
A Glance at the Week

Monday

7:00 am Men's Discussion (Zoom)

6:30 pm Small Group (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

04/02/23 - Eternal Life	17:1-5
04/09/23 - Easter Sunday	20:10-29
04/16/23 - John Meeting Jesus	20:1-10
04/23/23 - Mary Meeting Jesus	20:10-18
04/30/23 - Thomas Meeting Jesus	20:24-31
05/07/23 - Eating With Jesus	21:1-14
05/14/23 - Peter's Story	21:4-17
05/21/23 - Jesus Sends them Out	20:19-22
05/28/23 - Pentecost Sunday	

Randolph Heights Presbyterian Church

435 Hamline Ave. South
Saint Paul, MN 55105

April 16, 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 20:1-10

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance. So she came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, and said, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him!"

So Peter and the other disciple started for the tomb. Both were running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent over and looked in at the strips of linen lying there but did not go in. Then Simon Peter came along behind him and went straight into the tomb. He saw the strips of linen lying there, as well as the cloth that had been wrapped around Jesus' head. The cloth was still lying in its place, separate from the linen. Finally the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed. (They still did not understand from Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead.) Then the disciples went back to where they were staying.

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

For me the most radical demand of Christian faith lies in summoning the courage to say yes to the present risen-ness of Jesus Christ.
~ Brenman Manning, *Abba's Child: The Cry of the Heart for Intimate Belonging*

What we have at the moment isn't as the old liturgies used to say, 'The sure and certain hope of the resurrection of the dead,' but a vague and fuzzy optimism that somehow things may work out in the end. ... left to ourselves we lapse into a kind of collusion with entropy, acquiescing in the general belief that things may be getting worse but that there's nothing much we can do about them. And we are wrong. Our task in the present...is to live as resurrection people in between Easter and the final day, with our Christian life, corporate and individual, in both worship and mission, as a sign of the first and a foretaste of the second.
~ N.T. Wright, *Surprised by Hope: Rethinking Heaven, the Resurrection, and the Mission of the Church*

Let us consider this settled, that no one has made progress in the school of Christ who does not joyfully await the day of death and final resurrection.
– John Calvin, 1509-1564, *French Theologian, Reformer*

Christians, at their best, are the fools who dare believe in God's power to call dead things to life.
~ Esau MacCaulley, professor, author, and op ed for the New York Times

PRELUDE

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

All Sing: Christ is Risen!

Christ is risen! Raise your spirits from the caverns of despair.
Walk with gladness in the morning. See what love can do and dare.
Drink the wine of resurrection, not a servant, but a friend;
Jesus is our strong companion – joy and peace shall never end.

Christ is risen! Earth and heaven nevermore shall be the same.
Break the bread of new creation where the world is still in pain.
Tell its grim, demonic chorus, “Christ is risen! Get you gone!”
God the First and Last is with us. Sing hosanna, ev’ry one!

A-men, A--men, A-men, A- - men, A- - men!

Call to Worship *(from Psalm 43)*

L Why am I discouraged? Why is my heart so sad? I will put my hope in
God! I will praise him again – my Savior and my God!

A *There I will go to the altar of God, to God – the source of all my joy. I will praise
you with my harp, O God, my God!*

L Send out your light and your truth; let them guide me. Let them lead me
to your holy mountain, to the place where you live.

A *For you are God, my only safe haven. Why have you tossed me aside? Why must
I wander around in grief, oppressed by my enemies?*

Pastoral Prayer

L God Calls us to be a praying people. Let us join in prayer, offering our
praise, thanksgiving, and intercession to God.

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 May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him,
so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

- Romans 15:13

The Lord's Table *(Offered 1st Sunday of Month)*

Invitation to the Table

L This is the joyful feast of the people of God! People will come from east and west, from north and south, and sit at the table in the kingdom of God. When our risen Lord was at table with his disciples, he took the bread, and blessed and broke it and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him. This is the Lord's table. Our Savior invites those who trust him to share the feast that he has prepared.

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 *Almighty God, Source of all life and love,
we live in your world, which you are always
creating and sustaining by your power,
You have so made us that we can know and love you,
trust and serve you.*

*We give you thanks, that you loved the world so much
that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who has faith in him
may not die but have eternal life. Amen.*

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 O God of all creation,
you alone are God.
And you alone can satisfy our longing
for a support that earth cannot give
and that heaven will not take away.
Help us, in recognition of our common dependence on you,
to acknowledge our need of one another.
Let the oneness of our worship
make us one in love and service. Amen.

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*

O Let Our Inward Joys Arise

Isaac Watts (Adpt)

Tune (Africa Arr.)

O let our in - ward joys a - rise, and
 Lord on Your thirst - y chil - dren now show'r
 Why do we then in - dulse our fears, sus -
 Why do we boast and con - de - scend and
 "Deep on the palms of both my hands I

6
 fill us with a song, Let ho - ly
 mer - cy from Your throne For Christ has
 - pic - ions, and com - plaints? Is he a
 think our - selves as strong? When Christ has
 have en - graved your name; My arm shall

11
 love in - spire our hearts; Sub - mis - sion tune our
 ri - sen from the grave and rained sal - va - tion
 God, and shall his grace Grow wear - y of his
 bowed and washed our feet, and bids us sin - ners
 brace your wound - ed wing, and mend your bro - ken

16
 tongues. sub - mis - sion tune our tongues.
 down. and rained sal - va - tion down.
 saints? Grow wear - y of his saints?
 come: and bids us sin - ners come.
 frame." And mend your bro - ken frame.

Jesus, Savior Pilot Me

♩ = 88

Je - sus, Sa - vior, pi - lot me O - ver life's tem -
 Though the sea be smooth and bright, Spark - ling with the
 As a mo - ther stills her child, Thou can hush the
 When at last I near the shore, And the fear - ful

4
 - pest - uous sea; Un - known waves be - fore me roll,
 stars of night, And my ship's path be a - blaze
 o - cean wild; Boist - 'rous waves o - bey Thy will,
 break - ers roar 'Twixt me and the peace - ful rest,

7
 Hi - ding rock and treach - 'rous shoal. Chart and
 With the light of hal - cyon days, Still I
 When Thou says to them, "Be still!" Wond - rous
 Then, while lean - ing on Thy breast, May I

9
 com - pass come from Thee; Sa - vior, pi - lot me.
 know my need of Thee; Sa - vior, pi - lot me.
 Sov - 'reign of the sea, Sa - vior, pi - lot me
 hear Thee say to me, "I will pi - lot thee."

V4 - "I will pilot Thee" repeated...

Annointing

L In the Old Testament, things, places, and persons were anointed to make them holy, to set them apart for a holy use. Jacob anointed a memorial stone at Bethel (Gen. 28:18), the Levites anointed the tabernacle and its contents (Exod. 40:9) to set them apart for use.

At the beginning of their priestly service, Aaron and his descendants were anointed with fragrant oil (Exod. 30:30-32). The verb used is *mashach*, meaning, to smear...

L In days of old God called prophets, priests, rulers.
A *God called them by name, appointing and anointing.*

L The prophets spoke for God;
A *They saw things from God's perspective.*

L The priests served God in worship and ministered on behalf of God's people.
A *Godly rulers provided for the welfare of all; they led with the common good at heart.*

L Just so, we appoint and anoint leaders in Christ's church: Prophets, preachers and teachers; Interpreters, sages and visionaries; Apostles, evangelists and musicians; and today, Elders and deacons;

Hear God's call upon you and receive God's Spirit.

You are now Ruling Elders and Deacons in the church of Jesus Christ and for this congregation. Whatever you do, in word or deed, do every thing in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God through him. Amen.

CONFESSION & RENEWAL

L The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise. — Psalm 51:17, NRSV

A *If, at times, we deny you, God forgive us. When the risks of discipleship are high, and we are nowhere to be found. God forgive us. When we wash our hands of responsibility. God forgive us. When we cast our lot with powerful oppressors and seek to buy freedom with silver. God forgive us. When fear keeps us from witnessing to your truth, or prejudice keeps us from believing it. God forgive us.*

In the light of resurrection, O God, our sin is exposed, and your grace is revealed. Tender God, raise us in your love so that, with joy, we may witness to your awesome deeds, in the name of Jesus, the risen one.

Amen.

Silent and Personal Confession

Agnus Dei

Bast



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world.



Have mer-cy on us, mer-cy on us, mer - cy, on us.

WORDS OF RENEWAL

L But the steadfast love of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear him, and his righteousness to children's children, to those who keep his covenant and remember to do his commandments.
– Psalm 103:6-18, NRSV

A Thanks be to God!

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS (CON'T)

Will you be a faithful Ruling Elder, watching over the people, providing for their worship, nurture, and service? Will you share in government and discipline, serving in the governing body of the church, and in your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?

Will you be a faithful Deacon, teaching charity, urging concern, and directing the people's help to the friendless and those in need? In your ministry, will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?

(When the Ruling Elders and Deacons elect have answered in the affirmative, a Ruling Elder shall stand with them before the congregation and shall ask the congregation to answer the following questions:)

Elder

Do we, the members of the church, accept these members as Ruling Elders or Deacons, chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ?

Elder

Do we agree to pray for them, to encourage them, to respect their decisions, and to follow as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is Head of the Church?

Elder Let us pray together:

A. *God of grace, who called us to a common ministry as ambassadors of Christ, trusting us with the message of reconciliation: give us courage and discipline to follow where your servants rightly lead us; that together we may declare your wonderful deeds and show your love to the world; through Jesus Christ the Lord of all. Amen.*

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS (CON'T)

Pastor

Do you trust in Jesus Christ your Savior, acknowledge him Lord of all and Head of the church, and through him believe in one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit?

Do you accept the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be, by the Holy Spirit, the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ in the church universal, and God's Word to you?

Do you sincerely receive and adopt the essential tenets of the Reformed faith as expressed in the confessions of our church as authentic and reliable expositions of what Scripture leads us to believe and do, and **Will you** be instructed and led by those confessions as you lead the people of God?

Will you fulfill your ministry in obedience to Jesus Christ, under the authority of Scripture and continually be guided by our confessions?

Will you be governed by our church's polity, and will you abide by its discipline?

Will you be a friend among your colleagues in ministry, working with them subject to the ordering of God's Word and Spirit?

Will you in your own life seek to follow the Lord Jesus Christ, love your neighbors, and work for the reconciliation of the world?

Do you promise to further the peace, unity, and purity of the church?

Will you pray for and seek to serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love?

Doxology

- L Let us give thanks to the Lord with all our being. In the company of the upright, let us honor God for the blessings and goodness we have received.
~ based on Psalm 111:1

*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.*

- L Lord, you have been our dwelling place throughout all generations. From everlasting to everlasting you are God. Speak to us now as you have spoken throughout the ages. Reveal yourself and your will for our lives, that we might live as your resurrection people.

– based on Psalm 90

MINISTRY OF THE WORD

Scripture John 20:1-10 (found on Page 19)

Series Gospel of John

Sermon John Meets Jesus

Profession of Faith

L When we were baptized, God made clear his claim on us as his own, and we were received into the church. Those who wish to publicly confirm what was sealed in your baptism, and offer yourselves to God as his willing servants. We thank God for having given us this desire and pray that God's Spirit will strengthen all of us for continued service in Christ's kingdom.

A *As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male or female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. – Galatians 3:27-28*

L Brothers and sisters in Christ, we worship today in the context of a very significant event in the life of our congregation: The installation to the office of Deacon and Elder. At this time, let us claim again God's promises to us. To recommit ourselves to service in Christ. To place our only hope and trust in God and pray for the work of God's Spirit in our midst.

Baptism is a sign of God's faithful covenant promises, under which we live as a congregation every day. Let us remember our baptism and be thankful!

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

Pastor

There are varieties of gifts, but it is the same Spirit who gives them.

People

There are different ways of serving God, but it is the same Lord who is served.

Pastor

God works through each person in a unique way, but it is God's purpose that is accomplished.

People

To each is given a gift of the Spirit to be used for the common good.

Pastor

Together we are the body of Christ, and individually members of it. We are called into the church of Jesus Christ by baptism and marked as Christ's own by the Holy Spirit. This is our common calling, to be disciples and servants of our Lord. Within the community of the church, some are called to particular service as Deacons, as Ruling Elders, and as Ministers of Word and Sacrament. This is Christ's gift to the church, assuring that his ministry continues among us providing for ministries of caring and compassion in the world, ordering the governance of the church, and preaching the Word and administering the sacraments.

Elder

Speaking for the people of Randolph Heights Presbyterian Church I present for the office of Deacon: Joe Englund, Elizabeth Elliot, Stephanie Highley and David Nye; to the office of Ruling Elder: David Hedlund. Will those preparing to be installed present themselves before the congregation to answer the following questions: