Do good and share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God. – *from Hebrews* 13:16, 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 God of hope,

you gave your Son to free a lost world. You give your Spirit to comfort and encourage. You give us hope for a future free of pain, sorrow, and tears. You promise us a future with you. In gratitude, we bring you our time, talents, and tithes. May our gifts be used so that many others will taste and see the goodness of knowing you. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

L Lord God, help us turn our hearts to you and hear what you will speak, for you speak peace to your people through Christ, our Lord. Amen. - based on Psalm 85:8