



**Seventh & James Baptist Church**  
**March 17, 2024 · 11:00 a.m.**  
**The Fifth Sunday in Lent**

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**Chiming of the Hour**

**Meditation**

“Lift High the Cross”

(CRUCIFER)  
John Leavitt

Yuri Hatakeyama, *guest organist*

**Welcome and Call to Worship**

Scott Turner

One: Child of God, you are welcome here....

**Many: We give thanks to God for bringing us into this moment of worship.**

One: Over and over again, Jesus tried to tell his disciples and followers who he was and what it meant to follow him.

**Many: Take up your cross and follow.**

One: Follow him to Jerusalem and be ready for the unexpected turn of events he kept telling us would happen.

**All: Even today, we confess it is difficult to follow Jesus down this road. We say with the desperate father, “Lord, we believe! Help our unbelief!”**

**Choral Summons**

“Create in Me a Clean Heart”

John Leavitt

YOUTH CHOIR

**Processional Hymn, No. 319**

“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

Yuri Hatakeyama, *guest organist*

**Litany of Proclamation**

Mathis McKeever

One: The Lord be with you.

**Many: And with your Spirit.**

One: Lift up your hearts.

**Many: We lift them up to the Lord.**

One: Let us say what we believe:

**Many: We find our faith in Jesus, who lives among us, who calls us together to understand life and love as radical commitment to others.**

One: We have faith in one God, who created and claimed all creatures, who enters our lives with hope and redemption and courage to act on our beliefs.

**Many: We know that God's presence comes to us in community, wherever we seek to know God by doing justice and loving kindness.**

One: Once we were no people.

**Many: Now we are God's people.**

One: Once we had not received mercy.

**Many: Now we have received mercy.**

One: Because all things are possible through God's love, we proclaim the Gospel in this world...

**All: This world where God is still creating and redeeming and making things whole.**

— Sharlande Sledge, *Prayers & Litanies for the Christian Seasons*, p. 79

**Prayer of Thanksgiving**

CJ McKeever

**Meditation**

“God Is So Good”

Anonymous

YOUTH HANDBELL CHOIR

**Old Testament Reading**

*Jeremiah 31:31-34*

Atticus Ryden

**Epistle Reading**

*Hebrews 5:5-10*

Eli Ryden

**Hymn, No. 180**

“Go to Dark Gethsemane”

**Gospel Reading**

*Mark 10:32-45*

Samuel Conaway

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

**Many: Thanks be to God.**

## Prayers of God's People

Samuel Conaway

Our Father, who 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, the power, and the glory,  
Forever and ever. Amen.

## Offertory

“When Morning Gilds the Skies”

arr. Santa Eithun

YOUTH HANDBELL CHOIR

*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.*

## Doxology

*(sung to O WALY, WALY, tune of “When Love Is Found,” No. 524)*

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.

## Children's Sermon

Ivy Hynan

*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 119:9-16

Yuri Hatakeyama

One: How can young people keep their way pure? By guarding it according to your word.

**Many: With my whole heart I seek you; do not let me stray from your commandments.**

One: I treasure your word in my heart, so that I may not sin against you.

**Many: Blessed are you, O Lord; teach me your statutes.**

One: With my lips I declare all the ordinances of your mouth.

**Many: I delight in the way of your decrees as much as in all riches.**

One: I will meditate on your precepts, and fix my eyes on your ways.

**All: I will delight in your statutes; I will not forget your word.**

**Anthem**

“Fix Our Eyes”

Heather Sorenson

SANCTUARY AND YOUTH CHOIR

Carolien Tantra, *piano*

Ellie Bergeron, *violin*

We run this race to win a crown.  
We lay aside the things that weigh us down.  
We will fix our eyes on You.  
The cheers of those gone on before,  
We hear them calling out from heaven's shore  
To only fix our eyes on You.  
If all the world rise up in hate, holiness they desecrate,  
Fix our eyes on You, O Jesus.  
You are the author, completer of our faith.  
Surrounded by these witnesses who hold us to the truth,  
O Lord, we fix our eyes on You.

When all has changed from what we knew,  
If mountains shake and ancient landmarks move,  
We will fix our eyes on You.  
If things unheard of come to pass,  
The wrong gets strong and then the good collapse,  
Our faith in You will hold us fast.  
If evil makes a new debut, folly has become what's true,  
Fix our eyes on You, O Jesus.  
You are the author, completer of our faith.  
Surrounded by these witnesses who hold us to the truth,  
O Lord, we fix our eyes on You.

We see you in the distance! We run without retreat,  
And every trophy, every prize, we lay them at Your feet.  
Fix our eyes on You, O Jesus.  
You are the author, completer of our faith.  
Surrounded by these witnesses who hold us to the truth,  
O Lord, we fix our eyes on You.

**Sermon**

“The Right and the Left of the Saints”

Scott Turner

*(Mark 10:32-45)*

## Silent Reflection

Are we helping the poor, the lonely, the oppressed? People want to see Christ in others. Therefore, we must love Christ with undivided love until it hurts. It must be a total surrender, a total conviction that nothing separates us from the love of Christ. We belong to Christ.

— Mother Teresa

## Hymn of Commitment, No. 278

“We Are Travelers on a Journey”

*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

One: Every step closer to Holy Week brings us that much closer to the darkness.

**Many: Give us courage to walk this path with you.**

One: We know even as the light grows dim, there is an increasing brightness behind the shadows.

**Many: Fellow bearers of light...let us walk out together in hope and joy.**

One: Go out into the world ready to receive unexpected grace and live into the high calling of Christ’s sacrificial love.

## Choral Benediction “May the Lord Christ Walk Ahead of You”

Timothy McKinney

## Postlude

“O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High” (DEOS TUORON MILEUM  
from Antiphoner, 1753)  
Wilbur Held

# **Today at Seventh**

## **Youth Choir**

Samuel Conaway  
Yuri Hatakeyama  
Ivy Hynan

CJ McKeever  
Mathis McKeever  
Atticus Ryden

Eli Ryden

## **Youth Handbell Choir**

Samuel Conaway  
Yuri Hatakeyama  
Ivy Hynan

CJ McKeever  
Mathis McKeever  
Atticus Ryden

Eli Ryden

**Our Pianist today** is Tommy Edds.

**The Artwork on the Cover** is by Rachel Farris.

**The Sanctuary Flowers** are given in honor of Tim McKinney and Brian McKinney's St. Patrick's Day birthdays.

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

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