



Seventh & James Baptist Church
July 9, 2023 · 11:00 a.m.
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Chiming of the Hour

Meditation

“Lobe den Herren”
(Praise to the Lord, the Almighty)

Johann Walther

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

“Seek the Lord”

Dale Grotenhuis

Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near.

Processional Hymn, No. 319

“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

Responsive Reading of Psalm 145:8-14

Tammie Hartgroves

One: The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

Many: The Lord is good to all, and his compassion is over all that he has made.

One: All your works shall give thanks to you, O Lord, and all your faithful shall bless you.

Many: They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom, and tell of your power, to make known to all people your mighty deeds, and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

One: Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures throughout all generations. The Lord is faithful in all his words, and gracious in all his deeds.

All: The Lord upholds all who are falling, and raises up all who are bowed down.

Prayer of Thanksgiving Tammie Hartgroves

Old Testament Reading *Song of Solomon 2:8-13* Jane Newsom

Epistle Reading *Romans 7:15-25a* Tom Newsom

Hymn, No. 460 “Here, O My Lord, I See You Face to Face”

Gospel Reading *Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30* Scott Turner

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

Prayers of God’s People Scott Turner

Offertory “There Is a Balm in Gilead” (Traditional spiritual, setting by Mark Hayes and Marvin Gaspard)

Donnie Balmos, *piano*
Lydia Bratcher, *organ*

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.*

Confession

Matt Rosencrans

One: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you...

Many: In thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

One: We have not loved you with our whole heart;

Many: We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

One: We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

Many: For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name.

One: Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ,

All: Strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. Amen.

— *The Book of Common Prayer*

Music for Reflection

“Come Unto Him”

G.F. Handel

Edgar Sierra, *tenor*

Come unto Him, all ye that labour,
Come unto Him that are heavy laden,
and He will give you rest.
Take His yoke upon you, and learn of Him,
For He is meek and lowly of heart,
And ye shall find rest unto your souls.

Sermon

“Go Ahead...Rock the Boat”
(*Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30*)

Erin Conaway

Communion

All communion bread is gluten-free.

Music for Reflection

“Panis Angelicus”

Cesar Frank

Edgar Sierra, *tenor*

Panis angelicus (May the Bread of Angels)

Fit panis hominum (Become bread for mankind)

Dat panis coelicus (The Bread of Heaven)

Figuris terminum (Puts all foreshadowings to an end)

O res mirabilis (Oh, miraculous thing)

Manducatur dominum (The body of the Lord will nourish)

Pauper, pauper (The poor)

Servus et humilis (The servants, and the humble)

Silent Reflection

The Eucharist does not simply bind individuals to God in a vertical relationship or bind people to each other in another kind of purely social construct. We are bound to one another *en Christo*. And Christ, who is the head of the body, is to be found persistently on the margins in those who are the least in the Kingdom of the world. The margins include those who are other, foreign, strange, dangerous, subversive — even socially, morally or religiously distasteful in our eyes. Yet the Eucharist insists that humans find solidarity where they least expect it and, indeed, least want to find it.

— Philip Sheldrake, *Spaces for the Sacred: Place, Memory and Identity*

Hymn of Commitment, No. 474

“Softly and Tenderly”

*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

“May the Love of the Lord”

Swee Hong Lim

May the love of the Lord rest upon your soul.
May God’s love dwell in you throughout every day.
May God’s countenance shine upon you and be gracious to you.
May God’s Spirit be upon you as you leave this place.

Postlude

“Toccata”

Gordon Young

Today at Seventh

On Communion Sundays, the Benevolence offering is received at the doors to help our neighbors in need.

Our Pianist today is Donnie Balmos.

The Sanctuary Flowers are given in honor of Jerry Lewis’ birthday on July 16 from the Lewis Family.

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

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