

Seventh & James Baptist Church January 14, 2024 · 11:00 a.m. The Second Sunday after the Epiphany

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Chiming of the Hour

Meditation "Largo" from Winter, Op. 8, No. 4

Antonio Vivaldi

Welcome and Call to Worship

Erin Conaway

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

"Let Us Break Bread Together"

arr. Patti Drennan

Let us break bread together on our knees, When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me.

Processional Hymn, No. 467

"We Are One in Christ"

Responsive Reading of Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18

Sharon McNeil

One: O Lord, you have searched me and known me.

Many: You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away.

One: You search out my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways.

Many: Even before a word is on my tongue, O Lord, you know it completely.

One: You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.

Many: Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain it.

One: For it was you who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb.

Many: I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.

One: My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth.

Many: Your eyes beheld my unformed substance. In your book were written all the days that were formed for me, when none of them as yet existed.

One: How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them!

All: I try to count them—they are more than the sand; I come to the end -- I am still with you.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Sharon McNeil

Old Testament Reading

1 Samuel 3:1-10

Viola Osborn

Epistle Reading

1 Corinthians 6:12-20

Dan McNeil

Hymn, No. 461

"Let Us Break Bread Together"

Gospel Reading

John 1:43-51

Matt Rosencrans

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

Many: Thanks be to God.

Prayers of God's People

Matt Rosencrans

Offertory

"O Love That Will Not Let Me Go"

(St. Margaret) arr. Herbert Colvin

During the offertory, we invite you to prayerfully consider your stewardship of all the resources God is entrusting to you. The work of God at Seventh & James is dependent on the financial generosity and volunteer service of its members and friends. Offering plates are available at the doors of the sanctuary as you leave worship. Join us as you respond to God's call.

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 Daniel Farris

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

Anthem "Shine on Us" arr. Bruce Green

Lord, let Your light, light of Your face, shine on us.

Lord, let Your light, light of Your face, shine on us.

That we may be saved, that we may have life,

To find our way in the darkest night: let Your light shine on us.

Lord, let Your grace, grace from Your hand, fall on us.
Lord, let Your grace, grace from Your hand, fall on us.
That we may be saved, that we may have life,
To find our way in the darkest night: let Your grace fall on us.

Lord, let Your love, love with no end, come over us.

Lord, let Your love, love with no end, come over us.

That we may be saved, that we may have life,

To find our way in the darkest night:

Let Your love come over us, let Your grace fall on us,

Let Your light shine on us.

Sermon

"You Are My Little Bunny" (Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18)

Erin Conaway

Communion

All communion bread is gluten-free.

Silent Reflection

For what we need to know, of course, is not just that God exists... but that there is a God right here in the thick of our day-by-day lives who may not be writing messages about Himself in the stars but who in one way or another is trying to get messages through our blindness as we move around down here knee-deep in the fragrant muck and misery and marvel of the world. It is not objective proof of God's existence we want but, whether we use religious language for it or not, it's the experience of God's presence.

- Frederick Buechner

Hymn of Commitment, No. 633

"All the Way My Savior Leads Me"

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

"Glory Be to the Father"

Christoph Meineke

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.

Postlude "Hymn to Joy" arr. Albert Travis

Today at Seventh

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

Our Pianist today is Jim Williams.

The Rose on the Organ celebrates the birth of Marcus Elliot, born January 8 to Florita and Phillip Alcorn. Great-grandparents are Suzanne and Lloyd Alcorn.

The Sanctuary Flowers are given "in loving memory of our parents, Joyce and John Rentschler, from Carol and Phillip Lowe and Cindy and David Morgan."

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

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