

### Seventh & James Baptist Church January 29, 2023 · 11:00 a.m. The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

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#### Chiming of the Hour

Meditation "Blessed Are You, Faithful Souls" Op. 122, No. 6 Johannes Brahms

#### Welcome and Call to Worship

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	"Seek the Lord"	Dale Grotenhuis
Seek the Lor	rd while he may be found; call upon him while	e he is near.

#### Processional Hymn, No. 312

#### Litany of Hunger and Trust

One: Lord, we sit here in your presence this morning, for the most part, with stomachs that are full and often over-full, with mouths that are rarely parched, and lives that we would like to simplify and make less brimming.

#### Many: Reveal to us our hunger and thirst...

One: But if we look past our initial survey of stomachs, we find there are places within us that are indeed hungry and thirsty. We are pelted with disease and discomfort and want desperately for more time to be with loved ones and to live our lives deeply. We are burdened with expectations and crave more strength and ability and recognition. We are awash in grief and yearn for peace and long memories.

Sam Griffin

Erin Conaway

"Rejoice, Ye Pure In Heart"

# Many: Comfort us where we are afflicted and afflict us where we are comfortable...

One: There are people in our midst who were not born with the same privilege we have forgotten and many of our brothers and sisters are literally hungry and thirsty, not only for bread and water, but for the Bread and Wine that will feed their souls into eternity.

All: Create in us a taste for righteousness that will linger on our tongues. Fill our empty places, but don't let us forget our hunger pangs, that we might be agents of your mercy and grace in a world that has fallen so far from righteousness and is longing for your redemption, like the deer panting for water.

Prayer of Thanksgivin	g	Sam Griffin	
Meditation	"Blessed Are the Poor in Spirit"	Roberta Rowland-Raybold	
Old Testament Readin	g Micah 6:1-8	Sean Sutcliffe	
Epistle Reading	1 Corinthians 1:18-31	Becky Griffin	
Hymn, No. 577	"I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say"		
Gospel Reading	Matthew 5:1-12 One: This is the Word of the Lord. Many: Thanks be to God.	Leslie Rosencrans	
Prayers of God's People		Leslie Rosencrans	
	"Blessed Are the Merciful" available at the doors of the sanctuary as	Roberta Rowland-Raybold you leave worship.	
	Praise God, from whom all blessings flow Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God, above ye heavenly host. raise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Ame		

#### **Children's Sermon**

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 15**

One: O Lord, who may abide in your tent? Who may dwell on your holy hill? Those who walk blamelessly, and do what is right, and speak the truth from their heart;

### Many: who do not slander with their tongue, and do no evil to their friends, nor take up a reproach against their neighbors;

One: in whose eyes the wicked are despised, but who honor those who fear the Lord; who stand by their oath even to their hurt;

## All: who do not lend money at interest, and do not take a bribe against the innocent. Those who do these things shall never be moved.

Anthem	"Blest Are They"	David Haas		
	Blest are they, the poor in spirit, theirs is the kingdom of God. Blest are they, full of sorrow, they shall be consoled.			
	Rejoice and be glad, blessed are you; holy are you. Rejoice and be glad, yours is the Kingdom of God.			
	Blest are they, the lowly ones, they shall inherit the earth. Blest are they, who hunger and thirst, they shall have their fill.			
	Blest are they who show mercy, mercy shall be theirs. Blest are they, the pure of heart, they shall see God.			
	Blest are they who seek peace, they are the children of God. Blest are they who suffer in faith, the glory of God is theirs.			
	Blest are you who suffer hate, all because of me. Rejoice and be glad, yours is the kingdom, shine for all to see.			
Sermon	"Brimming With Joy"	Erin Conaway		
	( <i>Matthew 5:1-12</i> )			

#### **Silent Reflection**

The blessing of God, whose love creates new life and whose fire burns away our impurities, be with you in your journey of life. The blessing of God, whose love has the power to transform our living from old habits into new hope, be with you always. The

Leslie Rosencrans

Scott Turner

blessing of God, whose Spirit blesses our spirit with wisdom and vision, embolden you to proclaim the Good News of God's love to all. Amen.

- Vienna Cobb Anderson, Prayers of Our Hearts

#### Hymn of Commitment, No. 660

"O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee"

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 Response**

"Depart Now"

Ed Wilson

Depart now and as you go remember It's in the goodness of God that you were born into this world. And by the mercy of God you have been kept all through the day, And through the love of God seen in the face of Christ, That you are being redeemed. Amen.

Postlude

"O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing" (

(Azmon, Carl G. Gläser) Robert A. Hobby

#### 60 "O Master. Le