



Seventh & James Baptist Church
February 19, 2023 · 11:00 a.m.
Transfiguration Sunday

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Chiming of the Hour

Meditation

“The Transfiguration”

Robert J. Powell

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

“The Body of Christ”

Timothy R. McKinney

God has combined the members of the body,
And has given greater honor to those that lacked it,
So that there should be no division in the body,
But that its members should have equal care for each other.
If one member suffers, all members suffer; if one is honored, all rejoice.
You are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a member.

Processional Hymn, No. 161

“See Our Lord in All His Glory”

Litany of Commitment

Scott Turner

One: Create in each of us a kneeling place, where we may empty ourselves of our self-importance and become vulnerable to your Word to us.

Many: Forgive our busyness and help us to rest in you.

One: Help us to set our faces firmly against friendly suggestions for safe, expedient lives and toward the risk of discipleship. Loosen our grip on certainties that smother possibilities.

Many: Forgive our resistance to change.

One: Let us pursue the adventure of losing our lives in order to find them in you. Guide us to follow the way of the cross where despair is transformed by the promise of new life and where we are compelled to intercede for those who have more pain in their lives than hope.

Many: Forgive us for dreams that are too small.

One: When we are too eager to be “better than...,” when we are too rushed to care..., when we are too tired to bother..., when we are too preoccupied to listen..., when we are too quick to act from motives other than compassion...,

All: Transform us, hold our feet in the fire of your Emmanuel grace, so we can see our actions in the light of your costly love.... Amen.

—adapted from Sharlande Sledge, *Prayers & Litanies for the Christian Seasons*, p. 48

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Scott Turner

“Reflection on Kelvingrove”

arr. Malcolm C. Wilson

YOUTH HANDBELL CHOIR

Old Testament Reading

Exodus 24:12-18

John Wood

Epistle Reading

2 Peter 1:16-21

Holly Land

Hymn, No. 68

“He Leadeth Me! O Blessed Thought”
Choristers Hymn-of-the-Month for February

Stanza 1—Choristers and Youth Choir
Stanzas 2 and 3—Congregation

Gospel Reading

Matthew 17:1-9

Erin Conaway

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

Choral Response

“Guide Us, Lord”

Mark Patterson

YOUTH CHOIR & SANCTUARY CHOIR

Sam Conaway, *viola*

Guide us through these days, O Lord; help us to seek your way,
Trusting as you lead us with love, teach us again to pray.

Help us know you more clearly, help us love you more dearly,
Help us follow you more nearly day by day. Guide us, Lord, we pray.
Guide us through these days, O Lord; help us to seek your way,
Seeking wisdom from your word, strengthen our tender faith.
Help us know you more clearly, help us love you more dearly,
Help us follow you more nearly day by day. Guide us, Lord, we pray.
When we stray and fall to sin help us find your path again;
Draw us closer in your fellowship of love.
Help us know you more clearly, help us love you more dearly,
Help us follow you more nearly day by day. Guide us, Lord, we pray.
Lead us, teach us, guide us, Lord, we pray.

Prayers of God's People

Erin Conaway

Offertory

“Ah, Holy Jesus”

arr. Susan Ullom Hungerford

YOUTH 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 99

Daniel Farris

One: The Lord is king; let the peoples tremble! He sits enthroned upon the cherubim;
let the earth quake!

**Many: The Lord is great in Zion; he is exalted over all the peoples. Let them
praise your great and awesome name. Holy is he!**

One: Mighty King, lover of justice, you have established equity; you have executed
justice and righteousness in Jacob.

Many: Extol the Lord our God; worship at his footstool. Holy is he!

One: Moses and Aaron were among his priests, Samuel also was among those who called on his name. They cried to the Lord, and he answered them.

Many: He spoke to them in the pillar of cloud; they kept his decrees, and the statutes that he gave them.

One: O Lord our God, you answered them; you were a forgiving God to them, but an avenger of their wrongdoings.

All: Extol the Lord our God, and worship at his holy mountain; for the Lord our God is holy.

Anthem

“The Majesty and Glory”

Tom Fettke

When I gaze into the night skies and see the work of your fingers;
The moon and stars suspended in space.
Oh, what is man that you are mindful of him?
You have given man a crown of glory and honor,
And have made him a little lower than the angels.
You have put him in charge of all creation:
The beasts of the field; the birds of the air; the fish of the sea.
Oh, what is man that you are mindful of him?
O Lord, our God, the majesty and glory of your name
Transcends the earth and fills the heavens.
O Lord, our God; little children praise You perfectly,
And so would we, and so would we. Alleluia!

Sermon

“Get Up and Do Not Be Afraid”

Erin Conaway

(Matthew 17:1-9)

Silent Reflection

If the church is to flourish, we cannot build our religious lives around a gospel of fear, or a gospel of reward for our meanness. The Christian faith is not about being afraid of God. Fear may get us to submit, but fear always leads to anger and resentment and bitterness. We must learn that grace is life’s most important gift. Above all else, the church must become a reservoir of grace. . . . The word is this: the ultimate measure of our lives, for clergy and laity alike, will not be how much we have gained, but how much we have given. The measure will not be how far we have run or how high we have climbed, not how many sermons we have preached or even how long we have lived. The ultimate measure will be how deeply we have loved.

— R. Kirby Godsey, *Centering Our Souls*

Hymn of Commitment, No. 159

“Fairest Lord 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 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

“God of Grace”

(CWM RHONDDA)
Paul Manz

Today at Seventh

Choristers

Ben Coker
Charlie Coker
Dillan Damping
Eri Hatakeyama
Robin Land

Audrey Ludwig
Ezriela Martinez
Keziah Martinez
Mathis McKeever
Avery Poehls

Patrick Poehls
Chloe Smith
Edward Smith
Wesley Zuniga

Youth Choir

Alex Conaway
Sam Conaway
Yuri Hatakeyama

Ivy Hynan
Sadie Hynan
CJ McKeever

Zoe McKeever
Eli Ryden
Emiliano Valadez

Youth Handbell Choir

Alex Conaway
Sam Conaway
Yuri Hatakeyama

Ivy Hynan
Sadie Hynan
CJ McKeever

Zoe McKeever
Eli Ryden

Our Pianist today is Jim Williams.

The Sanctuary Flowers are given in gratitude for the family of God at Seventh & James.

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

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