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## 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](mailto:secretary@randolphheights.org))

Session ([session@randolphheights.org](mailto:session@randolphheights.org))

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

*Or Email @ [ken.highley@randolphheights.org](mailto: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*

*Mt 7:7-14*

*Find Yourself*

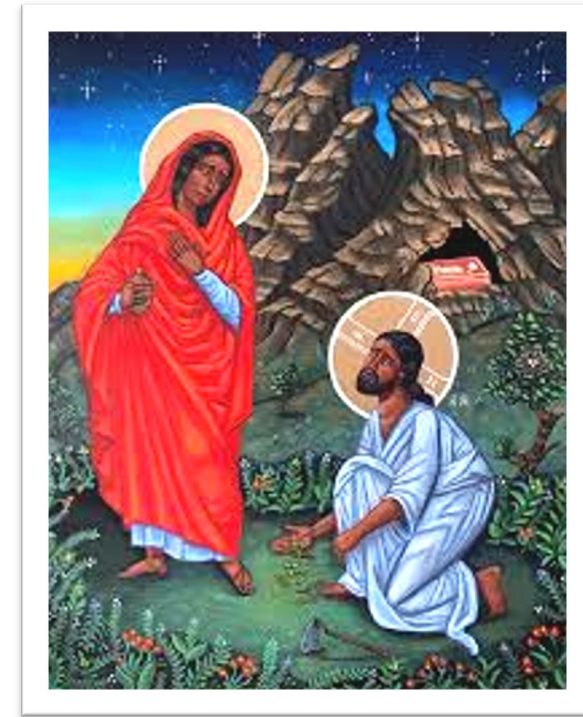
*Mt 16:21-27*

*Find Treasure*

*Mt 13:44-46*

*Find Faith*

*Mark 5:21-43*



## Randolph Heights Presbyterian Church

435 Hamline Ave. South

Saint Paul, MN 55105

## April 20, 2025

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 John 20:1-2; 11-18

- 1 Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance. So she came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, and said, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him!"
- 11 Now Mary stood outside the tomb crying. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb and saw two angels in white, seated where Jesus' body had been, one at the head and the other at the foot.
- 13 They asked her, "Woman, why are you crying?"  
"They have taken my Lord away," she said, "and I don't know where they have put him." At this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not realize that it was Jesus.
- 15 He asked her, "Woman, why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?"  
Thinking he was the gardener, she said, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him."
- 16 Jesus said to her, "Mary."  
She turned toward him and cried out in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means "Teacher").
- 17 Jesus said, "Do not hold on to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father. Go instead to my brothers and tell them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'"
- 18 Mary Magdalene went to the disciples with the news: "I have seen the Lord!" And she told them that he had said these things to her.

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—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.

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## Reflect, Resonate, Reevaluate, Respond

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

*— Viktor E. Frankl*

Easter is the only time when it's perfectly safe to put all your eggs in one basket.  
*~ Evan Esar, 1899-1995, American Humorist*

It never takes faith to believe what's false. Never. But it does take faith to believe what's true. *~ Jamie Winship, developed the 'identity method' used in high conflict areas*

We do not find our true self by seeking it. Rather, we find it by seeking God.  
*~ David G. Benner, 1947- , Canadian Psychologist*

And now brothers, I will ask you a terrible question, and God knows I ask it also of myself. Is the truth beyond all truths, beyond the stars, just this: that to live without him is the real death, that to die with him the only life?

*~ Frederick Buechner, 1926-2022, Am. Author, 'The Magnificent Defeat'*

Two thousand years ago Jesus is crucified, three days later he walks out of a cave and they celebrate with chocolate bunnies and marshmallow Peeps and beautifully decorated eggs. I guess these were things Jesus loved as a child.

*~ Billy Crystal, 1948-, from Still Foolin' 'Em*

Thus on Easter we celebrate Christ's Resurrection as something that happened and still happens to us. For each one of us received the gift of that new life and the power to accept it and to live by it. It is a gift which radically alters our attitude toward everything in this world, including death. It makes it possible for us joyfully to affirm: "Death is no more!" Oh, death is still there, to be sure and we still face it and someday it will come and take us. But it is our whole faith that by His own death Christ changed the very nature of death, made it a passage — a "passover," a "Pascha" — into the Kingdom of God, transforming the tragedy of tragedies into the ultimate victory. "Trampling down death by death," He made us partakes of His Resurrection. This is why at the end of the Paschal Matins we say: "Christ is risen and life reigneth! Christ is risen and not one dead remains in the grave!"

*~ Alexander Schmemmann, 1921-1983, orthodox priest and theologian*

## PRELUDE

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

L Jesus said, I have come that they may have life, and may have it to the full.

A O Father God of the risen Christ, in whose resurrection we find new life, send your Spirit to dwell among us in this day of worship. O risen Christ, Son of the Father, may we hear your word of peace today. O Spirit of the living God, teach us once more to live in the power of Christ's resurrection, in whose name we pray. Amen.

*O Sing to the Lord*

*Brazilian Folk Song*



O sing to the Lord, and sing God a new song. O sing to the  
By His ho-ly pow'r our God has done won-ders. By His ho-ly  
O shout to our God, who gave us the Spi - rit, O shout to our

7  
Lord, and sing God a new song. O sing to the Lord, and  
pow'r our God has done won-ders. By His ho-ly pow'r our  
God, who gave us the Spi - rit, O shout to our God, who


12  
sing God a new song. O sing to our God, Yes! sing to our God.  
God has done won-ders. Oh sing to our God, oh, sing to our God.  
gave us the Spi - rit, O sing to our God, O sing to our God.

*Vs 4 – Jesus is Raised, Amen Alleluia!*

*Vs 5 – So Dance for Our God and blow all the trumpets!*

## *I Come to the Garden Alone*

C. Austin Miles



I come to the gar - den a - lone, While the dew is still on the  
He speaks, and the sound of His voice Is so sweet the birds hush their  
I'd stay in the gar - den with Him Tho' the night a - round me be

5  
ros - es; And the voice I hear, fal - ling on my ear, The  
sing - ing; And the mel - o - dy that He gave to me With -  
fal - ling; But He bids me go; thro' the voice of woe, His

8  
Son of God dis - clos - es. And He walks with me, and He  
- in my heart is ring - ing.  
voice to me is cal - ling.

12  
talks with me, And He tells me I am His own, And the joy we share as we

16  
tar-ry there, None o-ther has e-ver known.

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## Prayers

- L By the love with which you drew near to your disciples as they went to Emmaus and talked together of your passion, draw near to us and join yourself to us and give us the knowledge of yourself.  
A *Hear us, blessed Jesus.*
- L By the mercy with which at first their eyes were closed, that they should not know you, be merciful to those that are slow of heart to believe.  
A *Hear us, blessed Jesus.*
- L By the compassion with which, amid the joy of your resurrection, you sought out those who were sad, console the fainthearted who have not yet learned to rejoice in you.  
A *Hear us, blessed Jesus.*
- L By the patience with which you opened to them the Scriptures, open our understanding and insight.  
A *Hear us, blessed Jesus.*
- L By the fire with which you made their hearts burn within them as you talked with them by the way, inflame with devotion every heart that is not already burning with love for you, consume with zeal those that you have kindled.  
A *Hear us, blessed Jesus.*
- L By the loyalty with which you spent with the disciples when the day was far spent, fulfill in our souls your promise that says, "I will come to him and sup with him and he with me."  
A *Hear us, blessed Jesus.*
- L By the power by which you vanished out of their sight, that their faith in the mystery of your resurrection might be increased, strengthen and confirm this faith in us.  
A *Hear us, blessed Jesus.*
- L O blessed Jesus, who, when the doors were shut where the disciples were gathered, came and stood in the midst and said, "Peace be unto you," may no fear ever place a barrier between our souls and you or hinder us from the peace which the world cannot give.  
A *May the peace that you gave your apostles, sending them forth in your Father's name as you yourself were sent, be also upon us and remain with us always. Amen!*

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## Call to Worship

- L O Death, where is your sting? O Hell, where is your victory?  
A *Christ is risen, and you are overthrown!*
- L Christ is risen, and the demons are fallen!  
A *Christ is risen, and the angels rejoice!*
- L Christ is risen, and life reigns!  
A *Christ is risen, and not one dead remains in the grave!*
- L For Christ, being risen from the dead, is become the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.  
A *To Him be glory and dominion unto ages of ages. Amen.*

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

- L We give you thanks, great God, for the hope we have in Jesus, who died but is risen and rules over all. We praise you for his presence with us. Because he lives, we look for eternal life, knowing that nothing past, present, or yet to come can separate us from your great love made known in Jesus Christ, our Lord.  
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*

## Come, Christians, Join to Sing

Trad. Spanish Melody

Christian H. Batean

1  
Come, Christ-ians, join to sing Al-le-lu-ia! A - men!  
Come, lift your hearts on high, Al-le-lu-ia! A - men!  
5 Praise yet our Christ a - gain, Al-le-lu-ia! A - men!

9  
Loud praise to Christ our King; Al-le-lu-ia! A - men!  
Let prais - es fill the sky; Al-le-lu-ia! A - men!  
Life shall not end the strain; Al-le-lu-ia! A - men!

13  
Let all, with heart and voice, Be - fore His throne re - jice;  
He is our Guide and Friend; To us He'll con - de-scend;  
On hea-ven's bliss - ful shore, His good-ness we'll a - dore,

17  
Praise is His gra-cious choice. Al-le-lu-ia! A - men!  
His love shall ne-ver end. Al-le-lu-ia! A - men!  
Sing - ing for - ev - er - more, "Al-le-lu-ia! A - men!"

## Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Rusty Edwards

1  
Praise the one who breaks the dark-ness With a lib - er - a - ting  
Praise the one who blessed the child-ren With a strong yet gen-tle  
5 Praise the one true love in - car - nate: Christ who suff - ered in our  
light. Praise the one who frees the pris - oners, Turn - ing  
word. Praise the one who drove out de - mons With a  
9 place. Je - sus died and rose for man - y That we  
blind - ness in - to sight. Praise the one who preached the  
pier - cing two - edged sword. Praise the one who brings cool  
13 may know God by grace. Let us sing for joy and  
King - dom, Heal - ing ev - 'ry dread dis - ease, Calm - ing  
wa - ter To the des - ert's burn - ing sand. From this  
17 glad - ness, See - ing what our God has done. Praise the  
storms and feed - ing thou-sands With the ver - y bread of peace.  
well comes liv - ing wa - ter, Quen-ching thirst in ev - 'ry land.  
one re - deem-ing glo - ry, Praise the One who makes us one.

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## MINISTRY OF THE WORD

### Preparation

- L We ask that you will send your Spirit now to give us deeper insight, encouragement, faith, and hope through the proclamation of the Easter gospel. Amen.

**Scripture** John 20:1-3;10-18 (*Found on Page 15*)

**Series** Easter

**Sermon** Mary!

### Response

- A *Stay with us, Lord Jesus. Like the disciples on the road to Emmaus, we will face times of depression, hopelessness, and fear. Just when we think we understand your plan, we are again baffled by an unforeseen series of events. Dwell with us. Teach us more about you. Feed us with your holy bread. Reveal yourself to us. Lead us with your light and truth to such exceeding joy that we respond in praise and eagerly proclaim your good news.*

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## CONFESSION & RENEWAL

- L The psalmist testifies: Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Happy are those to whom the LORD imputes no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit. While I kept silence, my body wasted away through my groaning all day long. For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer. Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not hide my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," and you forgave the guilt of my sin. Therefore let all who are faithful offer prayer to you. – *from Psalm 32:1-6, NRSV*

*Merciful Father,*

- A *We come to confess our lack of faith in the reality of the resurrection. We live in doubt of the events of Easter. This is evidenced by the self-centeredness in our lives, through the week. We confess that when we sin, in body, mind or spirit, we live as though Christ never left the tomb. Deliver us we pray.*

*Savior,*

*You never doubted your Father's plan. Even as you experienced the agony of the cross. The abandonment of your Father. You trusted Him to keep his promise to you and raise you from the dead. Now your perfect faith is ours, and we can live confidently, in the joy of your obedience.*

*Holy Spirit,*

*Help us to live by faith, as your children. Impress on us the reality we cannot see – Jesus' hands forever bearing the scars, that proclaim the punishment of our sins, is paid in full. Transform us into a people who rejoice in you. Help us to believe firmly in the power of the cross. Strengthen us to become people of growing faith. And may we anticipate the day, when we will be made like him, for we shall see Him as he is, Amen.*

### Silent and Personal Confession

*All Sing: Christ the Lord is Risen Today!*

*Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!*

*All creation join to say, Alleluia!*

*Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!*

*Sing, ye heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!*

*Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!*

*Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!*

*Death in vain forbids him rise, Alleluia!*

*Christ has opened paradise, Alleluia!*

*Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!*

*Where, O death, is now your sting? Alleluia!*

*Jesus died our souls to save, Alleluia!*

*Where your victory, oh grave? Alleluia!*

*Hail the Lord of earth and heaven, Alleluia!*

*Praise to You by both be given, Alleluia!*

*Every knee to You shall bow, Alleluia!*

*Risen Christ, triumphant now, Alleluia!*

## Renewal

L "Death has been swallowed up in victory." "Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?" The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. – 1 Corinthians 15:54-57, NRSV

A Thanks be to God!

## Doxology

L Draw us into a renewing relationship of love, and may we respond with gratitude as we offer ourselves to continue the ministry of Christ



On this day earth shall ring with the song let us sing;  
On this day we shall sing; with our song earth shall ring,



To the Lord, Christ our King, come to earth to save us;  
prai - sing Christ, hea - ven's King, come to earth to save us;



Him the Fa - ther gave us. Glo-ry to the Fa-ther, glo-ry to the  
peace and love he gave us.



Son, Glo-ry to the Ho-ly Ghost, to the three in one.

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.