



Seventh & James Baptist Church
September 4, 2022 · 11:00 a.m.
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Chiming of the Hour

Meditation

“Lift High the Cross”

(CRUCIFER)
Michael Burkhardt

Welcome and Call to Worship

Matt Rosencrans

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

“With a Voice of Singing”

Martin Shaw

Processional Hymn, No. 415

“Lift High the Cross”

Litany of Answering and Refusing

Carmen Conaway

One: We confess you to be the God who calls, who wills, who summons, who has concrete intentions for your creation, and addresses human agents who do your will.

Many: We imagine ourselves to be called by you...

One: Yet a strange lot: called but cowardly,

Many: Obedient but self-indulgent,

One: Devoted to you, but otherwise preoccupied.

Many: In our strange mix of answering and refusing, we give thanks for your call.

One: We pray this day for ourselves, fresh vision.

Many: For our friends, great courage.

One: For sisters and brothers in places more dangerous than ours, deep freedom.

All: As we seek to answer your call, may we be haunted by your large purposes and spurned onward by your burning presence.

— adapted from Walter Brueggemann, *Awed to Heaven, Rooted in Earth*, p. 31

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Carmen Conaway

Old Testament Reading

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

Sam Conaway

Epistle Reading

Philemon 1:3-7

Alex Conaway

Hymn, No. 493

“Have Thine Own Way, Lord”

Gospel Reading

Luke 14:25-33

Scott Turner

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

Many: Thanks be to God.

Prayers of God’s People

Scott Turner

Offertory

“Prière à Notre-Dame”

Léon Boëllmann

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 1

Matt Rosencrans

One: Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers;

Many: but their delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law they meditate day and night.

One: They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper.

Many: The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away.

One: Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;

All: for the Lord watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

Anthem

“Shall We Gather At The River”

arr. John Carter

Shall we gather at the river,
Where bright angel feet have trod;
With its crystal tide forever
Flowing by the throne of God.

Yes, we'll gather at the river,
The beautiful, the beautiful river.
Gather with the saints at the river,
That flows by the throne of God.

Ere we reach the shining river,
Lay we ev'ry burden down;
Grace our spirits will deliver,
And provide a robe and Crown

Deep river, my home is over Jordan,
Deep river, I want to cross over into campground.

Soon we'll reach the shining river,
Soon our pilgrimage will cease;
Soon our happy hearts will quiver
With the melody of peace.

Sermon

“Garage Springs and Faith”
(Luke 14:25-33)

Erin Conaway

Silent Reflection

‘What we really believe is what our actions show that we believe.’ When we realize that faith is not what we believe but what we do, then we have to take some account of our actions. Given what we profess, we may just have to change how we live, and that may mean that faith, in this sense of doing, is costly and risky. If our faith demands high ideals, values, and beliefs that we respect and want for ourselves, then we will have to live into our beliefs, or live up to our faith. Faith is thus neither an abstraction nor a consent to a formula of convictions. Faith is the expression of a vision that we then act out.

— Peter J. Gomes, *The Good Life*

Hymn of Commitment, No. 497

“I Have Decided to Follow Jesus”

*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

“God Be In My Head”

Robert Young

Postlude

“Concerto in C”

(After Prince Johann Ernst,
BWV 595)
J. S. Bach

Today at Seventh

Our Pianist today is David DeLoach.

The Sanctuary Flowers are given in celebration of the birthdays of Bill DeLoach (8/25), Bobbie DeLoach (9/13) and David DeLoach (9/7).

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

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