
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>Words</i>	<i>James 3:1-6</i>
<i>Power of Words</i>	<i>James 3:1-12</i>
<i>Easter</i>	<i>1 Kings 17:17-24 & Luke 7:11-17</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>
<i>Communication</i>	<i>James 4:11,12 5:12</i>
<i>Worry</i>	<i>James 4:13-17</i>
<i>Materialism</i>	<i>James 5:1-6</i>
<i>Patience</i>	<i>James 5:7-11</i>



Randolph Heights Presbyterian Church

435 Hamline Ave. South
Saint Paul, MN 55105

April 14, 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 4:1-10 (NTFE)

- 1 Where do wars come from? Why do people among you fight? It all comes from within, doesn't it – from your desires for pleasure which make war in your members. You want something and you haven't got it, so you murder someone. You long to possess something, but you can't get it, so you fight and wage war. The reason you don't have it is because you don't ask for it!
- 3 And when you do ask, you don't get it, because you ask wrongly, intending to spend it on your pleasures. Adulterers! Don't you know that to be friends with the world means being enemies with God? So anyone who wants to be friends with the world is setting themselves up as God's enemy. Or do you suppose that when the Bible says, "He yearns jealously over the spirit he has made to dwell in us," it doesn't mean what it says?
- 6 But God gives more grace; so it says, "God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble." Submit to God, then; resist the devil and he will run away from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Make your hands clean, you sinners; and make your hearts pure, you double-minded lot. Make yourselves wretched; mourn and weep. Let your laughter turn to mourning, and your joy to sorrow.
- 10 Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt 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

"The heart of the righteous ponders how to answer, but the mouth of the wicked pours out evil things." ~Prov. 15:28 "Death and life are in the power of the tongue..." ~Prov. 18:21

Humility is freedom from the need to prove you are superior all the time, but egotism is a ravenous hunger in a small space – self-concerned, competitive, and distinction-hungry. Humility is infused with lovely emotions like admiration, companionship, and gratitude. ~ *David Brooks, The Road to Character*

Desire alone, divorced from the will, ruins peoples' lives time after time. In our public life and even among leaders of our denominations or church organizations, time after time we see a desire that has been harbored and protected – nursed instead of deliberated – ruining the life of the person or group that they are leading. Your desires are not your friends.

~ *E. James Wilder, Renovated: God, Dallas Willard, and the Church That Transforms, NavPress, 2020.*

Those who will not reason, are bigots, those who cannot, are fools, and those who dare not, are slaves. ~ *George Gordon Byron, 1788-1824, English Poet & Peer*

God is not proud. He will have us even though we have shown that we prefer everything else to Him. ~ *C.S Lewis, 1898-1963, British Literary Scholar*

Your jealousy will last longer than the joy of those you are jealous of.
~ *Amit Kalantri, 1988- , Author, Magician/Mentalist, Wealth of Words*

Everything I've ever let go of has claw marks on it. ~ *David Foster Wallace*

Whatever you get paid attention for is never what you think is most important about yourself. ~ *David Foster Wallace, 1962-2008, Writer/ Professor*

There is, however, a far more common ailment among us – and that is pride from the bottom looking up. It is manifest in so many ways, such as faultfinding, gossiping, backbiting, and murmuring, living beyond our means, envying, coveting, withholding gratitude and praise that might lift another, and being unforgiving and jealous. ~ *Ezra Taft Benson, 1899-1994, Secretary of Agriculture*

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

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

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.*

* *The Mystery of Faith –*

*Christ has died, Christ is Risen Christ will come again! (2x)
Emmanuel, Emmanuel Christ will come again! (2x)*

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

L Let us worship the eternal God, the source of love and life, who creates us.
A *Let us worship Jesus Christ, the risen one, who lives among us.*

L Let us worship the Spirit, the holy fire, who renews us.
A *To the one true God be praise in all times and places, through the grace of Jesus Christ.*

Prayer of Adoration (followed by Lord's Prayer)

L O God of all creation, you alone are God.
And you alone can satisfy our longing
for a support that earth cannot give
and that heaven will not take away.
Help us, in recognition of our common dependence on you,
to acknowledge our need of one another.
Let the oneness of our worship make us one in love and service.

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*

Praise My Soul the King of Heaven

Jeff Koonce, 2013

Henry Lyte, 1834



Praise, my soul, the King of heav - en; to his feet thy
Praise him for his grace and fa - vor to our fa - thers
Fa - ther - like, he tends and spares us; well our fee - ble
An - gels, help us to a - dore him; ye be - hold him



tri - bute bring; ran - somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en,
in dis - tress; praise him still the same for ev - er,
frame he knows; in his hand he gent - ly bears us,
face to face; sun and moon, bow down be - fore him,



ev - er - more his prais - es sing: Al - le - lu - - ia, al - le - lu -
slow to chide and swift to bless:
res - cues us from all our foes.
dwel - lers all in time and space.



- ia! Al - le - lu - - ia, Praise the e - ver - last - ing King
Glo - rious in his faith - ful - ness.
Wide - ly yet his mer - cy flows.
Praise with us the God of grace.

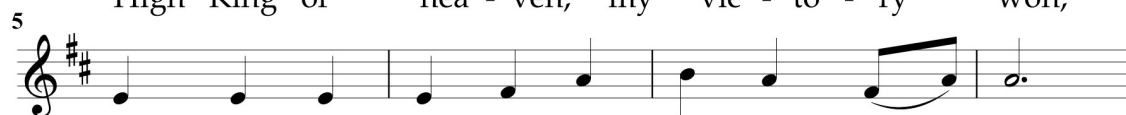
Be Thou My Vision

tr. Mary Byrne

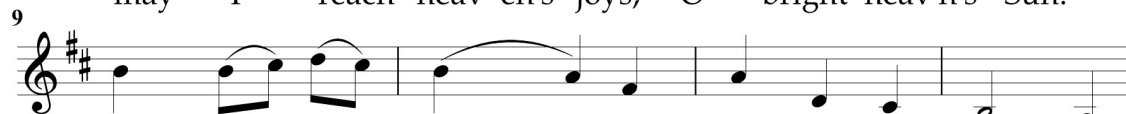
Trad. Irish Melody



Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
Rich - es I heed not, nor vain emp - ty praise,
High King of hea - ven, my vic - to - ry won,



naught be all else to me, save that thou art
I e - ver with thee and thou with me, Lord;
thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:
may I reach heav - en's joys, O bright heav'n's Sun!



thou my best thought by day or by night,
thou my great Fa - ther, I thy true son;
thou and thou on - ly, first in my heart,
Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pre - sence my light.
thou in me dwell - ing, and I with thee one.
High King of hea - ven, my trea - sure thou art.
still be my vi - sion, O Ru - ler of all.

MINISTRY OF THE WORD

Preparation

- L God of life, your Spirit raised Jesus from dead. Your Spirit inspired the prophets and writers of Scripture. Your Spirit draws us to Christ and helps us to acknowledge him as Lord. We ask that you will send your Spirit now to give us deeper insight, encouragement, faith, and hope through the proclamation of the gospel. Amen.

Scripture James 4:1-8 (*found on Page 15*)

Series James: Faith on the Ground

Sermon Conflict

Response

- A *As followers of Jesus Christ, living in this world –
which some seek to control, and others view with despair –
we declare with joy and trust: Our world belongs to God!
Remembering the promise, to reconcile the world to himself,
God joined our humanity in Jesus Christ – the eternal Word made flesh.
He is the long-awaited Messiah, one with us and one with God,
fully human and fully divine, conceived by the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
We long for that day when our bodies are raised, the Lord wipes away our tears,
and we dwell forever in the presence of God.
We will take our place in the new creation,
where there will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain,
and the Lord will be our light. Come, Lord Jesus, come.*

CONFESSION & RENEWAL

- L Those who live according to the flesh have their minds set on what the flesh desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. The mind governed by the flesh is death, but the mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace. The mind governed by the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. Those who are in the realm of the flesh cannot please God. - *Romans 8:5-8*
- A *O Lord, you desire truth in our inward being;
teach us wisdom in our secret heart.
Send out your light, send out your truth,
and let them lead us to our home.
Take from us the weight of our sin,
that room might be made for the spirit of truth.
If we prepare a dwelling place, that spirit will abide within us,
and the truth will set our spirits free.
Then shall we love not only in word or in speech;
then shall we love in deed and in truth,
and by this know that our service is faithful.
O Lord, you desire truth in our inward being;
teach us wisdom in our secret heart. Amen.*

Silent and Personal Confession

Calmer of My Troubled Heart

Charles Wesley

Mathew Smith



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



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



- lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah Hal-le - lu - jah, Hal - le-lu - jah

Renewal

L Therefore, my friends, I want you to know that through Jesus the forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you. Through him everyone who believes is set free from every sin, a justification you were not able to obtain under the law.

It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.

A *Thanks be to God!*

Doxology

L With thankfulness we give in gratitude and joy. With prayerfulness we give in sacrifice and love. With hopefulness we give in commitment to God.

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.