
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

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Looking Ahead

Gospel of John

05/28/23 - Pentecost Sunday —Special Guest

06/04/23 - Summer in the Psalms

06/04/23 - A Meditation Psalm 1

06/11/23 - Deeply Emotional Prayer Psalm 3

06/18/23 - Finding our Identity Psalm 8

06/25/23 - Taking Refuge Psalm 11

07/02/23 - Finding Certainty Psalm 14

Randolph Heights Presbyterian Church

435 Hamline Ave. South
Saint Paul, MN
55105

May 28, 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: Acts 2:1-13

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard their own language being spoken. Utterly amazed, they asked: "Aren't all these who are speaking Galileans? Then how is it that each of us hears them in our native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome (both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs—we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!" Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, "What does this mean?"

Some, however, made fun of them and said, "They have had too much wine."

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

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.

Reflections

Those in whom the Spirit comes to live are God's new Temple. They are, individually and corporately, places where heaven and earth meet. ... So take seriously the story that God has given you to live. It's time to read your own life, because your story is the one that could set us all ablaze.

~ *N.T. Wright (1st Part)* ~ *Dan B. Allender, To Be Told (2nd Part)*

I am not always full of love, not always seeing Him clearly. Self-indulgence has a way of creeping in. Sometimes I am thoroughly empty and have to say so in public. But what I have discovered is that *Jesus loves to fill empties!* All I need to do is to keep open to Him and to admit frankly what's wrong. He does the rest.

~ *Festo Kivengere (1919-1988), the 'Billy Graham' of Africa*

The truth is something that burns, it burns off deadwood and people don't like having their deadwood burnt off often because they're 95 percent deadwood.

~ *Jordan Peterson, Psychologist, Author, Speaker*

It is my contention that the Holy Spirit has unfortunately been replaced today with sophisticated 21st century Christianity. We celebrate our facilities more than the Holy Spirit, we celebrate human personalities more than the Holy Spirit, we celebrate notoriety more than the Holy Spirit. We celebrate and replace him with entertainment, and we wonder why the church is not on fire, and if the church isn't on fire, why should the world pay attention?

~ *Tony Evans, Pastor*

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 (*Repeat Section*)

Holy, holy, holy,

Holy, holy, holy

Holy, holy, holy, I want to see you

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!*

Pastoral Prayer

L Gracious God, your Holy Spirit hovered over the waters at creation. You made a world that was breathtaking and life-giving. Sin invaded this world and shattered it. Pollution, disease, and natural disasters plague our world. God, our provider, heal the sick, give peace to the dying, shelter the homeless, and protect the vulnerable.

A *With your Holy Spirit, renew your creation.*

L When you formed humanity, you breathed your spirit into us. You walked in the garden. You wanted fellowship with us. Our sin separated us from you, so we live in a world of pain and hurt. Some are hungry. Some are lonely. Some are empty. Almighty God, giver of strength, feed the hungry, quench the thirsty, support the orphans, uplift the depressed, and free the downtrodden.

A *Holy Spirit, point us to new life in Christ.*

L You called a people to be your own and to be a light to the world. Throughout the world your church suffers. Some are mocked for professing your name. Some are killed for praying to you. Some pursue personal preferences rather than loving unity. God, our refuge, shield from harm those who love you, surround us with your mercy, and gird your church with the fruit of your Spirit.

A *With your Holy Spirit, empower your church to witness to your glory. Through the grace of Jesus Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit we pray. 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.

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 life-giving 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 O Lord,

How we marvel at the depth of your love. How we wonder at the waves of your grace. How we are astounded by the glorious balance of the earth. We are in awe of the vastness of the universe. We are so privileged to be called your children. We are accepted and forgiven and embraced. You are almighty, above and beyond everything. You are victorious. Darkness, sin and death are under your feet. You are holy, beautiful and full of love. How we adore You.

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*

Come, Thou Almighty King

Unknown

Arr. by Luke Morton

♩=108



Come, Thou Al - might - y King, Help
Come, Thou in - car - nate word, Gird
Come Ho - ly Com - fort - er Thy
To Thee great One in Three, E-



us Thy name to sing, Help us to Praise.
on Thy Might-y sword Our Prayer at - tend,
Sa - cred wit-ness bear In this glad hour,
- ter - nal prais-es be Hence ev - er - more



Fa - ther, all glo - ri - ous, O'er all vict - or - i - ous
Come and Thy peo - ple bless, And give Thy word suc - cess,
Thou who Al - might - y art, Now rule in ev - ry heart,
Thy sov - ri - eign ma - jest - y May we in glo - ry see,



come and reign o-ver us, An-cient of Days.
Spi - rit of ho-li-ness On us de-scend.
And ne'er from us de-part, Spi - rit of power
And to e - ter - ni - ty Love and a - dore

** Come and Thy people bless, And give Thy word success, Spirit of Holiness, On us descend.

All Sing: Spirit of Gentleness (319 in hymnbook)

Refrain: Spirit, spirit of gentleness,
blow through the wilderness, calling and free,
Spirit, spirit of restlessness,
stir me from placidness, wind, wind on the sea.

You moved on the waters, you called to the deep,
then you coaxed up the mountains from the valleys of sleep;
and over the eons you called to each thing;
"Awake from your slumbers and rise on your wings." (refrain)

You swept through the desert, you stung with the sand
and you goaded your people with a law and a land;
and when they were blinded with idols and lies,
then you spoke through your prophets to open their eyes. (refrain)

You sang in a stable, you cried from a hill,
then you whispered in silence when the whole world was still;
and down in the city you called once again,
when you blew through your people on the rush of the wind. (refrain)

You call from tomorrow, you break ancient schemes.
From the bondage of sorrow all the captives dream dreams;
our women see visions, our men clear their eyes.
With bold new decisions your people arise. (refrain)

James K. Manley ~ Published in Everflowing Streams (1981). "Spirit," l. 1-4 (1978)

MINISTRY OF THE WORD

Scripture Acts 2:1-13 (*found on Page 15*)

Series Stand Alone

Sermon Don't Quench the Fire—Tony Evans

Profession of Faith

L Do you believe in God the Father?

A *I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.*

L Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

A *I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended to heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.*

L Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

*I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.*

** catholic – Through-out the whole, meaning limitless, a growing reality
through time.*

CONFESSION & RENEWAL

L Do not marvel that Jesus says to us, "You must be born again." What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. The wind blows where it wills, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes; so it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit, who convicts us of sin and leads us into all righteousness. Let us enter our time of confession before God.

– based on John 3:6-8; 16:8, NRSV

A *Gracious God, who pours out freely the gift of your Holy Spirit: we confess before you and to each other that we have failed to recognize this most precious gift. We have been satisfied with ordinary things, suspicious of unfamiliar things, and blind to spiritual things. Cleanse us, O God, with your celestial fire. Burn away our presumptuous self-sufficiency, and open us in faith to receive the renewing touch of your hand. Amen.*

Silent and Personal Confession

All Sing: Come Holy Spirit, Heavenly Dove

Come, Holy Spirit, Heav'nly Dove,
With all Thy quick'ning pow'rs;
Kindle a flame of sacred love
In these cold hearts of ours.

Look, how we grovel here below,
Fond of these earthly toys;
Our souls, how heavily they go,
To reach eternal joys.

Refrain: Come, Holy Spirit, Heav'nly Dove,
 With all Thy quick'ning pow'rs;
 Come, shed abroad a Savior's love,
 And that shall kindle ours.

In vain we tune our formal songs,
In vain we strive to rise;
Hosannas languish on our tongues,
And our devotion dies. (Refrain)

And Father, shall we ever live
At this poor dying rate,
Our love so faint, so cold to Thee,
And Thine to us so great? (Refrain)

Renewal

L All the promises of God find their "Yes" in Christ. That is why we utter the "Amen" through him, to the glory of God. It is God who has put his seal upon us and given us his Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee. In Christ, by the power of the Spirit, we are redeemed.

– based on 2 Corinthians 1:20-22

A *Thanks be to God!*

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.