Randolph Street & The Weekly Observance of the Lord's Table

Observing this sacrament is an act of obedience as this is the command of Christ (1 Cor 11:23-26) and the practice of the early church (Acts 2:42; 20:7; 1 Cor 11:20).

How should this weekly observance affect the church?

- (1) The Lord's Table will keep the gospel central in our church. So many things compete for our attention, but it is the gospel that is of "first importance." The Table will keep the gospel primary and call us to Christ each week.
- (2) We will be reminded weekly of the sufferings of Christ. This ordinance contains visible elements, the bread and a cup. These are given to remind us that His body was broken and His blood was shed. We need the sufferings of Christ pressed upon our conscience often lest we forget what our Savior experienced for our sins.
- (3) The Lord's Table will keep the substitutionary nature of Christ's death before us. Weekly, we will be reminded of the words of Jesus, "This is my body, which is for you" (1 Cor 11:24) and "this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins." (Matt 26:28) The Table preaches to our weary souls that Christ died in our place (Rom 5:6-8; 8:32)!
- (4) The Lord's Table, because of its concentrated focus on the gospel, will strengthen our faith as we commune with Christ (1 Cor 10:16) and are reminded of the grace God has given us in His Son. Our souls will be nourished as we feed upon the promises God has given us in Jesus.
- (5) The Lord's Table will give us a weekly opportunity to renew our commitment to Christ, the head of the Church. Instead of the contemporary replacement of the "altar," we will instead come to this Christ-ordained table and, in partaking, we will renew of our love for Him, His gospel, and His kingdom.
- (6) The Lord's Table will remind us of the unity we share in Christ (1 Cor 10:17). We live in divisive days, and it is good for us to remember that our unity as a church is not found in politics or movements, but in Christ and Christ alone!

Let me encourage you — the Table is not a place for the perfect but a place for sinners who know they need a Savior. It is here we confess together our hope, Jesus Christ! So together we approach these Tables with joy, knowing our sins are forgiven, and we approach them with a sober spirit, knowing our Savior suffered in our place. If you are a believer in Christ, we happily invite you to the Table this morning. Soli Deo Gloria!

GIVING

Offering boxes are located on the tables in the back of the Auditorium near the entrances. Gifts can also be made on our website, church mobile app, or by scanning this code with your smart phone.



Randolph Street Financial Report (as of 12/31/23) Fiscal Year (January - December)	
Fiscal Year to Date Budget	\$442,966
Fiscal Year to Date Received	\$463,165
Fiscal Year Status + or -	\$20,199
321 Project (2022 Goal = \$30,000)	\$16,505

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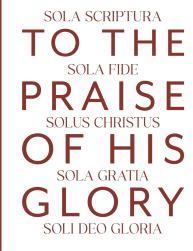
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RANDOLPH STREET CHURCH

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LORD'S DAY LITURGY

January 7, 2024

This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Psalm 118:24

PRAYER OF PREPARATION - During this time, in quiet prayer, ask the Lord to prepare you for the worship of our Holy God.

- **❖** PRAYER OF PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING
- ❖ SCRIPTURAL CALL TO WORSHIP Exodus 15:1-2, 11

Then Moses and the people of Israel sang this song to the Lord, saying, "I will sing to the Lord, for he has triumphed gloriously; the horse and his rider he has thrown into the sea. The Lord is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation; this is my God, and I will praise him, my father's God, and I will exalt him. ... Who is like you, O Lord, among the gods? Who is like you, majestic in holiness, awesome in glorious deeds, doing wonders?"

Exodus 15:1-2

- **CONGREGATIONAL HYMN** Come Thou Fount
- **CONGREGATIONAL HYMN** It Was Finished Upon That Cross

OLD & NEW TESTAMENT READINGS

Old Testament: Isaiah 60:1-6

Gospel: Luke 2:41–52 Epistle: Rom. 12:1–5

CONFESSION OF SIN & ASSURANCE OF GRACE - As we prepare for the Lord's Table, let us come to our Lord, who is merciful and gracious, and confess our sins.

"And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin."

1 John 1:4-7

CONFESSION OF FAITH - Heidelberg Catechism Q1

Q. What is your only comfort in life and in death?

A. That I am not my own, but belong with body and soul, both in life and in death, to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with His precious blood, and has set me free from all the power of the devil. He also preserves me in such a way that without the will of my heavenly Father not a hair can fall from my head; indeed, all things must work together for my salvation. Therefore, by His Holy Spirit He also assures me of eternal life and makes me heartily willing and ready from now on to live for Him.

THE LORD'S TABLE

"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 also he took the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes."

1 Corinthians 11:24-26

- ❖ CONGREGATIONAL HYMN All I Have is Christ
- **❖ CONGREGATIONAL HYMN** Nothing But the Blood

 SERMON
- **❖ CONGREGATIONAL HYMN** Jesus, Firm Foundation
- **❖** THE LORD'S PRAYER
- Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen.

If you are able, please stand

WELCOME TO RANDOLPH STREET!

If you are visiting with us, please scan this bar code with your smart phone and complete our Visitor Form so we can get to know you better and pray for you. If you have questions about our ministry, please feel free to contact one of our staff members.



MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

January Training Hour - We are currently on our winter break and classes will resume Sunday, January 21st at 9:00am.

Student Ministry - For January, our Student Ministry small group will meet tonight and Jan. 21st from 6pm-8pm.

Greeter Meeting - A brief informational meeting will be held for volunteer greeters on Sunday, January 14, 2024 from 11:45-12:00.

Women's Bible Study - Registration is now open for our next Women's Bible Study! On January 23rd, we will begin an eight-week Session Study on the Book of Ecclesiastes. Cost is \$17. Registration can be completed on the Women's page of the church website or on the church Facebook.

Annual Business Meeting - The Annual Business Meetings will be held on Sunday, January 21 & 28 at 9:00am. All members are encouraged to attend. These are important meetings for us as we prepare for ministry together in 2024 and beyond.

On Mission Meal - Our first On Mission Meal of the year will be held on Sunday, Feb. 4. The menu will consist of our favorite soups and salads, and all proceeds will benefit the Gideons and Mountain Mission. Sign-up to follow.

Tuesday Noon Reading & Prayer - The next four Tuesdays (Jan 9,16, 23 & 30) we will open our sanctuary from 12pm-12:30pm for a time of quiet prayer and the reading of Scripture. During this time, our pastoral staff will be reading Romans and Ephesians as those who attend quietly pray. A prayer guide will be provided. This time is open for everyone, and we would love to have you join us.