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## 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

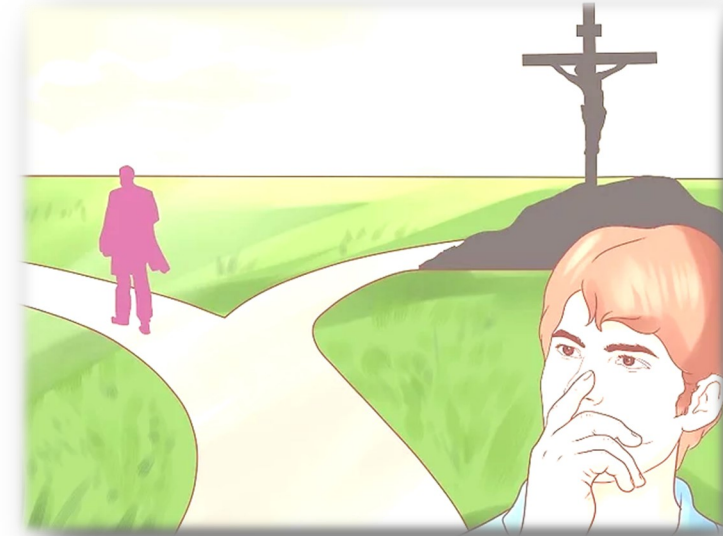
*Office Hours:* Thurs & Fri 1:00-6:00 p.m.

*Office Admin* ([secretary@randolphheights.org](mailto:secretary@randolphheights.org))

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

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## Looking Ahead

**Gospel of John**

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 –Special Guest

06/04/23 - Summer in the Psalms

06/04/23 - Our Happiness Psalm 1

06/11/23 - Our Identity Psalm 8

## Randolph Heights Presbyterian Church

435 Hamline Ave. South

Saint Paul, MN

55105

## May 21, 2023

9:30am Discussion

10:30am Worship

[www.randolphheights.org](http://www.randolphheights.org)

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## 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.*

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## Scripture Reading: John 20:19-23

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

L     This is the Word of the Lord.  
A     *Thanks be to God!*

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## 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

Go in peace as the reaffirmed church of Jesus Christ. Go to be his body in a broken world. May the grace of God and the love of Christ go with you. 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.

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## Reflections

Love is courageously setting aside our personal agenda to move humbly into the world of others with their well-being in view, willing to risk further pain in our souls, in order to be an aroma of life to some and an aroma of death to others.  
~ *Dan Allender, Psychologist / Author*

God doesn't need our good works, but our neighbor does.  
~ *Gustaf Wingren, 1910-2000, Swedish Theologian*

God isn't looking for people of great faith, but for individuals ready to follow Him.  
~ *Hudson Taylor, 1832-1905, Missionary to China*

Thus, for followers of Christ, calling neutralizes the fundamental position of choice in modern life. "I have chosen you," Jesus said, "you have not chosen me." We are not our own; we have been bought with a price. We have no rights, only responsibilities. Following Christ is not our initiative, merely our response, in obedience. Nothing works better to debunk the pretensions of choice than a conviction of calling. Once we have been called, we literally "have no choice."  
~ *Os Guinness, 1941- , Author / Social Critic*

We were not called to make converts. Our job is the task of disciple-making. I mean, if we are not making disciples, why are we here? ... You are either making disciples or making excuses. Which one are you?  
~ *Jonathan Hayashi, Ordinary Radicals: A Return to Christ-Centered Discipleship*

Everyone will be forgotten, nothing we do will make any difference, and all good endeavors, even the best, will come to naught. Unless there is God. If the God of the Bible exists, and there is a True Reality beneath and behind this one, and this life is not the only life, then every good endeavour, even the simplest ones, pursued in response to God's calling, can matter forever.  
~ *Tim Keller on "Why Calling Matters"*

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## PRELUDE

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

*All Sing: You are With Me (Ps 139)*

How precious are Your thoughts, O God.

How vast is the sum of them.

I would spend days and nights counting them

and never reach the end; And when I awake - You are with me. (repeat)

So search me; know my heart.

Test me; know my thoughts.

Lead me in your ways.

Search me, test me, lead me... In Your ways.

*Words & Music by: The Crossing Music*

## Call to Worship (from Psalm 104)

L O Lord, the variety of things you have made! In wisdom you have made them all.

A *The earth is full of your creatures. Here is the ocean, vast and wide, teeming with life of every kind, both large and small.*

L See the ships sailing along, and Leviathan, which you made to play in the sea. They all depend on you to give them food as they need it.

A *When you supply it, they gather it. You open your hand to feed them, and they are richly satisfied.*

L When you give them your breath, life is created, and you renew the face of the earth.

A *May your glory continue forever! The Lord takes pleasure in all he has made!*

L The earth trembles at his glance; the mountains smoke at his touch. I will sing to the Lord as long as I live. I will praise my God to my last breath!

A *May all my thoughts be pleasing to him, for I rejoice in the Lord. Let all sinners vanish from the face of the earth; let the wicked disappear forever. Let all that I am praise the Lord!*

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## Pastoral Prayer

L Eternal God, our Father, you are the source of our being, the breath of our life, and the joy of our living. We know that you delight in the worship of your children and that you eagerly send your Holy Spirit upon us. As your Spirit came upon your people of old, giving them understanding and the knowledge of truth, so send your Spirit today, that we may speak in words not taught by human wisdom, but taught by the Spirit. Your Spirit came upon the prophets. You sent your Spirit to your Son and your church, giving them each power and wisdom to follow your ways, speak your truth, and accomplish your purposes. So grant us your Spirit with all fruit and equipping gifts, that we may reflect your glory and the world might believe, for the honor of your holy 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 Gracious God, accept all these prayers offered in Jesus' name, and give us now the strength to wait patiently for your answer, and to live faithfully in response to your call. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

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## 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*

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## 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.

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 Worship the King

Joseph Martin Kraus

Robert Grant



O wor - ship the King all - glo - rious a - bove, O  
O tell of his might and sing of his grace, whose  
Your boun-ti - ful care, what tongue can re - cite? It  
Frail child-ren of dust, and fee - ble as frail, in



grate - ful-ly sing his power and his love: our  
robe is the light, whose can - o - py space. His  
breathes in the air, it shines in the light; it  
you do we trust, nor find you to fail. Your



shield and de - fend - er, the An - cient of Days, pav-  
char - iots of wrath the deep thun - der - clouds form, and  
streams from the hills, it de - scends to the plain, and  
mer - cies, how ten - der, how firm to the end, our



- i - lioned in splen-dor and gird - ed with praise.  
dark is his path on the wings of the storm.  
sweet-ly dis - tills in the dew and the rain.  
Ma - ker, De - fen - der, Re - deem - er, and Friend!

## Jesus, Savior Pilot Me

$\text{♩} = 88$



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



- 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,



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



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."

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## MINISTRY OF THE WORD

**Scripture** John 20:19-23 (*found on Page 15*)

**Series** Gospel of John

**Sermon** I am Sending You

### ***Profession of Faith***

A *The LORD is my shepherd, I lack nothing.  
He makes me lie down in green pastures,  
he leads me beside quiet waters,  
he refreshes my soul.  
He guides me along the right paths for his name's sake.  
Even though I walk through the darkest valley,  
I will fear no evil, for you are with me;  
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.  
You prepare a table before me  
in the presence of my enemies.  
You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.  
Surely your goodness and love will follow me  
all the days of my life,  
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever. – Psalm 23*

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## CONFESSION & RENEWAL

L Jesus said, "If you love me, you will obey what I command. and I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever – the Spirit of truth. Whoever has my commands and obeys them, he is the one who loves me. He who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love him and show myself to him." Let us confess our sin to God.

*– based on John 14:15-17, 21, NIV*

A *Generous God, you send us the Spirit of courage,  
but we have been afraid. You send us the Spirit of truth,  
but we cling to our illusions. You send us the Spirit of healing,  
but we cannot let go of our hurts. Holy Spirit of forgiveness,  
come to us again: shake our hearts,  
set our souls on fire with your love:  
send us out into the world rejoicing in your power.  
We hold out to you all our particular burdens of guilt and sin,  
and we ask for your help to live the way of Your justice and love.  
Amen.*

### **Silent and Personal Confession**

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*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 In Christ you were marked with the Holy Spirit, a seal of our redemption in Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit we become dead in sin and alive anew in Christ. May you be filled with the Holy Spirit so that you may have hope of new life, may grow in your knowledge of the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, and may experience the incomparable power of God that raised our Lord Jesus Christ from the dead.

A *Thanks be to God!*

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## Doxology

L Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things. Blessed be his glorious name forever; may his glory fill the whole earth. Amen and Amen. – *Psalm 72:18-19, NRSV*

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 *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.*

## Preparation

L O God, our guide, set your path clearly before us and lead us to follow you willingly for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.