
A Glance at the Week

Monday

6:30 pm Small Group

Tuesday

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)

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

Or Email @ ken.highley@randolphheights.org

Looking Ahead

Epistle of James

Consider 1:1-4

Wisdom 1:5-8

Becoming Wise 1:9-12

Temptation 1:9-15

Truth & Birth 1:16-18

Truth & Growth 1:19-21

Receiving & Growing 1:19-27



Randolph Heights Presbyterian Church

435 Hamline Ave. South
Saint Paul, MN 55105

February 11, 2024

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 James 1:18-21

He chose to give us birth through the word of truth, that we might be a kind of first-fruits of all he created.

My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, because human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires. Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you.

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 As God's own, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, and patience, forgiving each other as the Lord has forgiven you, and crown all these things with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.
~ based on *Colossians 3:12-14*
- May the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. 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

Just as our love for God begins with listening to God's Word, the beginning of love for other Christians is learning to listen to them. ~ *Dietrich Bonhoeffer*

Listen with curiosity. Speak with honesty. Act with integrity. The greatest problem with communication is we don't listen to understand. We listen to reply. When we listen with curiosity, we don't listen with the intent to reply. We listen for what's behind the words. ~ *Roy T. Bennett, The Light in the Heart*

I begin to speak only when I'm certain what I'll say isn't better left unsaid
~ *Cato the Younger*

A man that does not know how to be angry does not know how to be good.
~ *Henry Ward Beecher*

The absence of anger . . . can, in my opinion, be a most alarming symptom . . . If the Jews cursed more bitterly than the Pagans this was, I think, at least in part because they took right and wrong more seriously.
~ *C.S. Lewis, Reflections on the Psalms*

People demand freedom of speech as a compensation for the freedom of thought which they seldom use. ~ *Soren Kierkegaard, 1813-1855, Danish Philosopher*

Women speak because they wish to speak, whereas a man speaks only when driven to speak by something outside himself-like, for instance, he can't find any clean socks.
~ *Jean Kerr, 1922-2003, Author / Playwright*

Truth must of necessity be stranger than fiction . . . For fiction is the creation of the human mind, and therefore is congenial to it.
~ *G.K. Chesterton, 1874-1936, 'The Club of Queer Trades'*

PRELUDE

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

- L Dear God, silence all voices within our minds but your own. Help us to seek and be able to follow your will. May our prayers be joined with those of our sisters and brothers in the faith.
- A Together may we glorify your name and enjoy your fellowship forever. In Jesus' name, Amen.

All Sing: Come, Now is the Time to Worship

Come, now is the time to worship

Come, now is the time, to give your heart

Come, just as you are to worship

Come, just as you are before your God... Come

One day every tongue will confess you are God

One day every knee will bow

Still the greatest treasure remains for those who gladly choose you now

Pastoral Prayer

- L O Savior God, look upon your church in its struggles. Have mercy on its weaknesses, give strength and courage to love the truth...

Look also upon the ministry of this congregation. Increase its courage, strengthen its faith, and inspire its witness to those in our sphere of influence and beyond, even to the ends of the earth. Have courage to join in Jesus' mission build and strengthen one-another.

Author of grace and God of love, send your Holy Spirit's blessing to your children here present. Keep our hearts and thoughts in Jesus Christ, your Son, our only Savior.

God is the one who makes us, loves us, and sustains us.

God is the one who makes, loves, and sustains the world.

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 To you, O LORD, do we lift up our souls. O God, in you we trust. Hear our prayers, O LORD and let our cries come to you.

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

Invitation to the Table

L Professing & baptized members of a church in which Jesus Christ is professed as Lord and Savior: the Lord has prepared his table for all who love him and trust in him alone for their salvation. All who are truly sorry for their sins, who sincerely believe in the Lord Jesus as their Savior, and who desire to live in obedience to him, are now invited to come with gladness to the table of the Lord.

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.*

L Let us give thanks together:

Prayer of Thanks (from a fourth-century liturgy from the city of Alexandria.)

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 *(fr. Ps 15)*

L Who may worship in your sanctuary, LORD? Who may enter your presence on your holy hill?

A *Those who lead blameless lives and do what is right, speaking the truth from sincere hearts. Those who refuse to gossip or harm their neighbors or speak evil of their friends.*

L Who may worship in your sanctuary, LORD? Who may enter your presence on your holy hill?

A *Those who despise flagrant sinners, and honor the faithful followers of the LORD, and keep their promises even when it hurts. Those who cannot be bribed to lie about the innocent. Such people will stand firm forever.*

Prayer of Adoration (followed by Lord's Prayer)

L O Lord, the God of our ancestor Israel, may you be praised forever and ever! Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the victory, and the majesty. Everything in the heavens and on earth is yours, O Lord, and this is your kingdom. We adore you as the one who is over all things. Wealth and honor come from you alone, for you rule over everything. Power and might are in your hand, and at your discretion people are made great and given strength. ~ 1 Chronicles 29: 10-12

Hear us now, as we prayer together, the words you taught your disciples:

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*

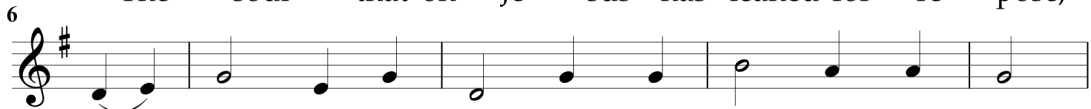
How Firm a Foundation

"K"

Am. Folk Tune



How firm a foun-da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,
Fear not, I am with you, O be not dis - mayed,
When through fier - y tri - als thy path - ways shall lie,
The soul that on Je - sus has leaned for re - pose,



Is laid for your faith in His ex - cell - ent Word!
For I am your God I will still give you aid;
My grace, all suf - fi - cient, shall be your supp - ly;
I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;



What more can He say than to you He has said,
I'll strength-en you help you, and cause you to stand
The flame shall not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign
That soul, though all hell should en - dea - vor to shake,



to You, who for re - fuge to Je - sus have fled?
Up - held by My right - eous, om - ni - po - tent hand.
your dross to con - sume, and your gold to re - fine.
I'll nev - er, no nev - er, no nev - er for - sake!

My Hope is Built on Nothing Less



My hope is built on
When dark - ness veils His
His oath His cov - en -
When He shall come with



no - thing less Than Je - sus' blood and right - eous - ness; I
love - ly face, I rest on His un - chang - ing grace; In
- ant, His blood, Sup - port me in the 'whel - ming flood: When
trum - pet sound, O may I then in him be found. Dressed



dare not trust the sweet - est frame, But whol - ly lean on
ev - ery high and storm - y gale My an - chor holds with -
all a - round my soul gives way, He then is all my
in His right - eous - ness a - lone, Fault - less we stand be -



Je - sus' name.
- hope and stay. in the veil. On Christ the so - lid rock I stand; All
- fore His throne.



o - ther ground is sink - ing sand. All o - ther ground is sink - ing sand.

MINISTRY OF THE WORD

Preparation

L Lord God, may your Word be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen. – based on Psalm 119:105, NRSV

Scripture James 1:18-21 (found on Page 15)

Series James: Faith on the Ground

Sermon Listening & Receiving

Response

A *Jesus Christ is the image of the invisible God,
the firstborn of all creation;
in him all things in heaven and on earth were created,
things visible and invisible.
All things have been created through him and for him.
He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together.
He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning,
the firstborn from the dead,
so that he might come to have first place in everything.
For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,
and through him God was pleased to reconcile all things,
whether on earth or in heaven,
by making peace through the blood of his cross.
– from Colossians 1:15-20, 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. We express our longing for God's leading by our own transparent confession.
– based on Psalm 139:23-24, NRSV

A *Be mindful of your mercy, O LORD, and of your steadfast love,
for they have been from of old.
Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions;
according to your steadfast love remember me,
for your goodness' sake, O LORD!*

*Good and upright is the LORD; therefore he instructs sinners in the way.
For your name's sake, O LORD, pardon my guilt, for it is great.
Turn to me and be gracious to me, for I am lonely and afflicted.
Relieve the troubles of my heart, and bring me out of my distress.
Consider my affliction and my trouble, and forgive all my sins.
– Psalm 25:6-8, 11, 16-18, NRSV*

Silent and Personal Confession

Melt My Soul To Love

Benj Pocta & Brian Murphy

Joseph Swain



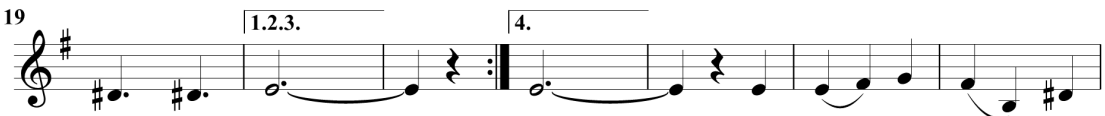
Hark! From the cross a gra - cious voice, Sa - lutes my
A - mazed, I turn, grown strange - ly bold; This won - drous
'Sin - ner', he cried, 'be - hold the head, This thorn - y
The pow'r, the sweet - ness of that voice My ston - y



ra - vished ears; Re - jice, thou ran - somed soul, re -
thing to see; And there the dy - ing Lord be -
wreath en - twine; Look on those wound - ed hands and
heart does move; Makes me in Christ my Lord re -



- jice! And dry those fal - ling tears! And dry those
- hold, Stretched on the blood - y tree. Stretched on the
- read Your name in crim - son lines. Your name in
- jice And melts my soul to love. And melts my



fal - ling tears!
blood - y tree.
crim - son lines.
soul to love. love. And melts my soul to



love. And melts my soul to love.

RENEWAL

- L The LORD builds up Jerusalem; he gathers the outcasts of Israel. He heals the brokenhearted, and binds up their wounds. Great is our Lord, and abundant in power; his understanding is beyond measure. – *Psalms 147:2-3, 5, NRSV*
- A *Thanks be to God!*

Doxology

- L The earth is the LORD's and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it. – *Psalms 24:1, NRSV*
- A *Glory be to the father, Glory be to the Son,
Glory be to the Spirit, Three in One
As it was in the beginning it will be forever, Amen, Amen, 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.*