



Seventh & James Baptist Church
October 16, 2022 · 11:00 a.m.
The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

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Chiming of the Hour

Meditation

“What a Friend We Have in Jesus”

(CONVERSE)

arr. Herbert Colvin and Kurt Kaiser

Ellen Deaver, *piano*
Lydia Bratcher, *organ*

Welcome and Call to Worship

Leslie 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

“Cast Thy Burden Upon The Lord”
from ELIJAH

Felix Mendelssohn

Processional Hymn, No. 335

“Praise the Lord! Ye Heavens, Adore Him”

Litany of Praying

Leslie Rosencrans

One: When we pray, we have the potential to bring all of who we are before God. We engage our minds in what we believe about God and what we think about our world. We engage our hearts as we articulate our emotions. We engage our bodies with our postures of humility or desperation. And we engage our souls as we open them up to God’s whisper.

Many: O God who hears our prayer, continue to teach us to pray and be open before you.

One: There are certainly times when we reach the limit of our ability to put into words the contents of our hearts and minds, so we groan with our bodies and yearn in our souls to find comfort and your peace, O God. There are also times when we struggle to pay attention; we find it hard to quiet the storms raging in our minds or in our hearts and we just sit in prayerful obedience with you.

Many: Help us to pray, especially when it is difficult and fleeting.

One: And there are times when we know how we want to pray, we have a sense for how we ought to pray, but our loathing for our enemies, our fear of the answer, and our shame prevent us from bringing our honest prayer to you.

Many: Lord, give us the courage to pray in the midst of rage, despair, and guilt.

One: We believe you hear our prayers. We trust you will listen beyond our fumbling words and anxious hearts. We know that we are fully known by you, so help us to pray for ourselves and for our sisters and brothers—all of them. Help us to grow in our trust in you.

All: Fill us with your Holy Spirit as we seek to be open before you and trust in your love.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Leslie Rosencrans

Handbell Meditation

“Amazing Grace”

ADULT HANDBELL CHOIR

Old Testament Reading

Jeremiah 31:27-34

Mary Sanford

Epistle Reading

2 Timothy 3:14-4:5

Abdul Massih Saadi

Hymn, No. 407

“My Faith Looks Up to Thee”

Gospel Reading

Luke 18:1-8

Scott Turner

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

Many: Thanks be to God.

Prayers of God’s People

Scott Turner

Offertory

“Chatter with the Angels”

ADULT 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 119:97-104

Erin Conaway

One: Oh, how I love your law! It is my meditation all day long.

Many: Your commandment makes me wiser than my enemies, for it is always with me.

One: I have more understanding than all my teachers, for your decrees are my meditation.

Many: I understand more than the aged, for I keep your precepts.

One: I hold back my feet from every evil way, in order to keep your word.

Many: I do not turn away from your ordinances, for you have taught me.

One: How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth!

All: Through your precepts I get understanding; therefore I hate every false way.

Anthem

“Psalm 23”

arr. Paul Basler

Phillip Lowe, *horn*

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want,
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:
He leadeth me beside the still waters.
He restoreth my soul.
He leadeth me in the paths

Of righteousness for his name's sake.
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil: for thou art with me;
Thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.
Thou preparest a table for me in the presence of my enemies;
Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life:
And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever. Amen.

Sermon

“Hunker Down!”
(Luke 18:1-8)

Erin Conaway

Silent Reflection

I pray because I can't help myself. I pray because I'm helpless. I pray because the need flows out of me all the time, waking and sleeping. It doesn't change God, it changes me.

— C.S. Lewis

Hymn of Commitment, No. 400

“Precious Lord, Take My Hand”

*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

“Go Now and Live For The Savior”

Kurt Kaiser

Postlude

“March” from SCIPIO

G.F. Handel

Today at Seventh

ADULT HANDBELL CHOIR

Rosalie Beck
Sonia Belew
Ivy Hynan
Linda Hynan

Pat Hynan
Sadie Hynan
Donna Kennedy
Ann McGlashan

Ann Sims
Carolien Tantra
Patricia Wilson

Our Pianist today is Ellen Deaver.

The Sanctuary Flowers are given in memory of Judge Bill Logue who died 17 years ago this week (October 12th).

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

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