



**Seventh & James Baptist Church
September 22, 2024 · 11:00 a.m.
The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

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Chiming of the Hour

Meditation

“God, Thou Holy God”

Sigfried Karg-Elert, Op. 65

Welcome and Call to Worship

Erin Conaway

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

“Thee We Adore, O Savior”

Theodore Dubois

Thee we adore, O Savior, bless thee and praise thee forever.
For on the holy cross thou hast the world from sin redeemed.
Thee we adore, O Savior, bless thee and praise thee forever.

Processional Hymn, No. 295

“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

Litany of Mercy

Scott Turner

One: Have mercy on us, O God, according to your enduring love; according to your abundant mercy, blot out our transgressions. Wash us thoroughly from our iniquity, and cleanse us from our sin.

Many: Merciful God, expand our hearts to include more neighbors.

One: For we know our transgressions, and our sin is ever before us. Against you, you alone, have we sinned, and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgment. You desire truth in the inward

being; therefore, teach us wisdom in our secret hearts. Purge us with hyssop, and we shall be clean; wash us, and we shall be whiter than snow.

Many: Merciful God, expand our hearts to include more neighbors.

One: Create in us clean hearts, O God, and put a new and right spirit within us. Do not cast us away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from us. Restore to us the joy of your salvation, and sustain in us a willing spirit.

All: Merciful God, expand our hearts to include more neighbors. Then we will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners like us and with us will return to you. O Lord, open our lips, and our mouths will declare your praise to all of our neighbors, as together we walk in your mercy and grace.

— adapted from Psalm 51

Prayer of Thanksgiving Scott Turner

Old Testament Reading *Jeremiah 11:18-20* Stan Wilkes

Epistle Reading *James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a* Carolyn Wilkes

Hymn, No. 42 “If My People’s Hearts Are Humbled”

Gospel Reading *Mark 9:30-37* Leslie Rosencrans

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

Prayers of God’s People Leslie Rosencrans

Offertory “Trio in G Minor,” Op. 49, No. 1 Josef Rheinberger

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 54

Daniel Farris

One: Save me, O God, by your name, and vindicate me by your might. Hear my prayer, O God; give ear to the words of my mouth.

Many: For the insolent have risen against me, the ruthless seek my life; they do not set God before them.

One: But surely, God is my helper; the Lord is the upholder of my life.

Many: He will repay my enemies for their evil. In your faithfulness, put an end to them.

One: With a freewill offering I will sacrifice to you; I will give thanks to your name, O Lord, for it is good.

All: For he has delivered me from every trouble, and my eye has looked in triumph on my enemies.

Anthem

“Speak, Lord, in the Stillness”

Speak, Lord, in the stillness, I await your word.
Speak, Lord, in the stillness, speak your word to me;
Help me now to listen in expectancy.
Speak, O gracious master, in this quiet hour;
Let me see your face, Lord, feel your touch of power.
Speak, O gracious Master, help me now to listen, I await your word.
For the words you give me, they are life indeed;
Living bread from heaven, now my spirit feed.
Speak, your servant listens, I await your word;

Let me know your presence, let your voice be heard!
Fill me with the knowledge of your glorious will;
All your own good pleasure in my life fulfill;
Speak, your servant listens, let your voice be heard!

Sermon

“Let Me See Your Retribution on Them...”
(Jeremiah 11:18-20)

Erin Conaway

Silent Reflection

Self-righteousness was the bane of human relations... that individuals and nations are at their worst when, persuaded of their superior virtue, they crusade against the vices of others. They are at their best when they claim their God-given kinship with all humanity, offering prayers of thanks that there is more mercy in God than sin in us.

— Bill Coffin

Hymn of Commitment, No. 71

“Be Thou My Vision”

*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

“Peace Be Unto You”

Herbert Colvin

Peace be unto you, and joy be unto you.
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you now and evermore. Amen.

Postlude

“Toccata in F Major”

Dieterich Buxtehude

Today at Seventh

Our Pianist today is Ellen Deaver.

The Sanctuary Flowers are given in celebration of Robert and Janis Ward on the occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. With love, Matthew, Cindy, Rebecca, Sarah, Albert, and Louise.

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

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