
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.

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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

June 06, 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: Psalm 1 *(translation by Robert Alter)*

Happy the man who has not walked in the wicked's counsel,
Nor in the way of offenders has stood,
Nor in the session of scoffers has sat.
But the LORD's teaching is his desire,
And His teaching he murmurs day and night.
And he shall be like a tree planted by streams of water,
That bears its fruit in its season,
And its leaf does not wither-
And in all that he does he prospers.
Not so the wicked,
But like chaff that the wind drives away.
Therefore the wicked will not stand up in judgment,
Nor offenders in the band of the righteous.
For the LORD embraces the way of the righteous,
And the way of the wicked is lost.

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

As the Spirit of God breathed life into creation, The Holy Spirit breathes life into new creation. Now go! and labor to bring new life around you. Dream dreams pursue the vision, and speak of God's goodness to those who would here. 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

Midway this way of life we're bound upon,
I woke to find myself in a dark wood,
Where the right road was wholly lost and gone.
~ *Dante Alighieri, Divine Comedy*

The Law is like mountain water, like fresh air after a dungeon, like sanity after a nightmare. In so far as this idea of the Law's beauty, sweetness, or preciousness, arose from the contrast of the surrounding Paganisms, we now find occasion to recover it.
~ *CS Lewis, Professor, Author*

Mental health requires that the human will submit itself to something higher than itself. To function decently in this world we must submit ourselves to some principle that takes precedence over what we want at any given moment.
~ *M. Scott Peck (1936-2005), American Psychiatrist / Author*

The great majority of us are required to live a life of constant, systematic duplicity. Your health is bound to be affected if, day after day, you say the opposite of what you feel, if you grovel before what you dislike and rejoice at what brings you nothing but misfortune.
~ *Boris Pasternak, 1890-1960, Russian Poet / Novelist*

We should challenge the relativism that tells us there is no right or wrong, when every instinct of our mind knows it is not so, and is a mere excuse to allow us to indulge in what we believe we can get away with. A world without values quickly becomes a world without value." "The idols of today are unmistakable – self-esteem without achievement, sex without consequences, wealth without responsibility, pleasure without struggle and experience without commitment."
~ *Jonathan Sacks (1948-2020), British Orthodox Rabbi*

There is a perfect rout of characters in every man – and every man is like an actor's trunk, full of strange creatures, new & old. But an actor and his trunk are two different things.
~ *Wallace Stevens, 1879-1955, Poet, Executive*

PRELUDE

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

Opening

L Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name through Christ, our Lord.

A Amen.

All Sing: Psalm 5 (Give Ear to My Words O Lord)

Give ear to my words O Lord Con-sid-er my med-i-ta - tion

6 Hark-en un-to the voice of my cry My King and my God For

10 un-to Thee will I pray My voice shalt Thou hear In the morn-ing O

14 Lord in the morn-ing Will I di-rect my prayer Un-to Thee and will look up

Pastoral Prayer

L Gracious God, 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, protect the vulnerable.

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.

With your Holy Spirit, empower your church to be a 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 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

Call to Worship *(from Psalm 104)*

L All who thirst, come to the water. Come, all who are weary; come, all who yearn for forgiveness.

A *Drink deeply of these living waters.*

L The Holy Spirit through Jesus Christ has washed over us, and our gracious and holy God beckons and blesses us.

A *Glory to you, O Lord, glory to you.*

Prayer of Adoration (followed by Lord's Prayer)

L Alone with none but thee, my God,
I journey on my way.
What need I fear, when thou art near
O king of night and day?
More safe am I within thy hand
Than if a host did round me stand.
(Columba, c.521 - 597)

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, Christians, Join to Sing

Trad. Spanish Melody

Christian H. Batean

1
Come, Christ-ians, join to sing Al-le-lu-ia! A - men!
Come, lift your hearts on high, Al-le-lu-ia! A - men!
Praise yet our Christ a - gain, Al-le-lu-ia! A - men!

5
Loud praise to Christ our King; Al-le-lu-ia! A - men!
Let prais - es fill the sky; Al-le-lu-ia! A - men!
Life shall not end the strain; Al-le-lu-ia! A - men!

9
Let all, with heart and voice, Be - fore His throne re - joice;
He is our Guide and Friend; To us He'll con - de - scend;
On hea - ven's bliss - ful shore, His good - ness we'll a - dore,

13
Praise is His gra-cious choice. Al-le-lu-ia! A - men!
His love shall ne-ver end. Al-le-lu-ia! A - men!
Sing - ing for - ev - er - more, "Al-le-lu-ia! A - men!"

Before the Throne of God Above

Arr Vicki Cook

Charitie Lees Bancroft

Be - fore the throne of God a - bove I have a strong and per - fect
When Sa - tan tempts me to des-pair And tells me of the guilt with
Be - hold Him there, the ri - sen Lamb My per - fect, spot - less Right-eous

5
plea A great High Priest whose name is love Who ev - er lives and pleads for
- in Up - ward I look and see Him there Who made an end to all my
- ness The great un - change-a - ble I AM The King of glo - ry and of

9
me My name is gra-ven on His hands My name is writ-ten on His
sin Be - cause the sin - less Sav-ior died My sin - ful soul is count-ed
grace One with Him-self, I can-not die My soul is pur-chased with His

13
heart I know that while in heav'n He stands No tongue can
free For God the Just is sat - is - fied To look on
blood My life is hid with Christ on high With Christ my

16
bid me thence de - part No tongue can bid me thence de - part
Him and par - don me To look on Him and par - don me
Sav - ior and my God With Christ my Sav - ior and my God

MINISTRY OF THE WORD

Scripture Psalm 1 (*found on Page 15*)

Series Summer in the Psalms

Sermon Meditation

Profession of Faith

A *Christ Jesus,
though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited,
but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.
And being found in human form he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death –
even death on a cross.*

*Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name that is above every name,
so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue should confess to the glory of God:
Jesus Christ is Lord!*

– from Philippians 2:5-11, NRSV

CONFESSION & RENEWAL

L *The psalmist models a transparent faith with these words: Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my thoughts. See if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting. Let us express our longing for God’s leading through our own transparency.*

A *Loving God,
We confess before you and each other,
that our lives are not pure and holy,
apart from the cleansing we have, from the work of Christ.
And we confess, that too often Christ in us is hidden,
by our actions that wound rather than heal,
that tear down rather than build up.
Open our eyes, that we may see you in the ones we say we love.
Open our ears, that we may be quicker to listen than to speak.
Open our mouths, to speak good rather than evil of our neighbors.
Open our hands in generosity, and help us let go of clenched fists.
Open our hearts, to a desire to follow Jesus in full obedience
to your will and your way.
We pray, trusting in your forgiveness
and in the power of your Holy Spirit,
to lead and guide us, in paths of justice and righteousness,
for your name’s sake. Amen*

Silent and Personal Confession

Calmer of My Troubled Heart

Charles Wesley

Mathew Smith

The musical score is written on a treble clef staff with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#) and a 6/8 time signature. It consists of three staves of music. The first staff contains the first line of lyrics: "Calm-er of my troub-led heart Bid my un - be-lief de - part Com - fort me when - e'er I mourn With the hope of Thy re - turn". The second staff contains the second line of lyrics: "Speak and all my sor-rows cease Speak and all my soul is peace Hal-le- And till I Thy glo-ries see Help - me be - lieve in Thee". The third staff contains the third line of lyrics: "- lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah Hal-le - lu - jah, Hal - le-lu - jah". The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and a fermata over the final note.

Renewal

- L Oh, what joy for those whose disobedience is forgiven,
whose sin is put out of sight!
Yes, what joy for those whose record the LORD has cleared of guilt,
whose lives are lived in complete honesty!
- A *Thanks be to God!*

Doxology

- L With joy, we offer our gifts to God as a sign of our deep devotion and covenant faithfulness.
- 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.