



**Seventh & James Baptist Church
July 7, 2024 · 11:00 a.m.
The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost**

One: We often use our knowledge to try and think the mystery out of life, like squeezing the last drop of water from a washcloth. And sometimes we use our sight to mark out anchor points in the path: handholds as if we were scaling a mountain instead of strolling down a trail. What if we were to risk closing our eyes and seeing with our hearts? What if we let the dragon fly around again?

All: God, help us to trust the seeds of creativity you implanted in each one of us, that we might see and know and come to your kingdom like a child.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Tammie Hartgroves

Old Testament Reading

Ezekiel 2:1-5

Sean Sutcliffe

Epistle Reading

2 Corinthians 12:2-10

Lynn Tatum

Hymn, No. 484

“The Love of Jesus Calls Us”

Gospel Reading

Mark 6:1-13

Leslie Rosencrans

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

Prayers of God’s People

Leslie Rosencrans

Offertory

“A Tribute to Kurt Kaiser”

Tommy Edds, *piano*

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, 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 123

Matt Rosencrans

One: To you I lift up my eyes, O you who are enthroned in the heavens!

Many: As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their master, as the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress, so our eyes look to the Lord our God, until he has mercy upon us.

One: Have mercy upon us, O Lord, have mercy upon us, for we have had more than enough of contempt.

All: Our soul has had more than its fill of the scorn of those who are at ease, of the contempt of the proud.

Anthem

“If with All Your Hearts” (from *Elijah*)

Felix Mendelssohn

Edgar Sierra, *tenor*
Daniel Farris, *piano*

Ye people, rend your hearts and not your garments for your transgressions:
Even as Elijah hath sealed the heavens through the word of God.
I therefore say to ye: forsake your idols, return to God; for He is slow to anger,
And merciful, and kind, and gracious, and repenteth Him of the evil.
‘If with all your hearts ye truly seek Me, ye shall ever surely find Me.’
Thus saith our God.
Oh! that I knew where I might find Him,
That I might even come before His presence!

Sermon

“Untamed Christ”
(*Mark 6:1-13*)

Erin Conaway

Silent Reflection

The good news comes knocking on doors that we didn't even know we had; it flings open the curtains on windows we didn't know existed to reveal the rising sun flooding the room with glory when we had imagined that all light came from candles; it woos our

cold hearts and awakens them, like someone falling in love for the first time, to a joy and fulfillment never before imagined.

— N.T. Wright

Hymn of Commitment, No. 496

“Footsteps of Jesus”

*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

Postlude

“Postlude on Two American Folk Tunes”

Charles Callahan

Today at Seventh

Our Pianist today is Tommy Edds.

The Sanctuary Flowers are given in anticipation and appreciation for the children, youth, and adults who will be part of Children's Music Camp this week. Thanks be to God for music, laughter, friends, and the opportunity to tell one of God's stories together.

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

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