



Seventh & James Baptist Church
October 23, 2022 · 11:00 a.m.
The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

One: For setting us at tasks which demand our best efforts, and for leading us to accomplishments which satisfy and delight us.

Many: We thank you...

One: For those disappointments and failures that lead us to acknowledge our dependence on you alone.

Many: We thank you...

One: Above all, we thank you for your Son Jesus Christ; for the truth of his Word and the example of his life; for his steadfast obedience, by which he overcame temptation;

All: We thank you for his dying, through which he overcame death; and for his rising to life again, in which we are raised to the life of your kingdom.

— *The Book of Common Prayer*

Prayer of Thanksgiving Mark Brickhouse

Old Testament Reading *Joel 2:23-32* Sally Lynn Askins

Epistle Reading *2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18* Nancy Brickhouse

Hymn, No. 386 “Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee”

Gospel Reading *Luke 18:9-14* Matt Rosencrans

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

Many: Thanks be to God.

Prayers of God’s People Matt Rosencrans

Offertory “Adagio” from the First Organ Sonata Felix Mendelssohn

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 65

Scott Turner

One: Praise is due to you, O God, in Zion; and to you shall vows be performed, O you who answer prayer! To you all flesh shall come.

Many: When deeds of iniquity overwhelm us, you forgive our transgressions.

One: Happy are those whom you choose and bring near to live in your courts. We shall be satisfied with the goodness of your house, your holy temple.

Many: By awesome deeds you answer us with deliverance, O God of our salvation; you are the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas.

One: By your strength you established the mountains; you are girded with might.

Many: You silence the roaring of the seas, the roaring of their waves, the tumult of the peoples.

One: Those who live at earth's farthest bounds are awed by your signs; you make the gateways of the morning and the evening shout for joy.

Many: You visit the earth and water it, you greatly enrich it; the river of God is full of water; you provide the people with grain, for so you have prepared it.

One: You water its furrows abundantly, settling its ridges, softening it with showers, and blessing its growth.

Many: You crown the year with your bounty; your wagon tracks overflow with richness.

One: The pastures of the wilderness overflow, the hills gird themselves with joy,

All: The meadows clothe themselves with flocks, the valleys deck themselves with grain, they shout and sing together for joy.

Anthem

“Kyrie” from MEMORIAL

René Clausen

Kyrie Eleison, Christe Eleison, Adonai.
Lord Have Mercy, Christ Have Mercy, Oh Lord Have Mercy.
Grant Us Peace.
Amen.

Sermon

“Better Than...”
(Luke 18:9-14)

Erin Conaway

Silent Reflection

Narrow understandings of salvation not only cause great pain to the many persons who are burdened with guilt but also lead the church to false pride and arrogance in its claim to be the ‘place’ of God’s salvation. . . . [Salvation’s] gospel meaning is often illuminated most clearly by those whose struggles with death and hopes for life help us understand what good news is all about. This is because salvation is a story and not an idea, a word that describes God’s mending and reconciling action in our lives and in the whole of creation. As we respond in faith to God’s saving action, we are drawn into the story, and God’s gift of justice and love is revealed in our lives.

— Letty M. Russell, *Church in the Round*

Hymn of Commitment, No. 376

“For the Fruit of All Creation”

*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

Dan Bagby

Choral Benediction

“And Can It Be”

arr. Albin Whitworth

Postlude

“Go Forth with Joy!”

Gwyneth Walker

Today at Seventh

Our Pianist today is Carolien Tantra.

The Sanctuary Flowers are given in honor of the Seventh & James members from the Baylor class of 1962 who have enriched the life of Seventh & James over these last 60 years.

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

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