



— Luke 17:11-19, Avery Poehls

**Seventh & James Baptist Church**  
**October 9, 2022 · 11:00 a.m.**  
**Children's Sabbath**

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**Chiming of the Hour**

**Meditation**

“All Things Bright and Beautiful”

(ROYAL OAK)  
Wilbur Held

**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**

“We Come With Joy”

John Erickson

**CHORISTERS**

Carolien Tantra, *piano*

**Processional Hymn, No. 349**

“To God Be the Glory”

**Litany of Gratitude**

Robin Land

One: Our hearts are happy this morning because we are surrounded by our church family who love us and are happy helping us grow up.

**Many: Thank you, God, for the gift of children.**

One: We know there are kids like us all over the world this morning who gather to worship in scary places where fighting and hunger make it hard to focus.

**Many: God, be with the children in war-torn, famine-riddled, dangerous places who have to grow up too fast.**

One: We hope that even as our hearts are overflowing with gratitude they will also go out to all who need our help here in Waco and around the world.

**All: Let us love all of the children as if they were the only child in the world—  
created in your image and called according to your grace.**

**Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Audrey Ludwig

*The Prayer of Thanksgiving was written by  
the 4th-6th Grade Sunday School Class.*

**Meditation**

“Let Us Walk in the Light of the Lord”

Frieda Brown  
Vicki Hancock Wright

**CHORISTERS**

Carolien Tantra, *piano*  
Lorie Crowder and Pat Hynan, *percussion ensemble*

**Old Testament Reading**

*Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7*

Chloe Smith

**Epistle Reading**

*2 Timothy 2:8-15*

Eri Hatakeyama

**Hymn, No. 64**

“The King of Love My Shepherd Is”  
*Choristers Hymn-of-the-Month for October*

**Gospel Reading**

*Luke 17:11-19*

Leslie Rosencrans

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

**Prayers of God’s People**

Leslie Rosencrans

**Offertory**

“Come, Christians, Join to Sing”

arr. Susan Berry  
and Janet Van Valey

**CHILDREN’S HANDBELL CHOIR**

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 66:1-12

Mathis McKeever

One: Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth;

**Many: sing the glory of his name; give to him glorious praise.**

One: Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds! Because of your great power, your enemies cringe before you.

**Many: All the earth worships you; they sing praises to you, sing praises to your name."**

One: Come and see what God has done: he is awesome in his deeds among mortals.

**Many: He turned the sea into dry land; they passed through the river on foot.  
There we rejoiced in him,**

One: who rules by his might forever, whose eyes keep watch on the nations—let the rebellious not exalt themselves.

**Many: Bless our God, O peoples, let the sound of his praise be heard,**

One: who has kept us among the living, and has not let our feet slip.

**Many: For you, O God, have tested us; you have tried us as silver is tried.**

One: You brought us into the net; you laid burdens on our backs;

**All: you let people ride over our heads; we went through fire and through water; yet you have brought us out to a spacious place.**

## Anthem

"And Can It Be?"

Thomas Cambell  
arr. Albin C. Whitworth

Amazing love! How can it be  
That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me!

And can it be that I should gain  
An interest in the Savior's blood?  
Died He for me, who caused his pain?  
For me, who Him to death pursued?  
  
He left His Father's throne above,  
So free, so infinite His grace!  
Emptied Himself of all but love  
And bled for Adam's helpless race!  
'Tis mercy all immense and free,  
For O my God, it followed Thee.  
  
No condemnation now I dread:  
Jesus, and all in Him is mine!  
Alive in Him, my living Head,  
And clothed in righteousness divine,  
Bold I approach the eternal throne  
And claim the crown thru Christ my own.

**Sermon**

“Returning With Thanksgiving in His Heart”  
*(Luke 17:11-19)*

Erin Conaway

### **Silent Reflection**

In what sense, then, is gratitude an expression of faith? Does not gratitude follow from faith? Or is gratitude itself an expression of faith? If gratitude reveals humility of spirit and a sensitivity to the grace of God in one's life, then is there any better measure of faith than wonder and thankfulness before what one perceives as unmerited expressions of love and kindness from God and from others? Are we self-made individuals beholden to no one, or are we blessed daily in ways we seldom perceive, cannot repay, and for which we often fail to be grateful? Here is a barometer of spiritual health: If gratitude is not synonymous with faith, neither response to God is separable from the other. Faith, like gratitude, is our response to the grace of God as we have experienced it. For those who have become aware of God's grace, all of life is infused with a sense of gratitude, and each encounter becomes an opportunity to see and to respond in the spirit of the grateful leper.

— R. Alan Culpepper, *The Gospel of Luke: Introduction, Commentary, and Reflections in The New Interpreter's Bible: A Commentary in Twelve Volumes IX*

**Hymn of Commitment, No. 528**

“Lord, for the Gift of Children”

*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 H. Young

**Postlude**

“Psalm 19, The Heavens Declare”

Benedetto Marcello

# Today at Seventh

## CHORISTERS

Ben Coker  
Charlie Coker  
Dillan Damping  
Eri Hatakeyama  
Robin Land

Audrey Ludwig  
Mathis McKeever  
Orion Moore  
Avery Poehls  
Patrick Poehls

Atticus Ryden  
Chloe Smith  
Edward Smith  
Wesley Zuniga

## CHILDREN'S HANDBELL CHOIR

Charlie Coker  
Robin Land  
Audrey Ludwig

Mathis McKeever  
Avery Poehls  
Patrick Poehls

Atticus Ryden  
Chloe Smith  
Wesley Zuniga

**Our Pianist today** is Ellen Deaver.

**The Sanctuary Flowers** are given in honor of our beloved youth minister, Scott Turner, on his most blessed birthday.

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

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