

Seventh & James Baptist Church October 13, 2024 · 11:00 a.m. The Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost

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### **Chiming of the Hour**

**Meditation** "We Pray Now to the Holy Spirit"

Buxtehude

David Gilbreath, guest organist

#### Welcome and Call to Worship

Matt 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** 

"Come Unto Him" from The Messiah

G.F. Handel

Rebecca Walsh, soprano

Come unto Him, all ye that labor,
Come unto Him, ye that are heavy laden, and He will give you rest.

Take His yoke upon you, and learn of Him, for He is meek and lowly of heart,
And ye shall find rest, and ye shall find rest unto your souls.

Processional Hymn, No. 354

"Praise Him! Praise Him!"

Litany of Yielding

Joshua Stewart

One: We arrange our lives as best we can to keep your holiness at bay,

Many: With our pieties and our doctrines,

One: With our liturgies and our moralities,

Many: With our secret ideologies.

One: Safe, virtuous, settled...and then you—you and your dreams,

Many: You and your visions,

One: You and your purposes,

Many: You and your commands,

One: You and our neighbors. We find your holiness not at bay, but probing, pervading, insisting, demanding.

Many: And we yield, sometimes gladly, sometimes resentfully,

One: Sometimes late...or soon. We yield because you, beyond us, are our God.

All: We are your creatures met by your holiness, by your holiness made our true selves...and we yield. Amen.

— Walter Brueggemann, Awed to Heaven, Rooted in Earth, p. 3

**Prayer of Thanksgiving** 

Joshua Stewart

**Old Testament Reading** 

Amos 5:6-7, 10-15

Robert Best

**Epistle Reading** 

Hebrews 4:12-16

Julianne Best

Hymn, No. 594

"Before the Throne of God Above"

**Gospel Reading** 

Mark 10:17-31

Scott Turner

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

Many: Thanks be to God.

**Prayers of God's People** 

Scott Turner

Offertory

"Clarinet Sonata in F Minor,"

Johannes Brahms

Op. 120, No. 1, II. Allegretto grazioso

Scott McAllister, *clarinet* Lesley McAllister, *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 90:12-17

Matt Rosencrans

One: So teach us to count our days that we may gain a wise heart.

Many: Turn, O Lord! How long? Have compassion on your servants!

One: Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love, so that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.

Many: Make us glad as many days as you have afflicted us, and as many years as we have seen evil.

One: Let your work be manifest to your servants, and your glorious power to their children.

All: Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us, and prosper for us the work of our hands—O prosper the work of our hands!

Anthem "Come Unto Me" Mark Blankenship

Come unto me, all ye that labor, and I will give you rest.

Come unto me, all ye that are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me, For I am meek and lowly in heart:

And ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, my burden is light.

Come unto me, all ye that labor, and I will give you rest.

"Naked and Unafraid" (Hebrews 4:12-16)

Erin Conaway

### **Silent Reflection**

Vulnerability is something we instinctively reject because we are taught, from kindergarten on, that we must protect ourselves, control our behavior and our lives. But, in becoming man for us, Christ made himself totally vulnerable for us in Jesus of Nazareth, and it is not possible to be a Christian while refusing to be vulnerable.... We are, ourselves, as little children, and therefore we are vulnerable. We might paraphrase Descartes to read, 'I hurt, therefore I am.'

— Madeleine L'Engle, Walking on Water

### Hymn of Commitment, No. 409

"What a Friend We Have in 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

**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** 

"Little Fugue in C"

Bach

## **Today at Seventh**

Our Pianist today is Lesley McAllister.

The Sanctuary Flowers are given in memory of Joshua Stewart's father, Ronnie Stewart (1966-2019). October 11 would have been Ronnie's 58th birthday. Ronnie would have loved Seventh & James because of the care and support they have shown Joshua over the last five years. The entire Stewart family is grateful for the ongoing gospel witness of the wonderful Seventh community. To God be the glory!

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

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