



**Seventh & James Baptist Church
April 14, 2024 · 11:00 a.m.
The Third Sunday of Easter**

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Chiming of the Hour

Meditation

“This Joyful Eastertide”

(VRUECHTEN)
John Ferguson

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

“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. 217

“Alleluia! Sing to Jesus”

Responsive Reading of Psalm 4

Leslie Rosencrans

One: Answer me when I call, O God of my right! You gave me room when I was in distress. Be gracious to me, and hear my prayer.

Many: How long, you people, shall my honor suffer shame? How long will you love vain words, and seek after lies?

One: But know that the Lord has set apart the faithful for himself; the Lord hears when I call to him.

Many: When you are disturbed, do not sin; ponder it on your beds, and be silent.

One: Offer right sacrifices, and put your trust in the Lord.

Many: There are many who say, “O that we might see some good! Let the light of your face shine on us, O Lord!”

One: You have put gladness in my heart more than when their grain and wine abound.

All: I will both lie down and sleep in peace; for you alone, O Lord, make me lie down in safety.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Leslie Rosencrans

Reading from the Acts

Acts 3:12-19

Sean Sutcliffe

Epistle Reading

1 John 3:1-7

Mary Sanford

Hymn, No. 459

“Come, Share the Lord”

Gospel Reading

Luke 24:36b-48

Daniel Farris

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

Many: Thanks be to God.

Prayers of God’s People

Daniel Farris

Offertory

“Abide with Me”

(EVENTIDE) William H. Monk
setting by Robert A. Hobby

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 LASST UNS ERFREUEN, tune of “All Creature of Our God and King,” No. 307)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below;

Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

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

Scott Turner

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

“Great Jehovah”

Pepper Choplin

Lead me, Great Jehovah, guide me over this desert land.
Find me wandering and weary. I will hold dearly Your guiding hand.
Great Jehovah, Lord of the mountain where I received Your holy Word;
Come and help me, Lord of the desert, to look beyond my hunger and my thirst.
I need You; I need Your power to meet this hour with strength and grace.
Grant me one more desire; lift my head higher to see Your face.

Great Jehovah, Lord of the mountain where I received Your holy Word;
Come and help me, Lord of the desert, to look beyond my hunger and my thirst.

I am a pilgrim on a journey, wandering through a barren land.
Lord, keep my feet upon Your highway. This place is full of sinking sand.

Lead me, Great Jehovah, guide me over this desert land.
Find me wandering and weary. I will hold dearly Your guiding hand.

Sermon

“We’re Talkin’ About Practice Man!”
(Psalm 4)

Erin Conaway

Communion

All communion bread is gluten-free.

Please come forward to receive Communion from any of the three stations at the front of the sanctuary. You will be served the bread and the cup. A basket is available for your empty cup once you are finished. To ease congestion, please walk down on the right side of your aisle and return up the left side of your aisle. You may come to any of the three stations. Communion will be brought to anyone unable to come forward; please raise your hand as the Minister and Deacon walk back to serve you.

Silent Reflection

Contemplative prayer is largely just being present: holding the tension instead of even talking it through, offering the moment to God instead of fixing it by words and ideas, loving reality as it is instead of understanding it fully. In our daily lives, this prayer is most commonly articulated as a willingness to say, “I don’t know.” We must not push the river; we must just trust that we are already in the river and God is the certain flow and current.

That may sound impractical, but the way of faith is not the way of efficiency. So much of life is just a matter of listening and waiting and enjoying the expansiveness that comes from such willingness to hold.

— Fr. Richard Rohr

Hymn of Commitment, No. 36

“Light on the Path”

*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 Response

“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”

arr. Lloyd Larson

I'm looking for the coming of Christ; I want to be with Jesus.
When we have run with patience the race, we shall know the joy of Jesus.
In Him there is no darkness at all; the night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God: shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

Postlude

“Come Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain, Alleluia!” (GAUDEAMUS PARITER)

James Biery

Today at Seventh

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

Our Pianist today is Carolien Tantra.

The Sanctuary Flowers are given by Nancy Logan — “I am grateful for the kind and loving community that is prevalent in this church.”

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

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