

Seventh & James Baptist Church June 25, 2023 · 11:00 a.m. The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

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### **Chiming of the Hour**

Meditation

"Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

(HYMN TO JOY, L. van Beethoven) arr. Joyce Jones

#### 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** 

"Surely the Lord Is in This Place"

Herbert Colvin

Surely the Lord is this place.
This is none other than the House of God,
And this is the Gate of Heaven.
Surely the Lord is in this place.

Processional Hymn, No. 563

"In Unity We Lift Our Song"

## **Litany of Celebrating 125 Years**

Rachel Farris

One: On June 26, 1898, a handful of people met in the Gurley schoolhouse to form a new faith community. Third Street Baptist Church came to life, and the wind of the Holy Spirit began to build our church.

Many: We give thanks to our founders who heard God's call and responded in courage and faith.

One: Even in our first year as a family, we sought to address the social struggles of the day and spoke out against "dram-drinking and saloon-frequenting." Though the issues have changed, loving our most vulnerable neighbors remains a steady thread woven throughout the church's tapestry of faith in action.

Many: Thank you, God, for the voices who championed your call to love our neighbor in word and deed. Help us continue to cry out for justice for all.

One: The church building on logs, pulled by horses to a new home is an apt image of the Christians gathered as Seventh & James Baptist Church. We hold dear the work of the past and pull forward to your call for our future.

Many: Our cups overflow with gratitude for those who built the place we love. May we always keep the reins in your hands as you guide us forward.

One: We celebrate 125 years of God's faithfulness, God's provision, God's grace, God's love, and God's abundant welcome to all who would come and join together in this faith journey.

All: May the history of love and grace here at Seventh and our characteristic rowdiness of justice march forward into the next century of being the family of God in this place.

**Prayer of Thanksgiving** 

Rachel Farris

"If This Is Not a Place"

Ken Medema

Giselle Vento and Daniel Farris

**Old Testament Reading** 

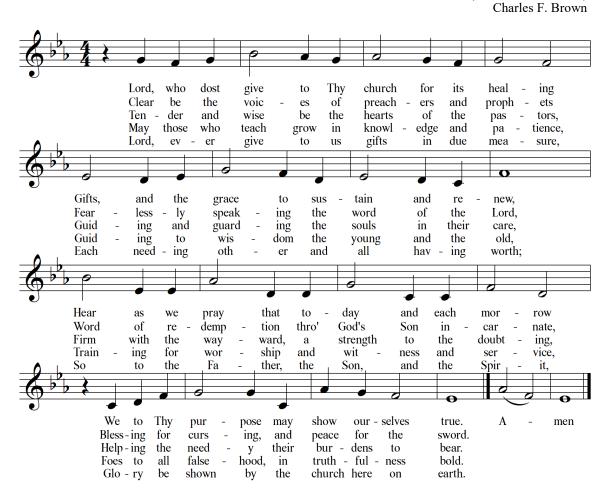
Jeremiah 20:7-13

John Segrest

**Epistle Reading** 

Romans 6:1b-11

Dawn Segrest



**Gospel Reading** 

Matthew 10:24-39

Erin Conaway

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

Many: Thanks be to God.

**Prayers of God's People** 

Erin Conaway

#### Tommy Edds, piano

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

#### Gloria Patri, No. 704

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, World without end. Amen, 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 86:1-10, 16-17

Scott Turner

One: Incline your ear, O Lord, and answer me, for I am poor and needy.

Many: Preserve my life, for I am devoted to you; save your servant who trusts in you. You are my God;

One: be gracious to me, O Lord, for to you do I cry all day long.

Many: Gladden the soul of your servant, for to you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

One: For you, O Lord, are good and forgiving, abounding in steadfast love to all who call on you.

Many: Give ear, O Lord, to my prayer; listen to my cry of supplication.

One: In the day of my trouble I call on you, for you will answer me.

Many: There is none like you among the gods, O Lord, nor are there any works like yours.

One: All the nations you have made shall come and bow down before you, O Lord, and shall glorify your name.

Many: For you are great and do wondrous things; you alone are God.

One: Turn to me and be gracious to me; give your strength to your servant; save the child of your serving girl.

All: Show me a sign of your favor, so that those who hate me may see it and be put to shame, because you, Lord, have helped me and comforted me.

(Commissioned by Seventh & James for the Centennial Celebration in 1998)

Arise and shine, your Light has come, and the glory of God now rises upon you!

Lift your eyes for His joy appears as bright as the morning dawn.

Arise and shine for your Light has come. You shall see and be not afraid.

All the wonder of nature will sing and proclaim now the praise of the Lord!

Light of the world, into our hearts let thy glory shine.

That we may follow now thy star until we reach thy shrine.

Light of the world, we worship thee. Our gifts to thee we bring!

Sermon

"Say What Now?" (*Matthew 10:24-39*)

Dorisanne Cooper

#### **Silent Reflection**

I believe, Lord;

Help my unbelief

That I may have courage to keep trying when I am tired,
And to keep wanting passionately when I am found wanting.
That I may have the courage to dare to love the enemies
I have the integrity to make;

And the courage to fear failure and death less than the faithlessness Of not embracing love's risks.

— Ted Loder, Guerrillas of Grace

#### Hymn of Commitment, No. 396

"For Such a Time As This"

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

Our Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil,
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

**Postlude** 

"The Church's One Foundation"

(AURELIA) arr. Herbert Colvin

#### Music

Music selections have been composed or arranged by former members of Seventh or have close associations with our church:

- Herbert Colvin, Baylor theory professor, composer/arranger, deacon, and organist at Seventh for over 30 years
- Joyce Jones, concert organist, Baylor organ professor, and member of Seventh
- Charles F. Brown, composer/arranger and director of the College Choir in the 1970s
- Kurt Kaiser, award-winning composer/arranger and former member of Seventh
- John Purifoy, composer/arranger and former choir member of Seventh
- Ken Medema, artist/composer who has given many concerts at Seventh, and was inspired by this church in composing "If This is Not a Place"