



**Seventh & James Baptist Church**  
**March 2, 2025 · 11:00 a.m.**  
**Transfiguration Sunday**

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**Chiming of the Hour**

**Meditation**

“Allein Gott in der Höh sei Ehr”  
(All Glory Be to God on High)

J.G. Walther

**Welcome and Call to Worship**

Scott Turner

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**

“Make a Joyful Noise”

John Purifoy

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all ye lands.

Serve the Lord with gladness. Come into His presence with singing! (Psalm 100)

**Processional Hymn, No. 161**

“See Our Lord in All His Glory”

**Litany of Imagination**

Tammie Hartgroves

One: Do you remember when unicorns would walk down the hall like they were going to follow you to the bathroom to brush their teeth? And rainbow dragons would hover above your spot at the dinner table hoping some food would take flight in the collision between fork and knife? Do you remember when our imaginations were unbridled by the cares and concerns of this world?

**Many: God, in the midst of seeing, we have grown blind.**

One: Have you ever closed your eyes outside? Maybe it was to hear the birds' song more clearly or as you were lying on your back by a clear, mountain lake or just drying off on the driveway...but as you closed your eyes, did it make you feel small? Did the world seem to grow in those moments?

**Many: God, in the midst of seeing, we have grown blind.**

One: We often use our knowledge to try and think the mystery out of life, like squeezing the last drop of water from a washcloth. And sometimes we use our sight to mark out anchor points in the path: handholds as if we were scaling a mountain instead of strolling down a trail. What if we were to risk closing our eyes and seeing with our hearts? What if we let the dragon fly around again?

**All: God, help us to trust the seeds of creativity you implanted in each one of us, that we might see and know and come to your kingdom like a child.**

**Prayer of Thanksgiving** Tammie Hartgroves

**Old Testament Reading** *Exodus 34:29-35* Bryce Shelton

**Epistle Reading** *2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2* Ryan McCord

**Hymn, No. 386** "Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee"

**Gospel Reading** *Luke 9:28-36* Matt Rosencrans

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

**Many: Thanks be to God.**

**Prayers of God's People** Matt Rosencrans

**Offertory** "Andante" from *Piano Sonata in E Minor* Florence Price

Michael Clark, *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.

## 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 99

Daniel Farris

One: The Lord is king; let the peoples tremble! He sits enthroned upon the cherubim;  
let the earth quake!

**Many: The Lord is great in Zion; he is exalted over all the peoples. Let them  
praise your great and awesome name. Holy is he!**

One: Mighty King, lover of justice, you have established equity; you have executed  
justice and righteousness in Jacob.

**Many: Extol the Lord our God; worship at his footstool. Holy is he!**

One: Moses and Aaron were among his priests, Samuel also was among those who  
called on his name. They cried to the Lord, and he answered them.

**Many: He spoke to them in the pillar of cloud; they kept his decrees, and the  
statutes that he gave them.**

One: O Lord our God, you answered them; you were a forgiving God to them, but an  
avenger of their wrongdoings.

**All: Extol the Lord our God, and worship at his holy mountain; for the Lord  
our God is holy.**

## Anthem

“Fairest Lord Jesus”

Derek Hakes

Fairest Lord Jesus, ruler of all nature,  
O thou of God and man the Son,  
Thee will I cherish, Thee will I honor, thou, my soul's glory, joy, and crown.

Fair are the meadows, fairer still the woodlands,  
Robed in the blooming garb of spring:  
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer, who makes the woeful heart to sing.  
Fair is the sunshine, fairer still the moonlight,  
And all the twinkling starry host:  
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer than all the angels heaven can boast.  
Beautiful Savior! Lord of all the nations!  
Son of God and Son of Man!  
Glory and honor, praise, adoration, now and forevermore be thine. Amen.

**Sermon**

“Mountain Memories...”  
*(Luke 9:28-36)*

Erin Conaway

### **Silent Reflection**

In the transfigured face of Christ, God’s light shines in our lives as well. Through grief and fear, doubt and cynicism, violence and war, suffering and death, our way is illumined by the holy light of God’s presence and love. We first see it on the mountaintop, and we carry it down to the flatlands and even into the valley of the shadow of death. The light from above then glows within and gradually dissolves all fear.

— Patricia Farris, *The Christian Century*

### **Hymn of Commitment, No. 159**

“Fairest Lord 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**

“The Majesty and Glory”

Tom Fettke

Alleluia! The majesty and glory of your name! Alleluia!

**Postlude**

“God of Grace”

Paul Manz

## **Today at Seventh**

**Our Pianist today** is Michael Clark.

**The Sanctuary Flowers** are given in honor of Mary Darden’s retirement.

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

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