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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

### Summer in 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
07/09/23 - Listening	Psalm 19
07/16/23 - Beauty	Psalm 27
07/23/23 - Confession	Psalm 32
07/30/23 - Finding God	Psalms 42/43



## Randolph Heights Presbyterian Church

435 Hamline Ave. South  
Saint Paul, MN  
55105

### July 02, 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: Psalm 14 *(translation by Robert Alter)*

For the lead player, for David.  
The Fool has said in his heart,  
    "There is no God"  
They corrupt, they make loathsome their acts.  
    There is none who does good.  
The LORD from the heavens looked down  
    On the sons of humankind  
To see, is there someone discerning,  
    Someone seeking out God.  
All turn astray,  
    Altogether befouled.  
There is none who does good.  
    There is not even one.  
Do they not know,  
    All wrongdoers?  
Devourers of my people devoured them like bread.  
    They did not call the LORD.  
There did they sorely fear,  
    For God is with the righteous band.  
In your plot against the poor you are shamed,  
    For the LORD is his shelter.  
Oh, may from Zion come Israel's rescue  
    When the LORD restores His people's condition.  
May Jacob exult,  
    May Israel rejoice.

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

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## BENEDICTION

*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 Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen. – *1 Timothy 1:17, NIV*

Go forth in the name of the Lord. This is God's charge: We should believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and love one another, just as he commanded us. – *based on 1 John 3:23, NRSV*

### 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

No man is an island, entire of itself; every man is a piece of the Continent, a part of the main... Any man's death diminishes me, for I am involved in mankind; and therefore never send to know for whom the bell tolls; it tolls for thee.

*~John Donne 1572-1631, English poet, scholar and cleric*

Do not answer a fool according to his folly, or you yourself will be just like him. Answer a fool according to his folly, or he will be wise in his own eyes.

*~ Proverbs 26: 4-5*

Before a man speaks it is always safe to assume that he is a fool. After he speaks, it is seldom necessary to assume it. ~ *H.L. Mencken, 1880–1956, Essayist/Satirist*

Confront the dark parts of yourself, and work to banish them with illumination and forgiveness. Your willingness to wrestle with your demons will cause your 'angels' to sing. ~ *August Wilson, 1945-2005, American Playwright*

The most fundamental aggression to ourselves, the most fundamental harm we can do to ourselves, is to remain ignorant by not having the courage and the respect to look at ourselves honestly and gently.

*~ Pema Chödrön, 1936-, When Things Fall Apart, American Tibetan-Buddhist*

If you do not know where you come from, then you don't know where you are, and if you don't know where you are, then you don't know where you're going. And if you don't know where you're going, you're probably going wrong.

*~ Terry Pratchett, I Shall Wear Midnight*

If every reference to faith in God were removed from the scripture, would it make any difference to how you live as a Christian?

*~ Francis Schaeffer, Pastor, Founder of La Bri*

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## PRELUDE

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

### Opening

L Blessed are you, Lord God, King of the universe. 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.

A *As we prepare for worship, we pray that you will quiet our hearts, that we may hear your voice in your Word. We pray that you will stir our hearts, that we may more faithfully follow Jesus, and that you will be glorified by the praise and prayers we offer you.*

*All Sing: Step by Step*

Oh God, You are my God And I will ever praise you (2x)

I will seek You in the morning  
I will learn to walk in Your ways  
And step by step You'll lead me  
And I will follow You all of my days     *(Repeat Section)*

I will follow You all of my days  
And I will follow You all of my days  
And step by step You'll lead me  
And I will follow You all of my days

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## 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 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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## Worship & Adoration

L Let us worship God, our light and our salvation.  
A *The Lord is the stronghold of our lives.*

L We desire to live in God's house and to seek God in his holy temple.  
A *We have come with shouts of joy, to sing and to make music to the Lord.*

L Let us worship God in spirit and in truth.  
A *Teach us your ways and make straight our paths in this hour of worship and always. (based on Psalm 27; John 4:23)*

L All glorious God, we give you thanks: in your Son, Jesus Christ, you have given us every spiritual blessing in the heavenly realms. You chose us, before the world was made, to be your holy people, without fault in your sight. You adopted us as your children in Christ. You have set us free by his blood; you have forgiven our sins. You have made known to us your secret purpose, to bring heaven and earth into unity in Christ. You have given us your Holy Spirit, the seal and pledge of our inheritance. All praise and glory be yours, O God, for the richness of your grace, for the splendor of your gifts, for the wonder of your love. – based on Ephesians 1:3-18

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*

*Immortal, Invisible*

Welsh Melody

Walter Chalmers Smith



Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise, In  
Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light, Nor  
Great Fa - ther of glo - ry, pure Fa - ther of light, Thine



light in - ac - cess - i - ble hid from our eyes, Most  
want - ing, nor wast - ing, Thou rul - est in might; Thy  
an - gels a - dore Thee, all veil - ing their sight; All



bles - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days, Al -  
jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove Thy  
praise we would ren - der; O help us to see 'Tis



- might - y, vic - tor - ious, Thy great name we praise.  
clouds which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.  
on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth Thee!



God is im - mort - al, the An - cient of  
All praise we would ren - der; O help us to



Days; Per - fect in pow - er, and might - y to save.  
see 'Tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hi - deth Thee!

*All Sing: Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone)*

Amazing grace  
How sweet the sound  
That saved a wretch like me  
I once was lost, but now I'm found  
Was blind, but now I see

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear  
And grace my fears relieved  
How precious did that grace appear  
The hour I first believed

My chains are gone, I've been set free  
My God, my Savior has ransomed me  
And like a flood His mercy reigns  
Unending love, Amazing grace

The Lord has promised good to me  
His word my hope secures  
He will my shield and portion be  
As long as life endures (Refrain)

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow  
The sun forbear to shine  
But God, who called me here below  
Will be forever mine, will be forever mine

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## MINISTRY OF THE WORD

**Scripture** Psalm 14 (*found on Page 15*)  
**Series** Summer in the Psalms  
**Sermon** Path to Certainty

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

A *While we were still weak,  
at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.  
Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person –  
though perhaps for a good person, someone might actually dare to die.  
But God proves his love for us  
in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.  
Much more surely then,  
now that we have been justified by his blood,  
will we be saved through him from the wrath of God.  
For if while we were enemies,  
we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son,  
much more surely, having been reconciled,  
will we be saved by his life. – Romans 5:6-10, NRSV*

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## CONFESSION & RENEWAL

L *Don't let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, and trust also in me. There is more than enough room in my Father's home. If this were not so, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you? When everything is ready, I will come and get you, so that you will always be with me where I am. – John 14:1-3*

A *Almighty and merciful God,  
we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep.  
We have followed too much:  
the devices and desires of our own hearts.  
We have offended against your holy laws.  
We have left undone those things which we ought to have done;  
and we have done those things which we ought not to have done.  
O Lord, have mercy upon us.  
Spare those who confess their faults.  
Restore those who are penitent,  
according to your promises,  
declared to the world in Christ Jesus, our Lord.  
And grant, O merciful God, for his sake,  
that we may live a holy, just, and humble life  
to the glory of your holy name. Amen.*

### **Silent and Personal Confession**

## Come, Ye Weary

Trad Melody

Joseph Hart



Come, ye wear-y, hea - vy la - den, lost and ru - ined  
Come, ye thirst-y, come, and wel - come, God's free boun - ty  
Let not con - science make you lin - ger, nor of fit - ness  
Lo! th' - in - car - nate God, as - cen - ded, pleads the merit



by the fall; if you tar - ry till you're bet - ter,  
glor - i - fy; true be - lief and true re - pen - tance,  
fond - ly dream; all the fit - ness He re - quir - eth  
of His blood; ven - ture on Him, ven - ture whol - ly;



you will ne - ver come at all.  
ev - 'ry grace that brings you nigh. I will a - rise and go to Je - sus,  
is to feel your need of Him.  
let no o - ther trust in - trude. I will a - rise and go to Je - sus,



He will em - brace me in His arms; In the arms of my dear Sav - ior,  
He will em - brace me in His arms; In the arms of my dear Sav - ior,



○ there are ten thou - sand charms.  
○ there are ten thou - sand charms.

## Renewal

L You did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ.

A *Thanks be to God! – Romans 8:15-17, NRSV*

## Doxology

L Freely you have received, freely give. – *Matthew 10:8, NIV*

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 Teach us your way, O Lord, and lead us on a level path. Give us understanding, and we will keep your law and obey it with all our hearts.

*– based on Psalm 27:11, Psalm 119:33-34, NRSV*