
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

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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

May 04, 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 16:21-27

- 21 From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life.
- 22 Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. "Never, Lord!" he said. "This shall never happen to you!"
- 23 Jesus turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns."
- 24 Then Jesus said to his disciples, "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it.
- 26 What good will it be for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? For the Son of Man is going to come in his Father's glory with his angels, and then he will reward each person according to what they have done.

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

*Until you have given up your "self" to Him
you will not have a real self. — C. S. Lewis*

If you want to identify me, ask me not where I live, or what I like to eat, or how I comb my hair, but ask me what I think I am living for, in detail, and ask me what I think is keeping me from living fully the thing I want to live for. Between these two answers you can determine the identity of any person. The better answer he has, the more of a person he is.

~ Thomas Merton, 1915-1968, Theologian, Trappist monk

But all at once I realized that it was not my success God had used to enable me to help those in this prison, or in hundreds of others just like it. My life of success was not what made this morning so glorious -- all my achievements meant nothing in God's economy. "No, the real legacy of my life was my biggest failure -- that I was an ex-convict. My greatest humiliation -- being sent to prison -- was the beginning of God's greatest use of my life; He chose the one thing in which I could not glory for His glory. ~ Charles Colson, 1931-2012, Taken from 'Loving God'

At some point in childhood we all make the powerful discovery that we can manipulate the truth about ourselves.

~ Arthur W. Pink, 1886-1952, English Theologian

The greatest burden we have to carry in life is self. The most difficult thing we have to manage is self. Our own daily living, our frames and feelings, our especial weaknesses and temptations, and our peculiar temperaments, - our inward affairs of every kind, - these are the things that perplex and worry us more than anything else, and that bring us oftenest into bondage and darkness. In laying off your burdens, therefore, the first one you must get rid of is yourself. You must hand yourself and all your inward experiences, your temptations, your temperament, your frames and feelings, all over into the care and keeping of your God, and leave them there. He made you and therefore He understands you, and knows how to manage you, and you must trust Him to do it.

~ Hannah Whitall Smith, 1832-1911, Author, speaker in Holiness Movement

Most often, the proudest person in the room, is hiding the most fear. ~ Unknown

PRELUDE

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

- 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.*

All Sing: You are With Me (Ps 139)

How precious are Your thoughts, O God.

How vast is the sum of them.

I would spend days and nights counting them
and never reach the end; And when I awake -

You are with me. (repeat)

So search me; know my heart.

Test me; know my thoughts.

Lead me in your ways.

Search me, test me, lead me... In Your ways.

Words & Music by: The Crossing Music

Pastoral Prayer

- L Loving and faithful God, we bless you for calling us to be a holy people, living for you in service to each other for the sake of your world. We pray that our congregation will experience a rich and free sharing of the gifts you have generously given us. Knowing that we are called to be saints, we humbly ask that you will work powerfully through us to accomplish your purposes in the world. We pray for the courage, the patience, and the generosity of spirit that comes from imitating the love you have shown us in Christ. We long for your Spirit's power to make us more Christlike in our thoughts, words, and deeds. Help us to think of others and their needs even now as we pray for creation, in its groaning . . . the world, in its suffering . . . our nation and city, in their need of healing . . . We pray in the name of Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. 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 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, Amen.

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

Invitation to the Table

- L 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 living and holy sacrifice dedicated to your service.*

* *The Mystery of Faith –*

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

Emmanuel, Emmanuel Christ will come again! (2x)

Christ has died, Christ is Risen Christ will come again!

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,*

Distribution of the Elements

Call to Worship

- L Give praise to the Lord, proclaim his name; make known among the nations what he has done.
- A *Sing to him, sing praise to him; tell of all his wonderful acts.*
- L Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.
- A *Look to the Lord and his strength; seek his face always.*
- L Remember the wonders he has done, his miracles, and the judgments he pronounced, you his servants, the descendants of Abraham, his chosen ones, the children of Jacob.
- A *He is the Lord our God; his judgments are in all the earth.*

Prayer of Adoration (followed by Lord's Prayer)

- L All glorious God, we give you thanks: in your Son, Jesus Christ, you have given us every spiritual blessing in the heavenly realms. You chose us, before the world was made, to be your holy people, without fault in your sight. You adopted us as your children in Christ. You have set us free by his blood; you have forgiven our sins. You have made known to us your secret purpose, to bring heaven and earth into unity in Christ. You have given us your Holy Spirit, the seal and pledge of our inheritance. All praise and glory be yours, O God, for the richness of your grace, for the splendor of your gifts, for the wonder of your love. *– based on Ephesians 1:3-18*

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*

Now Thank We All Our God

Johann Cruger

Martin Rinkart, tr Catherine Winkworth

Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and
 O may this boun - teous God through all our life be
 All praise and thanks to God the Fa - ther now be

5
 voi - ces, Who won - drous things has done, in
 near us, With e - ver joy - ful hearts and
 gi - ven, The Son, and Him Who reigns with

9
 Whom this world re - joi - ces; Who from our mo - thers'
 bles - sed peace to cheer us; And keep us in His
 Them in high - est hea - ven; The one e - ter - nal

13
 arms has blessed us on our way With count-less gifts of
 grace, and guide us when per - plexed, And free us from all
 God, Whom earth and heav'n a - dore; For thus it was, is

17
 love, and still is ours to - day.
 ills in this world and the next!
 now, and shall be ev - er - more.

Take up Your Cross

Waly Waly

Take up your cross, the Sav - ior said,
 Take up your cross, be not a - shamed!
 Take up your cross, which gives you strength,
 Take up your cross, and fol - low Christ,

If you would my dis - ci - ple be;
 Let not dis - grace your spir - it fill!
 Which makes your trem - bling spir - it brave:
 Nor think till death to lay it down;

Den - y your - self, the world for - sake,
 For God him - self en - dured to die
 'Twill guide you to a bet - ter home
 For on - ly they who bear the cross

And humb - ly fol - low af - ter me.
 Up - on a cross, on Cal - vry's hill.
 And lead to vic - t'ry o'er the grave.
 May hope to wear the glor - ious crown.

MINISTRY OF THE WORD

Preparation

L Lord God, help us to know your ways; teach us your paths. Lead us in your truth, and teach us, for you are the God of our salvation; for you we wait all day long. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen. –based on Psalm 25:4-5, NRSV

Scripture Matthew 16:21-27 (*Found on Page 15*)

Series Finding

Sermon *Your Self*

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

L Surely you desire truth in the inner parts, you teach me wisdom in the inmost place. Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow. Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones you have crushed rejoice. Hide your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquity. Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me from your presence or take the Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit to sustain me.

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

All Sing: The Wonderful Cross

*When I survey the wondrous Cross
On which the Prince of Glory died
My richest gain, I count but loss
And pour contempt on all my pride*

*Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
Save in the death of Christ my God!
All the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to His blood.*

*Refrain: Oh the wonderful Cross,
Oh the wonderful Cross
Bids me come and die and find
That I may truly live*

*See from His head, His hands, His feet
Sorrow and love flow mingled down
Did ever such love and sorrow meet?
Or thorns compose, so rich a crown (Refrain)*

*Were the whole realm of nature mine
That were an offering far too small
Love so amazing, so divine
Demands my soul, my life, my all (Refrain)*

Chris Tomlin, J.D. Walt, Jesse Reeves

Renewal

L The LORD is faithful in all his words, and gracious in all his deeds.
The LORD upholds all who are falling, and raises up all who are bowed
down. – *Psalm 145:13-14, NRSV*

A *Thanks be to God!*

Doxology

L 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.*