

Seventh & James Baptist Church November 3, 2024 · 11:00 a.m. All Saints Sunday

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Chiming of the Hour

Meditation "Nimrod" Edward Elgar

(from ENIGMA Variations)

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

"The Body of Christ"

Timothy R. McKinney

God has combined the members of the body,
And has given greater honor to those that lacked it,
So that there should be no division in the body,
But that its members should have equal care for each other.
If one member suffers, all members suffer; if one is honored, all rejoice.
You are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a member.

Processional Hymn, No. 567

"For All the Saints"

Lorie Crowder and Pat Hynan, handbells

Litany of Saints Bill Cooper

One: God, we remember those Saints who have gone before us;

Many: We lament their passing,

One: And honor their legacy.

Many: We give thanks for all we have learned from them.

One: Those who followed the Way of Christ faithfully,

Many: We follow their example.

One: Those who made mistakes along the way,

Many: We learn from their experience.

One: Those who made progress for peace,

Many: We continue their work.

One: Those who lived simply and quietly,

Many: We are enlightened by them.

One: Those who gained honor and distinction without pride,

Many: We are humbled by them.

One: Those who have fallen asleep in peace and are awake to eternity,

Many: We commend them to your care.

One: They have finished their work on earth,

All: And it lives on, reverberating into our lives now as the work of Christ lives on.

— adapted from Fran Pratt, http://www.franpratt.com/litanies

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Bill Cooper

In Memoriam "Litaney auf das Fest Aller Seelen" D. 343 Franz Schubert (Litany for the Feast of All Souls)

You are invited to write the name of a loved one you wish to remember on the card attached to your worship guide. During this time, please come forward and place the card in one of the bowls on the Communion Table. We will call out the names near the end of the service as an act of remembrance and hope. If you need someone to bring your card forward, please signal one of the ministers.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 25:6-9

Sharon Rollins

Reading from the Revelation

Revelation 21:1-6a

Sean Sutcliffe

Hymn, No. 396

"For Such a Time As This"

Gospel Reading

John 11:32-44

Erin Conaway

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

Many: Thanks be to God.

Prayers of God's People

Erin Conaway

A white rose has been placed on the Communion Table in remembrance of Seventh & James members who passed away this last year.

Bill Adams, Jr. Sally Askins Paul Cretien Mike Frisch

Helen Jones

Donna Kennedy Doris Mortenson

Tom Newsom

Jim Purdy

Offertory

"It Is Well with My Soul"

arr. David Schoebel

Donnie Balmos, *piano* Lydia Bratcher, *organ*

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 24

Scott Turner

One: The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it;

Many: For he has founded it on the seas, and established it on the rivers.

One: Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord? And who shall stand in his holy place?

Many: Those who have clean hands and pure hearts, who do not lift up their souls to what is false, and do not swear deceitfully.

One: They will receive blessing from the Lord, and vindication from the God of their salvation.

Many: Such is the company of those who seek him, who seek the face of the God of Jacob.

One: Lift up your heads, O gates! and be lifted up, O ancient doors! that the King of glory may come in.

Many: Who is the King of glory? The Lord, strong and mighty, the Lord, mighty in battle.

One: Lift up your heads, O gates! and be lifted up, O ancient doors! that the King of glory may come in.

All: Who is this King of glory? The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory.

Anthem "One Faith, One Hope, One Lord" Craig Courtney

One faith, one hope, one Lord, one church for which he died,

One voice, one song, we lift in praise to him who was, and is, and shall be evermore.

There is one body, one spirit, as you were called to one hope,

One Lord, baptism, and faith, one God and Father of all, who is in you all.

One faith, one hope, one Lord, one church for which he died,

One voice, one song, we lift in praise to him who was, and is, and shall be evermore.

Though we be many people, diverse with various gifts,
We are given to each other for the unity of faith,
That we grow in the knowledge of the Son of God, in the fullness of Christ.
One faith, one hope, one Lord, one church for which he died,
One voice, one song, we lift in praise to him who was, and is, and shall be evermore.
One faith, one hope, one Lord, one God.

Sermon

"Returning to The Garden" (Revelation 21:1-6a)

Erin Conaway

Silent Reflection

All those years I fell for the great palace lie that grief should be gotten over as quickly as possible and as privately. But what I've discovered since is that the lifelong fear of grief keeps us in a barren, isolated place and that only grieving can heal grief; the passage of time will lessen the acuteness, but time alone, without the direct experience of grief, will not heal it...I'm pretty sure that it is only by experiencing the ocean of sadness in a naked and immediate way that we come to be healed—which is to say, that we come to experience life with a real sense of presence and spaciousness and peace.

— Anne Lamott, Traveling Mercies, pgs. 68-69

Hymn of Commitment, No. 560

"Listen, Now We Tell a Mystery"

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



Postlude

"Song for All Saints"

Mary McDonald

Today at Seventh

Our Pianist today is Donnie Balmos.

The Sanctuary Flowers are given by Annette Lindsey in memory of the saints she has known and loved.

The Foyer flowers are given in honor of Dr. David Pennington's birthday. Happy birthday from the church family!

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

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