



**Seventh & James Baptist Church
September 15, 2024 · 11:00 a.m.
The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost**

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Chiming of the Hour

Meditation

“Rigaudon”

André Campra

Welcome and Call to Worship

Leslie Rosencrans

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

“Blessed Be the Name of the Lord”

Dale Grotenhuis

Praise ye the Lord. Praise Him, o ye servants of the Lord.
Praise the name of the Lord, praise the Lord!

Processional Hymn, No. 345

“When Morning Gilds the Skies”

Litany of a Thousand Tongues

Derek Dodson

One: We sing of our desire to have a thousand tongues in order to more fully sing your praise.

Many: But we know the trouble we often have with the one tongue we've got... it won't always sing your praise.

One: You desire truth in our inmost parts—not the dressed-up charade we frequently present to you on Sunday mornings.

Many: Our truth is we sin...

One: We have not loved you in word or deed the way we should. We have not loved our neighbors in the way you command us.

Many: Our truth is that we are also thankful...

One: For your grace, O Lord, your triumphant grace that overpowers our brokenness with your love and heals our wounds with your touch.

All: We say thank you with one tongue—united in this room and beyond by your grace and your love. And we listen for the chorus of praise to crescendo into eternity.

Prayer of Thanksgiving Derek Dodson

Old Testament Reading *Isaiah 50:4-9a* Sean Sutcliffe

Epistle Reading *James 3:1-12* Rosalie Beck

Hymn, No. 440 “Though I May Speak with Bravest Fire”

Gospel Reading *Mark 8:27-38* Scott Turner

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

Many: Thanks be to God.

Prayers of God’s People Scott Turner

Offertory “Prelude in G Major” Felix Mendelssohn

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

(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 116:1-9

Daniel Farris

One: I love the Lord, because he has heard my voice and my supplications.

Many: Because he inclined his ear to me, therefore I will call on him as long as I live.

One: The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me; I suffered distress and anguish.

Many: Then I called on the name of the Lord: "O Lord, I pray, save my life!"

One: Gracious is the Lord, and righteous; our God is merciful.

Many: The Lord protects the simple; when I was brought low, he saved me.

One: Return, O my soul, to your rest, for the Lord has dealt bountifully with you.

All: For you have delivered my soul from death, my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling. I walk before the Lord in the land of the living.

Anthem

"This Is My Father's World"

Elaine Hagenberg

This is my Father's world, and to my listening ears
All nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres.

This is my Father's world: I rest me in the thought
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas—His hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world: the birds their carols raise,
The morning light, the lily white, declare their Maker's praise.

This is my Father's world: He shines in all that's fair;
In the rustling grass I hear Him pass, He speaks to me everywhere.

This is my Father's world: O let me ne'er forget
That though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the Ruler yet.

This is my Father's world: the battle is not done
Jesus who died will be satisfied and heaven and earth be one.

Sermon

"From the Same Mouth..."

Erin Conaway

(James 3:1-12)

Silent Reflection

In Hebrew the term *dabar* means both ‘word’ and ‘deed.’ Thus to say something is to do something. *I love you. I hate you. I forgive you. I am afraid.* Who knows what such words do, but whatever it is, it can never be undone. Something that lay hidden in the heart is irrevocably released through speech into time, is given substance and tossed like a stone into the pool of history, where the concentric rings lap out endlessly.

— Frederick Buechner, *Wishful Thinking*, pgs. 120-121

Hymn of Commitment, No. 503

“Lord, Speak to Me, That I May Speak”

*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

“Go Ye Now in Peace”

Joyce Elaine Eilers

Go ye now in peace, and know that the love of God will guide you.
Feel His presence here beside you showing you the way.
In your time of trouble, when hurt and despair are there to grieve you,
Know that the Lord will never leave you. He will bring you courage.
Know that the God who sent His Son to die that you might live
Will never leave you lost and alone in His beloved world.
Go ye now in peace. Go ye now in peace.

Postlude

“Psalm 19, The Heavens Declare”

Benedetto Marcello

Today at Seventh

Our Pianist today is Tommy Edds.

The Sanctuary Flowers are given in love and gratitude for the prayers and kindness during Hayley's kidney transplant by the Sharp Family.

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

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