



Seventh & James Baptist Church
July 17, 2022 · 11:00 a.m.
The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

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Chiming of the Hour

Meditation

“Immortal, Invisible”

(ST. DENIO)
Michael Burkhardt

Welcome and Call to Worship

Erin Conaway

One: Beloved child of God, you are welcome here....

Many: We give thanks to God for bringing us into this moment of worship.

One: For no matter who you are or where you've been, you matter to God and to us.

Many: Our hearts rejoice and give thanks for all those who have come before us and made a place for us to worship, pray, sing, wonder, doubt, believe, and just be.

One: May the love of God through Christ our Lord convince you of your worth and invitation into this body of believers as we worship together in thanksgiving and hope.

Choral Summons

“Almighty God of Our Fathers”

Will James

Processional Hymn, No. 58

“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

Litany of Thanksgiving and Blessing

Sharon Rollins

One: For the way a snail's trail follows softly behind on a clean sidewalk after a refreshing rain; for the lilting of a cardinal's song; for the warmth of the sun and the stunning rising of the harvest moon.

Many: O God, we give you thanks.

One: Your Creation whispers and shouts your glory in more ways than we know to count or have ears to hear, but we continue to strain towards beauty and try our best to listen. And then you, creative and creating you, make your voice known to us through the lingering handshake of a friend; the way a loved one says our name uniquely; and the loving smile of a new friend we just met.

Many: O God, we give you thanks for the splendor of your presence.

One: And over the past several months you have made your presence known to us through the movement of your Spirit in our hearts and lives—calling and guiding us to give in abundance to your Church in our ever-changing world. We give you thanks and stand in awe of your grace and wonder.

All: O God, we give you thanks for the splendor of your presence, the movement of your Spirit, and the faith of your Son, Jesus, in whose name we gather, give, and celebrate!

Prayer of Thanksgiving Sharon Rollins

Old Testament Reading *Amos 8:1-12* John Segrest

Epistle Reading *Colossians 1:15-28* Dawn Segrest

Hymn, No. 71 “Be Thou My Vision”

Gospel Reading *Luke 10:38-42* Scott Turner

One: This is the Word of the Lord.
Many: Thanks be to God.

Prayers of God’s People Scott Turner

Offertory “More Love to Thee, O Christ” (William H. Doane, 1870)
setting by Al Travis

Offering plates are available at the doors of the sanctuary as you leave worship.

Doxology, No. 707

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

Children’s Sermon Leslie Rosencrans

*All children are invited to come forward for the Children’s Sermon.
Preschoolers [ages 4-kindergarten] may then go to Extended Session.*

Responsive Reading of Psalm 52

Erin Conaway

One: Why do you boast, O mighty one, of mischief done against the godly? All day long you are plotting destruction. Your tongue is like a sharp razor, you worker of treachery.

Many: You love evil more than good, and lying more than speaking the truth.

One: You love all words that devour, O deceitful tongue.

Many: But God will break you down forever; he will snatch and tear you from your tent; he will uproot you from the land of the living.

One: The righteous will see, and fear, and will laugh at the evildoer, saying,

Many: “See the one who would not take refuge in God, but trusted in abundant riches, and sought refuge in wealth!”

One: But I am like a green olive tree in the house of God. I trust in the steadfast love of God forever and ever.

All: I will thank you forever, because of what you have done. In the presence of the faithful I will proclaim your name, for it is good.

Anthem

“Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts”

Claude L. Bass

Jesus, Thou joy of loving hearts,
Thou fount of life, Thou light of men,
From the best bliss that earth imparts,
We turn unfilled to Thee again.

Thy truth unchanged hath ever stood,
Thou sayest those that on Thee call;
To them who seek Thee
Thou art good.

Our restless spirits yearn for Thee,
Where'er our changeful lot is cast;
Glad when Thy gracious smile, we see,
Blest when our faith can hold Thee fast.

O Jesus, ever with us stay,
Make all our moments calm and bright;
Chase the dark night of sin away,
Shed o'er the world Thy holy light.

Sermon

“The Jesus Hymn”
(*Colossians 1:15-28*)

Erin Conaway

Silent Reflection

He was a person, who by his very life announced the marvelous mystery of our God: I am precious, beloved, whole, and born of God. Adam bore silent witness to this mystery, which has nothing to do with whether or not...he made money, had a job, was fashionable, famous, married or single. It had to do with his being. He was and is a beloved child of God. It is the same news that Jesus came to announce, and it is the news that all those who are poor keep proclaiming in and through their very weakness. Life is a gift. Each one of us is unique, known by name, and loved by the One who fashioned us. Unfortunately, there is a very loud, consistent, and powerful message coming to us from our world that leads us to believe that we must prove our belovedness by how we look, by what we have, and by what we can accomplish. We become preoccupied with ‘making it’ in this life, and we are very slow to grasp the liberating truth of our origins and our finality. We need to hear the message announced and see the message embodied, over and over again. Only then do we find the courage to claim it and to live from it.

— Henri J. M. Nouwen, *Adam: God's Beloved*

Hymn of Commitment, No. 569

“In Christ Alone”

*If you would like to make a public profession of your faith in Christ
or request membership in this congregation, our ministers
will greet you at the front of the sanctuary.*

Congregational Response

In response to your decision, we pledge ourselves to be the family of God for you in this place; we offer you our love, our care, our kinship, and our hopes; we hope to learn from you, give to you, and receive from you, by God's grace. Amen.

Pastoral Blessing

Erin Conaway

Choral Benediction

“Behold Now, Praise the Lord”

Everett Titcomb

Postlude

“Toccata”

Gordon Young

Today at Seventh

Our Pianist today is Ellen Deaver.

The Sanctuary Flowers are given by Jane and Tom Newsom to honor their 62nd wedding anniversary on July 16.

Hearing devices are available at the sound booth for any who need assistance.

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