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)

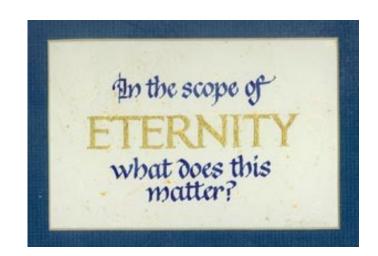
For Pastoral Communication, please call Pastor Ken @ 651-592-3320

Or Email @ ken.highley@randolphheights.org

Looking Ahead

Gospel of John

02/05/23 - Mission of the Spirit	16:5-11
02/12/23 - Joy in Mourning	16:16-22
02/19/23 - Peace	16:27-33
02/26/23 - Our Lord's Prayer	17:1-20
03/05/23 - To be Sanctified	17:6-19
03/12/23 - To be On Mission	17:13-19
03/19/23 - His Children, Defined	17:6-24
03/26/23 - One in Love	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 55105

April 02, 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 17:1-5

After Jesus said this, he looked toward heaven and prayed:

"Father, the hour has come. Glorify your Son, that your Son may glorify you. For you granted him authority over all people that he might give eternal life to all those you have given him. Now this is eternal life: that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. I have brought you glory on earth by finishing the work you gave me to do. And now, Father, glorify me in your presence with the glory I had with you before the world began.

- 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

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

As much money and life as you could want! The two things most human beings would choose above all - the trouble is, humans do have a knack of choosing precisely those things that are worst for them.

~ J.K. Rowling, Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone

Christianity set itself the goal of fulfilling man's unattainable desires, but for that very reason ignored his attainable desires. By promising man eternal life, it deprived him of temporal life, by teaching him to trust in God's help it took away his trust in his own powers; by giving him faith in a better life in heaven, it destroyed his faith in a better life on earth and his striving to attain such a life. Christianity gave man what his imagination desires, but for that very reason failed to give him what he really and truly desires.

~ Ludwig Feuerbach, Lectures on the Essence of Religion

It is since Christians have largely ceased to think of the other world that they have become so ineffective in this.

~ C. S. Lewis

God's love is not an invitation to passivity. Instead, it is a call to wise and risky creativity. ~ *Dan B. Allender, To Be Told: Know Your Story, Shape Your Future*

The point cannot be overemphasized: your plight is also your redemption. The Bible assumes that its stories are also our story... We are Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Their stories are a paradigm of our own. Each of us is called, redeemed, and exiled - again and again.

~ Dan B. Allender

The Christian is the really free human—he is free to have imagination. This too is our heritage. The Christian is the one whose imagination should fly beyond the stars.

~ Francis Schaeffer, Pastor, founder of L'Abri

PRELUDE

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

All Sing: O God Our Help in Ages Past
Under the shadow of your throne your saints have dwelt secure.
sufficient is your arm alone, and our defense is sure.

O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, Will be our guard while troubles last, and our eternal home:

Before the hills in order stood, or earth received its frame, from everlasting you are God, to endless years the same.

A thousand ages in your sight are like an ev'ning gone, short as the watch that ends the night before the rising sun.

Call to Worship (from Psalm 90)

- L Before the mountains were born, before you gave birth to the earth and the world, from beginning to end, you are God.
- A Lord, through all the generations you have been our home!
- For you, a thousand years are as a passing day, as brief as a few night hours. You sweep people away like dreams that disappear. They are like grass that springs up in the morning.
- *A* In the morning it blooms and flourishes, but by evening it is dry and withered.
- L Seventy years are given to us! Some even live to eighty. But even the best years are filled with pain and trouble; soon they disappear, and we fly away.
- A Teach us to realize the brevity of life, so that we may grow in wisdom. O LORD, come back to us! How long will you delay?

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

- 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

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)

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

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

W. Chatterton Dix



Al-le - lu-ia! Sing to Je - sus; his the scep - ter, his the throne; Al-le-Al-le - lu-ia! Bread of hea-ven, here on earth our food, our stay; Al-le-Al-le - lu-ia! Not as or - phans are we left in sor - row now; Al-le-



- lu-ia! his the tri umph, his the vic tor y a lone. Hark! The lu-ia! here the sin ful flee to you from day to day. In ter-
- lu-ia! he is near us; faith be lieves, nor ques-tions how. Though the



songs of peace-ful Zi - on thun - der like a might-y flood: "Je - sus, - cess - or, friend of sin - ners, earth's Re - deem-er, hear our plea where the cloud from sight re - ceived him when the fort - y days were o'er, shall our



out of ev-'ry na-tion has re-deemed us by his blood." "Je-sus, songs of all the sin-less sweep a-cross the crys-tal sea. where the hearts for-get his pro-mise: "I am with you ev-er-more"? shall our



out of ev-'ry na-tion has re-deemed us by his blood." songs of all the sin-less sweep a - cross the crys-tal sea. hearts for-get his pro-mise: "I am with you ev - er - more"?

All Sing: The Wonderful Cross

When I survey the wondrous Cross On which the Prince of Glory died My richest gain, I count but loss And pour contempt on all my pride

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast, Save in the death of Christ my God! All the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to His blood.

Refrain: Oh the wonderful Cross,

Oh the wonderful Cross

Bids me come and die and find

That I may truly live

See from His head, His hands, His feet Sorrow and love flow mingled down Did ever such love and sorrow meet? Or thorns compose, so rich a crown (Refrain)

Were the whole realm of nature mine That were an offering far too small Love so amazing, so divine Demands my soul, my life, my all (Refrain)

Chris Tomlin, J.D. Walt, Jesse Reeves

MINISTRY OF THE WORD

Scripture John 17:1-5 (found on Page 15)

Series Gospel of John

Sermon Lord's Prayer – Eternal Life

Profession of Faith

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 Those who live according to the flesh have their minds set on what the flesh desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. The mind governed by the flesh is death, but the mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace. The mind governed by the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. Those who are in the realm of the flesh cannot please God. Romans 8:5-8
- 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.

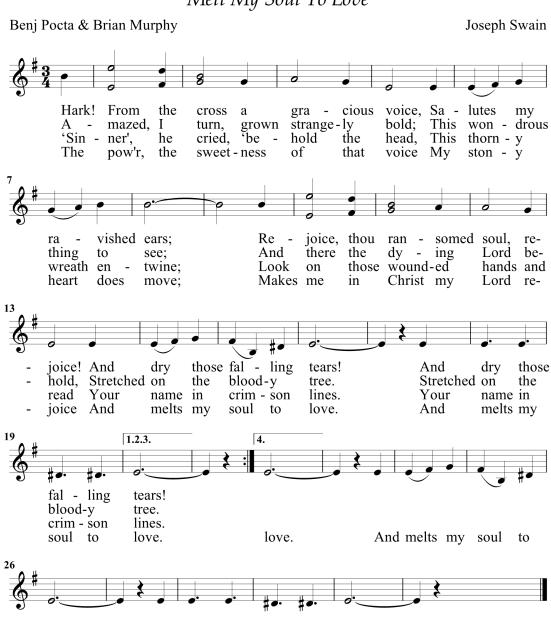
 If we prepare a dwelling place, that spirit will abide within us, and the truth will set our spirits free.

 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

Melt My Soul To Love



love. And melts my soul to love.

L Therefore, my friends, I want you to know that through Jesus the forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you. Through him everyone who believes is set free from every sin, a justification you were not able to obtain under the law.

It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.

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.
- 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 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,