



**Seventh & James Baptist Church
October 27, 2024 · 11:00 a.m.
The Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost**

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Chiming of the Hour

Meditation

“Ein feste Burg ist unser Gott”

J.G. Walther

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

“Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God”

Carl F. Mueller

Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation, uphold me with thy free spirit.
Then will I teach transgressors thy ways; and sinners shall be converted unto thee.
Create in me a clean heart, O God!

Processional Hymn, No. 418

“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

Litany of Comfort

Tammie Hartgroves

One: Spirit of Christ, you are our comforter, our helper, our advocate, our very present help in times of trouble.

Many: You do not leave us alone...your faithfulness is not an accident.

One: Spirit of Christ, enter our hearts with your peace that surpasses all understanding. We test you at every turn...

Many: And you are still there.

One: We wonder if we will get through the hard times...

Many: By your grace, we do.

One: We worry about strength for tomorrow...

Many: Then we remember your faithfulness yesterday and today.

One: Come quietly into hospital rooms, and wait with us. Come gently into homes where there are tears, and wipe them from our eyes. Come calmly into our anxious schedules, and give us awareness of your presence. In the ways you lead us...

All: May we be for others comforters, helpers, advocates, people who help in times of trouble, always in the Spirit of Christ, at whose name our knees do bow, as our tongues lit by the fire of your Spirit do confess: Jesus is Lord.

— adapted from Sharlande Sledge,
Prayers & Litanies for the Christian Year, p. 97

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Tammie Hartgroves

Old Testament Reading

Job 42:1-6

Sean Sutcliffe

Epistle Reading

Hebrews 7:23-28

Scott Turner

Hymn, No. 395

“Open My Eyes, That I May See”

Gospel Reading

Mark 10:46-52

Matt Rosencrans

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

Many: Thanks be to God.

Prayers of God’s People

Matt Rosencrans

Offertory

“O Rest in the Lord” (from *ELIJAH*)

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

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 34:1-8

Daniel Farris

One: I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth.

Many: My soul makes its boast in the Lord; let the humble hear and be glad.

One: O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together.

Many: I sought the Lord, and he answered me, and delivered me from all my fears.

One: Look to him, and be radiant; so your faces shall never be ashamed.

Many: This poor soul cried, and was heard by the Lord, and was saved from every trouble.

One: The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them.

All: O taste and see that the Lord is good; happy are those who take refuge in him.

Anthem

“Just As I Am”

K. Lee Scott

Amanda Jett, *soprano*

Just as I am, without one plea, but that thy blood was shed for me,
And that thou bidd'st me come to thee, O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, though tossed about with many a conflict, many a doubt,
Fightings and fears within, without, O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind; sight, riches, healing of the mind,
Yea, all I need, in thee to find, O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, thou wilt receive, wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
Because thy promise I believe, O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, thy love unknown has broken every barrier down;
Now to be thine, yea, thine alone, O Lamb of God, I come.
Just as I am, of thy great love; the breadth, length, height, and depth to prove,
Here for a season, then above: O Lamb of God, I come.

Sermon

“Let Us See Again...”
(Mark 10:46-52)

Erin Conaway

Silent Reflection

For what we need to know, of course, is not just that God exists ... but that there is a God right here in the thick of our day-by-day lives who may not be writing messages about Himself in the stars but who in one way or another is trying to get messages through our blindness as we move around down here knee-deep in the fragrant muck and misery and marvel of the world. It is not objective proof of God’s existence we want but, whether we use religious language for it or not, it’s the experience of God’s presence.

— Frederick Buechner

Hymn of Commitment, No. 474

“Softly and Tenderly”

*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

“Depart Now”

Ed Wilson

Depart now and as you go remember
It's in the goodness of God that you were born into this world.
And by the mercy of God you have been kept all through the day,
And through the love of God seen in the face of Christ,
That you are being redeemed. Amen.

Postlude

“A Mighty Fortress”

Wayne L. Wold

Today at Seventh

Our Pianist today is Tommy Edds.

The Sanctuary Flowers are given in gratitude for all who found a home at Seventh during their college years.

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

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