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)

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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 02/19/23 - Peace 02/26/23 - Our Lord's Prayer 03/05/23 - To be Sanctified	16:5-11 16:16-22 16:27-33 17:1-20 17:6-19
04/09/23 - Easter Sunday	

Randolph Heights Presbyterian Church 435 Hamline Ave. South

Saint Paul, MN

March 26, 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 17:20-26

"I am praying not only for these disciples but also for all who will ever believe in me through their message. I pray that they will all be one, just as you and I are one — as you are in me, Father, and I am in you. And may they be in us so that the world will believe you sent me.

"I have given them the glory you gave me, so they may be one as we are one. I am in them and you are in me. May they experience such perfect unity that the world will know that you sent me and that you love them as much as you love me. Father, I want these whom you have given me to be with me where I am. Then they can see all the glory you gave me because you loved me even before the world began!

"O righteous Father, the world doesn't know you, but I do; and these disciples know you sent me. I have revealed you to them, and I will continue to do so. Then your love for me will be in them, and I will be in them."

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 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.

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

One hundred religious persons knit into a unity by careful organization do not constitute a church any more than eleven men together, make a football team. ~ *A.W. Tozer, 1897-1963, Pastor/Author*

The right manner of growth is to grow less in one's own eyes. - Thomas Watson

The kingdom of self is heavily defended territory. ~ Eugene Peterson, Author/pastor

Whatever disunites man from God, also disunites man from man. ~ *Edmund Burke*, 1729-1797, *Statesman/Philosopher*

Paul would not only be astonished by our lackadaisical attitude towards holiness, but he would be horrified that mostly we just don't care – unity and holiness to Paul, is the greatest thing. Unity is easy if you don't care about holiness. Holiness is easy if you don't care about unity. ... Paul was trying to hold these two things together through his ministry. ~ *N.T. Wright, former bishop of Durham*

A man of a right spirit is not a man of narrow and private views, but is greatly interested and concerned for the good of the community, to which he belongs, and particularly of the city or village in which he resides, and for the true welfare of the society of which he is a member. ~ *Jonathan Edwards*, 1703-1758, *Pastor/ Philosopher*

You *(Millennials)* are the generation most afraid of real community because it inevitably limits freedom and choice. Get over your fear.

~ Tim Keller, Pastor/Author

All for one and one for all. ~ *Alexandre Dumas, The Three Musketeers*

Prelude

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

All Sing: Open the Eyes of My Heart, Lord

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord, Open the eyes of my heart I want to see You, I want to see You (Repeat Section)

To see You high and lifted up, shining in the light of Your glory Pour out Your power and love, as we sing holy, holy, holy

Holy, holy, holy, Holy, holy, holy Holy, holy, holy, I want to see you

Call to Worship (from Psalm 97)

- L The Lord is king! Let the earth rejoice! Let the farthest coastlands be glad.
- A Dark clouds surround him. Righteousness and justice are the foundation of his throne. Fire spreads ahead of him and burns up all his foes.
- L His lightning flashes out across the world. The earth sees and trembles.
- *A* The mountains melt like wax before the Lord, before the Lord of all the earth.
- L The heavens proclaim his righteousness; every nation sees his glory.
- A Jerusalem has heard and rejoiced, and all the towns of Judah are glad because of your justice, O Lord!
- L For you, O Lord, are supreme over all the earth; you are exalted far above all gods.
- A You who love the Lord, hate evil! He protects the lives of his godly people and rescues them from the power of the wicked.
- L Light shines on the godly, and joy on those whose hearts are right.
- *A* May all who are godly rejoice in the Lord and praise his holy name!

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 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 Almighty and ever present God, you uphold heaven and earth and all creatures. All things come from your generous hand: You send the nourishing rain, the refreshing wind, the warming sun, the blustering snow. You make buds appear, flowers bloom, fruit grow, and harvests mature. Through each day of our lives, whether in sickness or health, prosperity or poverty, joy or sorrow, you are in control. Help us to be patient when things go against us, thankful when things go well, and always confident that nothing could ever separate us from your love. For your unending faithfulness, we thank and praise you. To you be glory, now and forever.

~ based on Heidelberg Catechism, Q&A's 27-28

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



Vs. 4 He shall return in pow'r to reign; Heaven and earth will join to say O praise Him! Alleluia!

Then who shall fall on bended knee? All creatures of our God and King! O praise Him! O praise Him! Alleluia! Alleluia!

O praise Him! O praise Him! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

All Sing: Let us love and sing and wonder

Let us love and sing and wonder Let us praise the Savior's name He has hushed the law's loud thunder He has quenched Mount Sinai's flame He has washed us with His blood (3x) He has brought us nigh to God

Let us love the Lord Who bought us Pitied us when enemies Called us by His grace and taught us Gave us ears and gave us eyes He has washed us with His blood (3x) He presents our souls to God

Let us sing though fierce temptation Threatens hard to bear us down For the Lord, our strong salvation, Holds in view the conqueror's crown He, Who washed us with His blood, (3x) Soon will bring us home to God

Let us wonder grace and justice Join and point to mercy's store When through grace in Christ our trust is Justice smiles and asks no more He Who washed us with His blood (3x) Has secured our way to God

Let us praise and join the chorus Of the saints enthroned on high Here they trusted Him before us Now their praises fill the sky Thou hast washed us with Thy blood (3x) Thou art worthy Lamb of God

MINISTRY OF THE WORD

ScriptureJohn 17:20-26 (found on Page 15)Series Gospel of JohnLord's Prayer – Oneness

Profession of Faith

Α

As followers of Jesus Christ, living in this world –
which some seek to control, and others view with despair –
we declare with joy and trust: Our world belongs to God!
Remembering the promise, to reconcile the world to himself,
God joined our humanity in Jesus Christ – the eternal Word made flesh.
He is the long-awaited Messiah, one with us and one with God,
fully human and fully divine, conceived by the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
We long for that day when our bodies are raised, the Lord wipes away our tears,
and we dwell forever in the presence of God.
We will take our place in the new creation,
where there will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain,

and the Lord will be our light. Come, Lord Jesus, come.

CONFESSION & RENEWAL

L Search me, O God, and know my heart; try me and know my thoughts. See if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting. – *Psalm* 139:23-24, *NRSV*

Lent is a journey of deepening reflection and renewal, an opportunity to make new commitments in faith. May we walk this journey by setting aside the burdens that would weigh us down.

A O Lord, you desire truth in our inward being; teach us wisdom in our secret heart. Send out your light, send out your truth, and let them lead us to our home. Take from us the weight of our sin, that room might be made for the spirit of truth. If we prepare a dwelling place, that spirit will abide within us, and the truth will set our spirits free. Then shall we love not only in word or in speech; then shall we love in deed and in truth, and by this know that our service is faithful. O Lord, you desire truth in our inward being; teach us wisdom in our secret heart. Amen.

Silent and Personal Confession

All Sing: Change My Heart Oh God

Change my heart oh God Make it ever true Change my heart oh God May I be like You

You are the potter I am the clay Mold me and make me This is what I pray

Renewal

- L If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation. Receive the good news of the gospel: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. – based on 2 Corinthians 5:17-18, NRSV
- *A Thanks be to God!*

Doxology

- L With thankfulness we give in gratitude and joy. With prayerfulness we give in sacrifice and love. With hopefulness we give in commitment to God.
- APraise 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 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.

Preparation

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.