

Seventh & James Baptist Church September 1, 2024 · 11:00 a.m. The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

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Chiming of the Hour

Meditation	"Blessed Jesus, We Are Here" (BWV 731)	J.S. Bach
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Welcome and Call to Worship

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	"O Love of	f God Most Full"	John Purifoy		
O love of God most full, O love of God most free, Come warm my heart, come fill my soul, come lead me unto thee. Amen.					
Processional Hymn, No. 307 "All Creatures of Our God and King					

Litany of Singing

Joshua Stewart

One: We are people who must sing to you for the sake of our very lives.

Many: God, may you give us faith to sing always.

One: You are a God who must be sung to by us for the sake of your majesty and honor.

Many: God, may you give us faith to sing always.

One: And so we thank you for lyrics that push us past our reasons, for melodies that break open our givens.

Many: God, may you give us faith to sing always.

Scott Turner

One: We also thank you for cadences that locate us home, beyond all our safe places, and for tones and tunes that open our lives beyond control and our futures beyond despair.

Many: God, may you give us faith to sing always.

One: We thank you for the long parade of mothers and fathers who have sung to you deep and true, and we thank you for the good company of artists, poets, musicians, cantors, and instruments that sing for us and with us to you.

All: We are witnesses to your mercy and splendor; by your grace we will not keep silent...ever again, Amen.

 adapted from Walter Brueggemann, Awed to Heaven, Rooted in Earth, p. 133 and Hymn No. 309 "When in Our Music, God Is Glorified"

Prayer of Thanksgiving		Joshua Stewart
Old Testament Reading	Song of Solomon 2:8-13	Mark Brickhouse
Epistle Reading	James 1:17-27	Nancy Brickhouse
Hymn, No. 48		"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"
Gospel Reading	Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23	Erin Conaway
	One: This is the Word of the Lor Many: Thanks be to God.	d.
Prayers of God's People		Erin Conaway
Offertory	"Jesus, Joy of Man's Desiring" (Chorale from <i>Cantata 147</i>)	J.S. Bach
	Jim Williams, <i>piano</i> Lydia Bratcher, <i>organ</i>	
of all the resources God is dependent on the j	y, we invite you to prayerfully cons d is entrusting to you. The work of financial generosity and volunteer g plates are available at the doors	f God at Seventh & James service of its members

leave worship. Join us as you respond to God's call.

Doxology, No. 707

(Choristers Hymn-of-the-Month for September)

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 45:1-2, 6-9

Matt Rosencrans

One: My heart overflows with a goodly theme; I address my verses to the king; my tongue is like the pen of a ready scribe.

Many: You are the most handsome of men; grace is poured upon your lips; therefore God has blessed you forever.

One: Your throne, O God, endures forever and ever. Your royal scepter is a scepter of equity;

Many: You love righteousness and hate wickedness. Therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions;

One: Your robes are all fragrant with myrrh and aloes and cassia. From ivory palaces stringed instruments make you glad;

All: Daughters of kings are among your ladies of honor; at your right hand stands the queen in gold of Ophir.

Anthem

"When in Our Music, God Is Glorified"

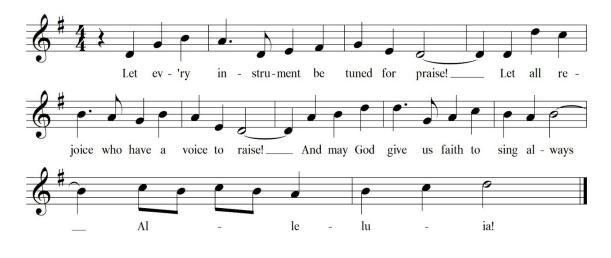
arr. Harriet Ziegenhals

Blake Taggert, *trumpet* Phillip Lowe, *French horn*

When in our music God is glorified, and adoration leaves no room for pride, It is as though the whole creation cried: Alleluia!

How often, making music, we have found a new dimension in the world of sound, As worship moved us to a more profound Alleluia! So has the Church, in liturgy and song, in faith and love, through centuries of wrong, Borne witness to the truth in every tongue: Alleluia!

And did not Jesus sing a Psalm that night when utmost evil strove against the light? Then let us sing, for whom he won the fight: Alleluia!



(The congregation is invited to stand and sing)

Sermon

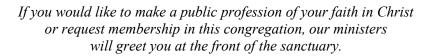
"Sing 'em Sister" (Song of Solomon 2:8-13) Erin Conaway

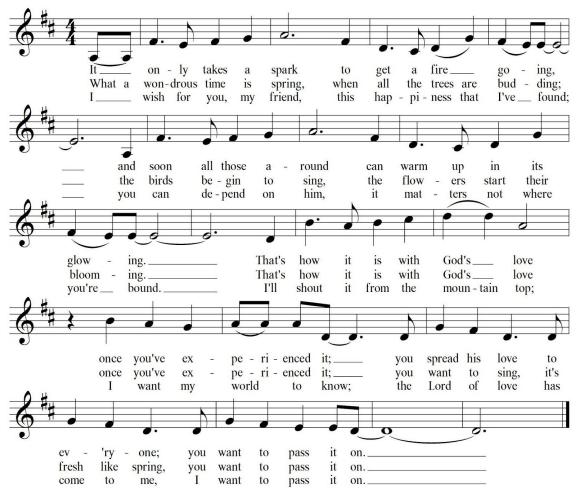
Silent Reflection

Above all, trust in the slow work of God. We are quite naturally impatient in everything to reach the end without delay. We would like to skip the intermediate stages. We are impatient of being on the way to something unknown, something new. And yet, it is the law of all progress that it is made by passing through some stages of instability—and that it may take a very long time.

— Pierre Teilhard de Chardin (1881-1955)

Hymn of Commitment





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.

Erin Conaway



Postlude

"Festal Fanfare" (BWV 595)

Today at Seventh

Our Pianist today is Jim Williams.

The Sanctuary Flowers are given by Faith Kopplin in celebration of Vernon Davis' 90th birthday.

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

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