



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

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

Johannes Brahms

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.

Sermon

“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.

Permission to print music obtained from CCLI, license #1450684.