



**Seventh & James Baptist Church**  
**August 6, 2023 · 11:00 a.m.**  
**The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost**

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**Chiming of the Hour**

**Meditation**

“Adagio Cantabile”

Giuseppe Tartini

**Welcome and Call to Worship**

Scott Turner

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**

“Cast Thy Burden Upon the Lord”

Felix Mendelssohn

Cast thy burden upon the Lord, and he shall sustain thee;  
He never will suffer the righteous to fall: He is at thy right hand.  
Thy mercy, Lord, is great and far above the heavens:  
Let none be made ashamed that wait upon thee. Amen.

**Processional Hymn, No. 425**

“How Firm a Foundation”

**Litany of Vision**

Carolyn Casey

One: Lord, as we gather here this morning, we give thanks for your presence among us, for the blessing of this sanctuary and the way we can see you all around: in the beauty of the artistry all around and in the presence of our sisters and brothers gathered by faith to worship.

**Many: Open our eyes that we may see....**

One: We are also aware of the great darkness within and without that can cloud our ability to see you and to see others. We know the strength of despair, prejudice, and

fear to cover our eyes and rob us of the gift of light. For all of us, there are scales and logs of various names blocking our sight and blinding us to your presence.

**Many: Open our hearts that we may feel....**

One: There are certainly times when we see a neighbor that we had not seen before. We feel the weight of love pressing against our comfort, squeezing out our selfishness, and inviting our hands to reach out in love, but we may not be ready to touch, and bless, and feel.

**All: Open our hands that they may bless. We know we are your children, created and commanded to love you and to love our neighbor as we love ourselves. Help us to see, help us to feel, help us to bless not in our own strength, but in your love, by your grace and in Jesus' name.**

**Prayer of Thanksgiving** Carolyn Casey

**Old Testament Reading** *Isaiah 55:1-5* Robert Best

**Epistle Reading** *Romans 9:1-5* Julianne Best

**Hymn, No. 384** “Speak to My Heart”

**Gospel Reading** *Matthew 14:13-21* Matt Rosencrans

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

**Prayers of God’s People** Matt Rosencrans

**Offertory** “Jesus, Lead Thou On” (SEELENBRÄUTIGAM)  
Paul Manz

*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 145:8-9, 14-21

Daniel Farris

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

**Many: The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food in due season.**

One: You open your hand, satisfying the desire of every living thing.

**Many: The Lord is just in all his ways, and kind in all his doings.**

One: The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.

**Many: He fulfills the desire of all who fear him; he also hears their cry, and saves them.**

One: The Lord watches over all who love him, but all the wicked he will destroy.

**All: My mouth will speak the praise of the Lord, and all flesh will bless his holy name forever and ever.**

## Music for Meditation

"It Is Well"

arr. Cindy Berry

Faith Allen, *mezzo-soprano*

## Sermon

"Moved to Act..."

Erin Conaway

*(Matthew 14:13-21)*

## Silent Reflection

Christ has no body now but yours,

No hands but yours,

No feet but yours.

Yours are the eyes through which Christ's compassion must look out on the world. Yours are the feet with which he is to go about doing good. Yours are the hands with which he is to bless us now.

— St. Theresa of Avila

**Hymn of Commitment, No. 658**

“Let Your Heart Be Broken”

*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**

“Peace I Leave with You”

David W. Music

Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you:  
Not as the world giveth, give I to you. Amen.

**Postlude**

“March from SCIPIO”

G.F. Handel