



Seventh & James Baptist Church
May 21, 2023 · 11:00 a.m.
The Seventh Sunday of Easter

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Chiming of the Hour

Meditation

“Variations on *Holy Manna*”

Dan Edwards

ADULT HANDBELL CHOIR

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

“Rejoice the Lord Is King”

ADULT HANDBELL CHOIR & SANCTUARY CHOIR

Rejoice, the Lord is King: Your Lord and King adore!

Rejoice, give thanks and sing, and triumph evermore.

Lift up your heart; lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

Rejoice in glorious hope! Our Lord and Judge shall come

And take His servants up to their eternal home:

Lift up your heart; lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

Processional Hymn, No. 345

“When Morning Gilds the Skies”

Litany of Courage

Doris DeLoach

One: God, who created all things, even the extravagant idea of resurrection, we anticipate what is not yet and practice Your future sometimes slowly, tediously, always hopefully.

Many: Make us co-creators with You, so we may become more than we once were.

One: When we have anxiously looked at the sky this week, we have been reminded that a sudden summer storm can wipe the things of this earth off their firm foundations.

Many: Make us co-creators with You, so we may become more than we once were.

One: We wonder what we would do if we had to rebuild from the ground up. Would our feet rest on the solid rock of Your love and grace and hope? Could we be open to the resurrection moments after Good Fridays?

All: Make us co-creators with You, so we may become more than we once were. We offer our gifts to fit the geography of the land before us—a land of hope and promise, filled with resurrection...give us the courage to take another step.

— adapted from *Prayers & Litanies for the Christian Seasons* by Sharlande Sledge

Prayer of Thanksgiving Doris DeLoach

Reading from the Acts *Acts 1:6-14* David DeLoach

Epistle Reading *1 Peter 5:6-11* Sean Sutcliffe

Hymn, No. 221 “King of Glory, Risen Lord”

Gospel Reading *John 17:1-11* Scott Turner

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

Prayers of God’s People Scott Turner

Offertory “The Old Rugged Cross” arr. Mark Hayes
Daniel Farris, *piano*

Offering plates are available at the doors of the sanctuary as you leave worship.

Doxology

(sung to LASST UNS ERFREUEN, tune of “All Creature of Our God and King,” No. 307)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit;
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

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 68:1-10, 32-35

Matt Rosencrans

One: Let God rise up, let his enemies be scattered; let those who hate him flee before him.

Many: As smoke is driven away, so drive them away; as wax melts before the fire, let the wicked perish before God.

One: But let the righteous be joyful; let them exult before God; let them be jubilant with joy.

Many: Sing to God, sing praises to his name; lift up a song to him who rides upon the clouds—his name is the Lord—be exultant before him.

One: Father of orphans and protector of widows is God in his holy habitation.

Many: God gives the desolate a home to live in; he leads out the prisoners to prosperity, but the rebellious live in a parched land.

One: O God, when you went out before your people, when you marched through the wilderness,

Many: The earth quaked, the heavens poured down rain at the presence of God, the God of Sinai, at the presence of God, the God of Israel.

One: Rain in abundance, O God, you showered abroad; you restored your heritage when it languished;

Many: Your flock found a dwelling in it; in your goodness, O God, you provided for the needy.

One: Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth; sing praises to the Lord,

Many: O rider in the heavens, the ancient heavens; listen, he sends out his voice, his mighty voice.

One: Ascribe power to God, whose majesty is over Israel; and whose power is in the skies.

All: Awesome is God in his sanctuary, the God of Israel; he gives power and strength to his people. Blessed be God!

Anthem

“Jesus Paid It All”

arr. Robert Sterling

I hear the Savior say, “Thy strength indeed is small,
Child of weakness, watch and pray, find in Me thine all in all.”

Jesus paid it all, all to Him I owe;
Sin had left a crimson stain, He washed it white as snow.

For nothing good have I, whereby Thy grace to claim;
I’ll wash my garments white in the blood of Calvary’s Lamb.

And when, before the throne, I stand in Him complete,
“Jesus died my soul to save,” my lips shall still repeat.

Jesus paid it all, all to Him I owe;
Sin had left a crimson stain, He washed it white as snow.

Sermon

“Keeping The Faith”
(1 Peter 5:6-11)

Erin Conaway

Silent Reflection

Faith is better understood as a verb rather than as a noun, as a process rather than a possession. It is on-again-off-again rather than once-and-for-all. Faith is not being sure where you’re going, but going anyway. A journey without maps.

— Frederick Buechner, *Wishful Thinking*, pg. 30

Hymn of Commitment, No. 409

“What a Friend We Have in 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 Benediction

“Cast Thy Burden Upon the Lord”

Claude L. Bass

Cast thy burden upon the Lord, and He shall sustain thee.
He never shall suffer the righteous to fall; He is at thy right hand.
Cast thy burden upon the Lord, and He shall sustain thee.

Postlude

“Lord, Enthroned in Heavenly Splendor”

(BRYN CALFARIA)
Wayne L. Wold

Today at Seventh

Adult Handbell Choir

Rosalie Beck
Sonia Belew
Lincoln Crowder
Linda Hynan

Pat Hynan
Donna Kennedy
Ann McGlashan
Bryce Shelton

Ann Sims
Carolien Tantra
Patricia Wilson

Our Pianist today is Jim Williams.

The Sanctuary Flowers are given in celebration of Mary Ann & Don Cook's 47th wedding anniversary - May 22, 1976.

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

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