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

Sermon on the Mount

More than a Prayer Treasures Healing Relationships Gates and Paths 2 ways Easter

Find the Way
Find Yourself
Find Treasure
Find Faith

Mt 7:7-14
Mt 16:21-27
Mt 13:44-46
Mark 5:21-43



Randolph Heights Presbyterian Church

435 Hamline Ave. South Saint Paul, MN 55105

April 13, 2025

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 Matthew 7:13-28

- "Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.
- "Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves. ¹⁶ By their fruit you will recognize them. Do people pick grapes from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? Likewise, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad
- fruit. A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, and a bad tree cannot bear good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. Thus, by their fruit you will recognize them.
- "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. Many will say to me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name and in your name drive out demons and in your name perform many miracles?' Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!'
- 24 "Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash." When Jesus had finished saying these things, the crowds were amazed at his teaching,
 - L This is the Word of the Lord.
 - *A* Thanks be to God!

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—Sending Out

L If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me. — *Luke 9:23, NRSV*

The blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be upon you, and through you with all those to whom he sends your way. Amen.

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.

Reflect, Resonate, Reevaluate, Respond

When we are no longer able to change a situation, we are challenged to change ourselves.

– Viktor E. Frankl

Know yourself and you will have a wholesome fear of God; know him and you will also love him.

~ Bernard of Clairvaux, 1090-1153, led reform in the Benedictines

The first principle is that you must not fool yourself—and you are the easiest person to fool. ~ *Richard Feynman, 1918-1988 from Commencement Speech, Cal-Tech*

He is a bold surgeon, they say, whose hand does not tremble when he performs an operation upon his own person; and he is often equally bold who does not hesitate to pull off the mysterious veil of self-delusion, which covers from his view the deformities of his own conduct.

~ Adam Smith, 1723-1790, economist and philosopher

The leader asked us to think of someone who represented Christ in our lives. When it came time to share our answers, one woman stood up and said, "I had to think hard about that one. I kept thinking, "Who is it that told me the truth about myself so clearly that I wanted to kill him for it?" According to John, Jesus was the truth, a perfect mirror in which people saw themselves in God's own light. What happened then goes on happening now. In the presence of his integrity, our own pretense is exposed. In the presence of his constancy, our cowardice is brought to light. ~ Barbara Brown Taylor, 1951-, Episcopal priest, academic, and author.

There comes a time when it is vitally important for your spiritual health to drop your clothes, look in the mirror, and say, 'Here I am. This is the body-like-no-other that my life has shaped. I live here. This is my soul's address. $\sim BBT$

A world of nice people, content in their own niceness, looking no further, turned away from God, would be just as desperately in need of salvation as a miserable world-and might be even more difficult to save.

~ C. S. Lewis, Readings for Meditation and Reflection, Harper-One.

PRELUDE

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

- L Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem! Lo, your king comes to you;
- A Triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

 Zechariah 9:9, NRSV

Psalm 72 'Blessed be the Lord Our God'

Luke Brodine Wild Mt Tyme





lone does won-drous deeds, who a - lone does won-drous deeds, Bless-ed



be his glo-rious name, His glo-rious name for - ev-er; and may all the earth be





Pastoral Prayer

God, whose gracious love for us embraced that long and lonely journey to the L cross, gather us close to you in these days when again we make that journey in meditation and recollection. Help us to contemplate again the way taken by our Savior: the false charges against him, the fear and flight of the disciples, the kiss of betrayal, the crown of thorns, the purple robe — and in such contemplation give us courage to face those times in our own lives when he received the same at our hands. Yet help us also remember that you have gone before us, so we look to you for compassion and forgiveness, knowing you are able to save. When we are weak, make us strong; when hurt and resentful, make us forgiving; when defeated and discouraged, make us hopeful. Keep us from asking for mercy without giving it ourselves, from praying for your kingdom but never working for it. In this week, deepen our faith by your matchless grace. Deepen the measure of our gratitude and Christian obedience. Move us, who have so much, to share with others who have so little. Uphold us when we summon our courage to speak out for the alien and stranger within our gates and for those long denied dignity and freedom. Guard and guide us through these days of meditation and remem brance. Guard and guide us through all our days until we come at last to that day when all our days and journeys will be gathered into your eternity, and we shall be with you forever. Glory be to you, O God. Amen.

Open Petition

After each petition the Leader will say:

- L Lord in your mercy
- A Hear our prayer. (Response from Congregation)
- L Let us Give God Thanks
- A We give You thanks O Lord.
- L Journey with us, holy God, as we continue our way to the cross. Sharpen our focus, that our attention may center more on you than ourselves.

 Lead us through the shadows of darkness and prepare our hearts, that we might be a people of prayer, ready to perceive and respond to your Son and our Savior, Jesus Christ. In his name we pray. Amen.

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

Invitation to the Table

- Congregation of Jesus Christ, 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 as Lord are now invited to come with gladness to the table of the Lord. The gifts of God for the people of God.
- 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 Remembering your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we take from your creation this bread and this wine and joyfully celebrate his dying and rising, as we await the day of his coming. With thanksgiving we offer our very selves to you to be a liing and holy sacrifice dedicated to your service.

By His wounds, his wounds, will we be healed And for our transgression, His passion, has made us well Let us come again, and feed on Him our Lord Emmanuel

Words of institution

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,

Distribution of the Elements

Call to Worship

- L Seek the Lord while he may be found; call on him while he is near.
- A Let the wicked forsake their ways and the unrighteous their thoughts.
- Let them turn to the Lord, and he will have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will freely pardon.
- A Turn us again, O God of our salvation that the light of Your face may shine on us.

Prayer of Adoration (followed by Lord's Prayer)

L Loving God, you created heaven and earth out of nothing. You uphold and rule heaven and earth by your eternal counsel and providence. We give you praise, almighty God.

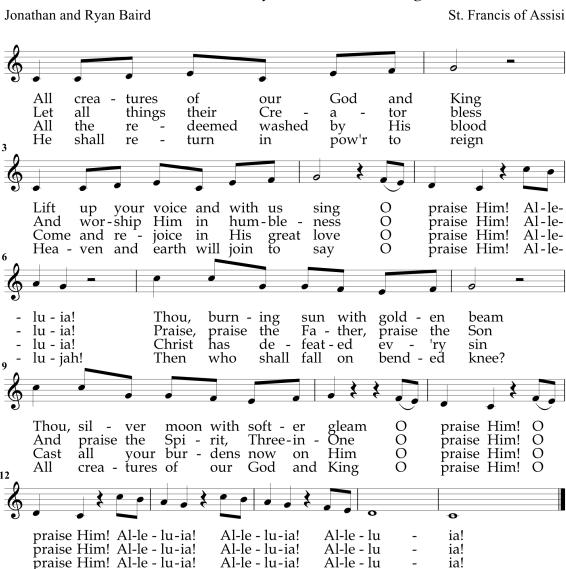
God of eternity, you not only created each of us, but you sustain and form each of us with your Holy Spirit. We worship you, Creator God. You pro vide whatever we need for body and soul. You guide us and guard us. We trust in you, God, our Maker; Jesus, our Mediator; Holy Spirit, our Comforter.

In the midst of this Lenton journey, allow us to look back and to look ahead, to see the places in the past where your promises have upheld us, and to look to an unknown future with confidence and trust in you.

Hear us now, as we pray together, the words Jesus taught his 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

All Creatures of Our God and King



Alas, and Did My Savior Bleed



Al-le - lu

ia!

Al-le - lu-ia!

praise Him! Al-le - lu-ia!

MINISTRY OF THE WORD

Preparation

L Eternal God, whose Word silences the shouts of the mighty: Quiet within us every voice but your own. Speak to us through the suffering and death of Jesus Christ, that by the power of your Holy Spirit we may receive grace to show Christ's love in lives given to your service. Amen.

Scripture Matthew 7:13-28 (Found on Page 15)

Series Sermon on the Mount
Sermon One Way or Another

Response

A You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. As one of us, he knew our joys and sorrows and our struggles with temptation. He was like us in every way except sin. In him we see what you created us to be. Though blameless, he suffered willingly for our sin. Though innocent, he accepted death for the guilty. On the cross he offered himself, a perfect sacrifice, for the life of the world. By his suffering and death, he freed us from sin and death. Risen from the grave, he leads us to the joy of new life.

CONFESSION & RENEWAL

Α

L The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise. – *Psalm 51:17, NRSV*

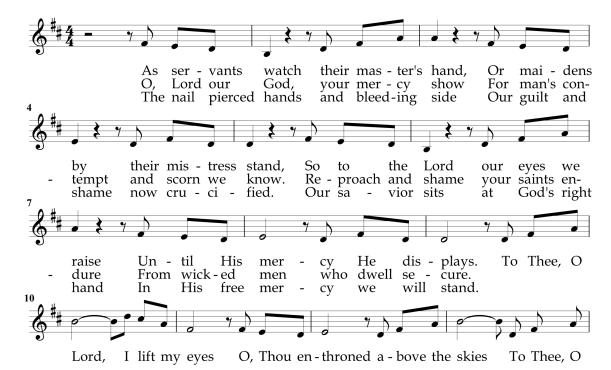
Holy God, help us to reflect that we are quick to look through the window and slow to look in the mirror. We are quick to see how others stumble, but we do not see how we contribute to their stumble. Help us to own our faults, to look in the mirror, and also to see the love you still have for us.

King of glory,
we confess that our praise of your majesty
has often been faint,
our performance as citizens of your kingdom treasonous.
For we have surrendered to the enemy
by our secret and our known sins.
For our treason you died, Lord Jesus.
For our restoration, you rose again.
Draw us closer to you in this holy week,
that our eyes may catch the vision of your tears,
and our hearts, the wonder of your grace.
By the Holy Spirit's continuing discipline,
let us be loyal and loving servants of the King.
Praise be to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Silent and Personal Confession

To Thee O Lord - I Lift My Eyes (Ps 123)

Kaitlyn Ferry





Lord, I lift my eyes O, Thou en-throned a - bove the skies

Renewal

- L Hear the Word of the Lord from Psalm 118: Let those who fear the Lord say, "His steadfast love endures for ever." Out of my distress I called on the Lord; the Lord answered me and set me free. The Lord is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation. I shall not die, but I shall live, and recount the deeds of the Lord.
- A In Christ, God answers us and sets us free! In Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God.

 based on Psalm 118:4-5, 14, 17, NRSV

Doxology

- As you draw us into a renewing relationship of love, may we respond with gratitude as we offer the substance of our souls to continue the ministry of Christ.
- 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 you 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.