



**Seventh & James Baptist Church  
February 16, 2025 · 11:00 a.m.  
The Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany**

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**Chiming of the Hour**

**Meditation**                      “God’s Time Is the Best” BWV 106                      J.S. Bach

**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**                      “Be Still and Know”                      Fred Bock

Be still and know that I am God. (Psalm 46:10)

**Processional Hymn, No. 337**                      “Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven”

**Litany of God’s Faithfulness**                      Sharon Rollins

One: Holy and sustaining God, we gather before you this morning having passed by countless examples of your grace and guidance.

**Many: Faithful God, open our eyes to see your presence emblazoned across our world.**

One: We remember fretting over closed doors and blocked paths and can now see you made a way for us to fill these pews and inhabit this space. Some of us are looking at the barriers around us and need to remember that we are in your guiding hands, we are your children, and we are loved and cherished beyond our wildest imagination.

**Many: Faithful God, strengthen our courage to stand in faith and walk in your light.**

One: We are fickle followers dropping so quickly from faithful thanksgiving into forgetful despair. We grow numb to the weight of your story across the ages and think it might change in our situation or on this day, but you remain God...present and pulling us ever closer to your heart where we belong.

**Many: Faithful God, transform us even deeper into the followers you created us to be.**

One: Buoyed by your consistency not only in our lives but in the lives of sinners throughout our history, we thank you for your unwavering love and the comfort it brings us when we choose to see it.

**All: Let us walk this path as faithful ones—following the Way, sharing the Truth, and dancing in your glorious Life!**

**Prayer of Thanksgiving** Sharon Rollins

**Old Testament Reading** *Jeremiah 17:5-10* Lynn Tatum

**Epistle Reading** *1 Corinthians 15:12-20* Lise Uhl

**Hymn, No. 259** “Blest Are They”

**Gospel Reading** *Luke 6:17-26* Scott Turner

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

**Prayers of God’s People** Scott Turner

**Offertory** “Siciliano” BWV 1031 J.S. Bach  
arr. Herbert Colvin

Jim Williams, *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.

## **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 1**

Daniel Farris

One: Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers;

**Many: But their delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law they meditate day and night.**

One: They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper.

**Many: The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away.**

One: Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;

**All: For the Lord watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.**

## **Anthem**

“You Are the Light”

Mary McDonald

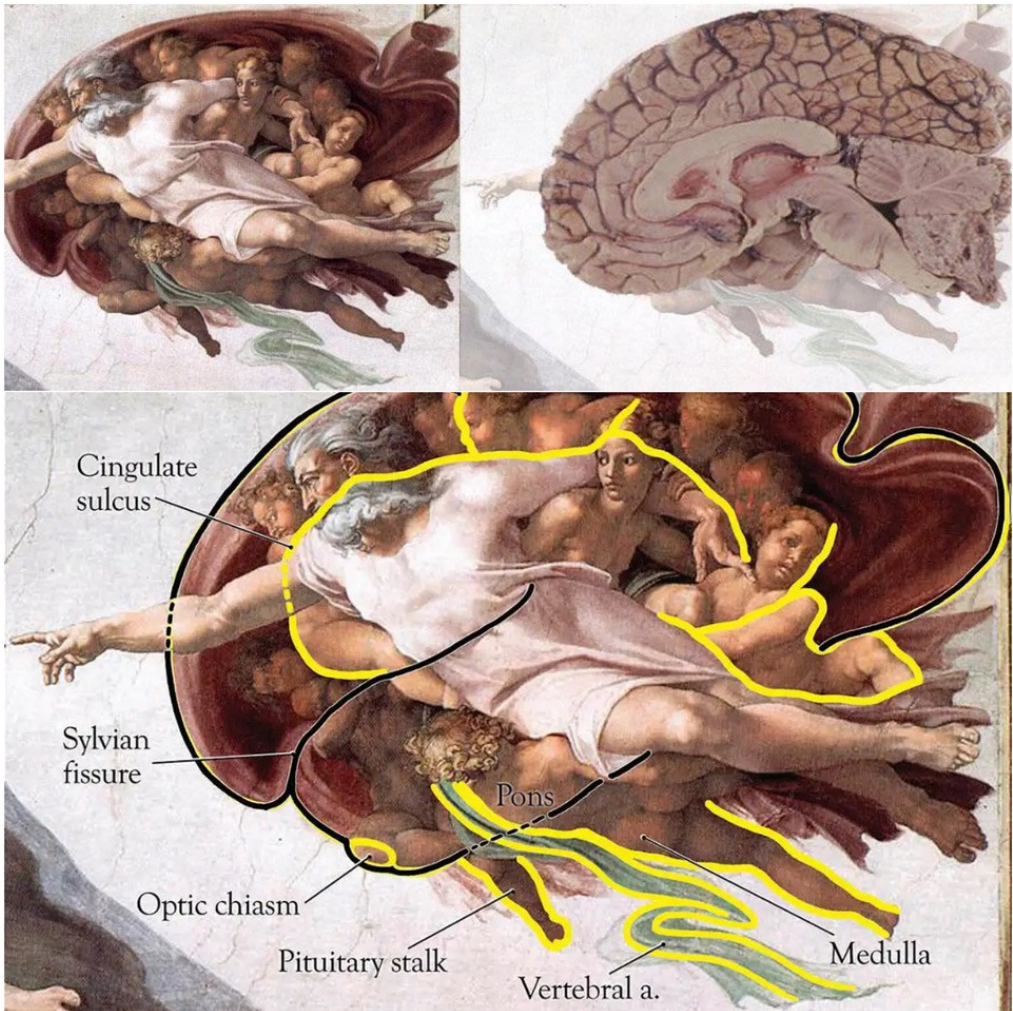
You are the salt of the earth; you are the light of the world.  
Let your light shine before all men, that they may see your works and glorify your Father.  
The light shall bring new hope to a world of darkness, for you are the light of the world.

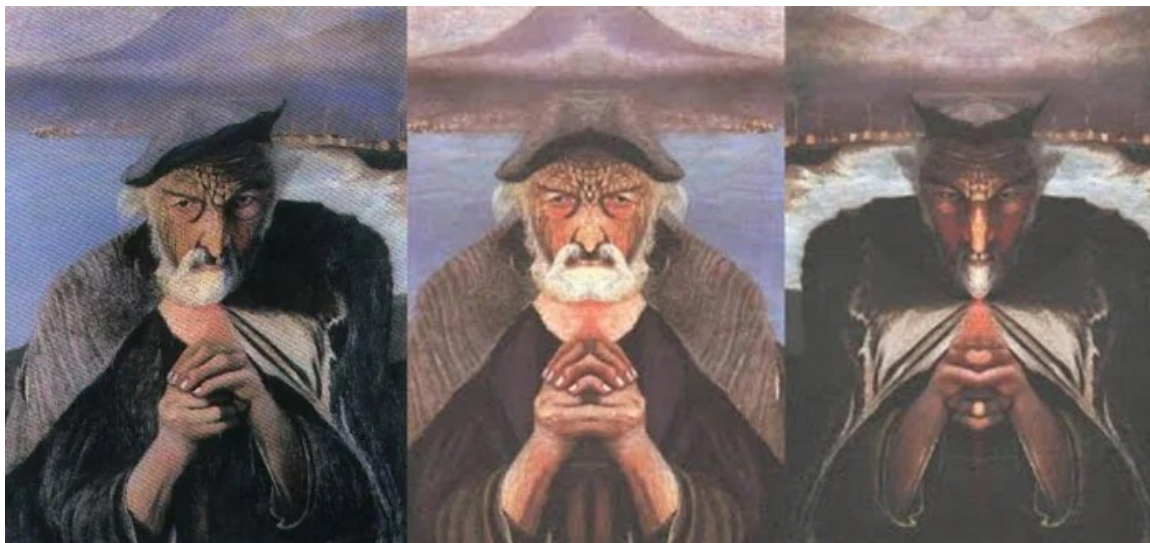
He who follows me is not in darkness, for I am the light of the world!  
I abide in you; my power is with you.  
The Father, Spirit, Son, dwells within your life as One.  
You are the salt of the earth; you are the light of the world.  
Carry the light to the world!  
Go ye therefore into every nation, sharing the light of the Lord.  
And I will be with you. I will lead you through.  
By the power of the Lord you will know: you are the light of the world!

Sermon

“Resurrection Ethics”  
(Luke 6:17-26)

Josh Carney





## Silent Reflection

So, friends, every day do something that won't compute.... Give your approval to all you cannot understand.... Ask the questions that have no answers. Put your faith in two inches of humus that will build under the trees every thousand years.... Laugh. Be joyful though you have considered all the facts.... Practice resurrection.

—Wendell Berry, *The Country of Marriage*

## Hymn of Commitment, No. 249

“The Church of Christ Cannot Be Bound”

*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

Matt Rosencrans

**Choral Benediction**      “Go Now and Live for the Savior”      Kurt Kaiser

Go now, and live for the Savior; go, may this joy be your joy too.  
Go, may this presence ever guide you; go, live this life the whole day through.

**Postlude**      “Concerto in C Major,” BWV 595 (after Ernst)      J.S. Bach

## **Today at Seventh**

**Our Pianist today** is Jim Williams.

**The Sanctuary Flowers** are given in gratitude for the family of God at Seventh & James.

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

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