
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

<i>Growth in Mercy</i>	<i>James 2:5-17</i>
<i>Growth in Faith</i>	<i>James 2:14-26</i>
<i>Words</i>	<i>James 3:1-6</i>
<i>Power of Words</i>	<i>James 3:1-12</i>
<i>Easter</i>	
<i>Wise Relationships</i>	<i>James 3:9-18</i>
<i>Fights and Wars</i>	<i>James 4:1-3</i>
<i>Courage</i>	<i>James 4:4-10</i>



Randolph Heights Presbyterian Church

435 Hamline Ave. South
Saint Paul, MN 55105

March 17, 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 3:1-6

Not many of you should become teachers, my fellow believers, because you know that we who teach will be judged more strictly. ² We all stumble in many ways. Anyone who is never at fault in what they say is perfect, able to keep their whole body in check.

When we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we can turn the whole animal. ⁴Or take ships as an example. Although they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are steered by a very small rudder wherever the pilot wants to go. ⁵ Likewise, the tongue is a small part of the body, but it makes great boasts. Consider what a great forest is set on fire by a small spark. ⁶The tongue also is a fire, a world of evil among the parts of the body. It corrupts the whole body, sets the whole course of one's life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell.

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. ~ DB

No one is a mere follower. If you are a follower of God, for instance, then you are called to lead. Every believer is called to help someone grow into maturity – and such is the core calling of a leader.

~ *Dan B. Allender, Leading with a Limp*

Speech has power. Words do not fade. What starts out as a sound, ends in a deed.
~ *Abraham Joshua Herschel, 1907-1972, famed rabbi and theologian*

Small deeds done are better than great deeds planned.

~ *Peter Marshall, 1902-1949, Scottish-American Presbyterian Pastor*

I am saddened that my tongue cannot live up to my heart.

~ *Augustine of Hippo, 354-430, Theologian/Philosopher*

All I need is a sheet of paper and something to write with, and then I can turn the world upside down.

~ *Friedrich Nietzsche, 1844-1900, German philosopher and cultural critic*

Talk low, talk slow, and don't say too much

~ *John Wayne, 1907-1979, American Actor*

Paul calls leaders not merely to be humble and self-effacing but to be desperate and honest. ... He calls us to be a living portrayal of the very gospel we beseech others to believe. And that requires a leader to see himself as being equally prone to deceive as he is to tell the truth, to manipulate as he is to bless, to cower as he is to be bold. A leader is both a hero and a fool, a saint and a felon.

~ *Dan B. Allender, Leading with a Limp: Take Full Advantage of Your Most Powerful Weakness*

PRELUDE

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

L Almighty God, we pray for your blessing on the church in this place. Here may the faithful find salvation, and the careless be awakened. Here may the doubting find faith, and the anxious be encouraged.

A *Here may the tempted find help, and the sorrowful find comfort. Here may the weary find rest, and the strong be renewed. Here may the aged find consolation and the young be inspired; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.*



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 Almighty God, Father of mercies, we give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life, but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ, for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.

And we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up ourselves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. 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 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 19)*

L The heavens proclaim the glory of God. The skies display his craftsmanship. Day after day they continue to speak; night after night they make him known.
A *They speak without a sound or word; their voice is never heard. Yet their message has gone throughout the earth, and their words to all the world.*

L The instructions of the LORD are perfect, reviving the soul. The decrees of the LORD are trustworthy, making wise the simple.
A *The commandments of the LORD are right, bringing joy to the heart. The commands of the LORD are clear, giving insight for living. The laws of the LORD are true; each one is fair.*

L They are more desirable than gold, even the finest gold. They are sweeter than honey, even honey dripping from the comb. They are a warning to your servant, a great reward for those who obey them.
A *May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing to you, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.*

Prayer of Adoration *(followed by Lord's Prayer)*

L O LORD, God of Israel, there is no God like you in heaven above or on earth beneath, keeping covenant and steadfast love for your servants who walk before you with all their heart. Blessed be the LORD, who has given rest to his people according to all that he promised; not one word has failed of all his good promise, which he spoke through his servant Moses.

Now incline our hearts to You, Lord, to walk in Your ways, and to keep Your commandments, Your statutes, and Your ordinances, which You commanded our ancestors.
– 1 Kings 8:23, 56-58, NRSV

Hear us now, as we pray 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*

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

1. 2.3.

- 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 hid - eth Thee!

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."

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 3:1-6 (found on Page 15)

Series James: Faith on the Ground

Sermon Words (pt 1)

Response

*We praise you for creating this world in all its beauty,
for redeeming the world through Christ, our Lord,
and for sending us the gift of your Spirit to encourage,
instruct, and sustain us.*

*We long for your Spirit to work among us now,
to inspire our walk with you, to challenge us with your truth,
and to equip us for service in your world. Amen.*

CONFESSION & RENEWAL

L Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. Trusting ourselves to the grace of God, let us confess our sins before God and one another.

– based on Isaiah 55:6-7, NRSV

A *God of compassion, in Jesus Christ you did not disdain the company of sinners but welcomed them with love. Look upon us in mercy, we pray. Our sins are more than we can bear; our pasts enslave us; our misdeeds are beyond correcting.*

Forgive the wrongs we cannot undo; free us from a past we cannot change; heal what we can no longer fix. Grace our lives with your love and turn the tears of our past into the joys of new life with you. Amen.

Silent and Personal Confession

Come, Ye Weary

Trad Melody

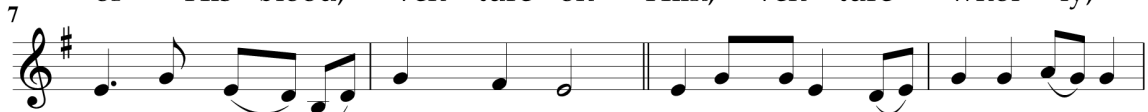
Joseph Hart



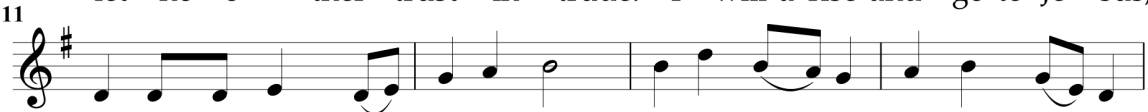
Come, ye wear-y, hea - vy la - den, lost and ru - ined
Come, ye thirst-y, come, and wel-come, God's free boun-ty
Let not con - science make you lin - ger, nor of fit - ness
Lo! th' - in - car - nate God, as - cen - ded, pleads the merit



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 Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love. In Christ, we are forgiven!

A *Thanks be to God!*

Doxology

L Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and pay your vows to the Most High.
— Psalm 50:14, NRSV

Gloria Patri

Karl Digerness, 2009



Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, glo - ry be to the Son,



Glo-ry be to the Spi-rit, Three in One. As it was in the be-gin-ing it



will be for-ev-er A-men, A-men, A-men.

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.