



Seventh & James Baptist Church
March 23, 2025 · 11:00 a.m.
The Third Sunday in Lent

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Chiming of the Hour

Meditation

“Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy”

(RESTORATION,
1835 *Southern Harmony*)
arr. Herbert Colvin

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.

Missions Moment

Ellen Di Giosia, CBF Texas

Choral Summons

“When I Survey”

Robert H. Young

When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride.

Processional Hymn, No. 335

“Praise the Lord! Ye Heavens, Adore Him”

Litany of Mercy

Scott Turner

One: Have mercy on us, O God, according to your enduring love; according to your abundant mercy, blot out our transgressions. Wash us thoroughly from our iniquity, and cleanse us from our sin.

Many: Merciful God, expand our hearts to include more neighbors.

One: For we know our transgressions, and our sin is ever before us. Against you, you alone, have we sinned, and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgment. You desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach us wisdom in our secret hearts. Purge us with hyssop, and we shall be clean; wash us, and we shall be whiter than snow.

Many: Merciful God, expand our hearts to include more neighbors.

One: Create in us clean hearts, O God, and put a new and right spirit within us. Do not cast us away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from us. Restore to us the joy of your salvation, and sustain in us a willing spirit.

All: Merciful God, expand our hearts to include more neighbors. Then we will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners like us and with us will return to you. O Lord, open our lips, and our mouths will declare your praise to all of our neighbors, as we walk in your mercy and grace.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Scott Turner

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 55:1-9

Carolyn Keathley

Epistle Reading

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

Naymond Keathley

Hymn, No. 49

“As the Deer”

Gospel Reading

Luke 13:1-9

Erin Conaway

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

Many: Thanks be to God.

Prayers of God’s People

Erin Conaway

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.
Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth, as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory,
Forever and ever. Amen.

Offertory

“I Need Thee Every Hour”

arr. Herbert Colvin

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

(sung to O WALY, WALY, tune of “When Love Is Found,” No. 524)

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 63:1-8

Daniel Farris

One: O God, you are my God, I seek you, my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water. So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary, beholding your power and glory.

Many: Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you.

One: So I will bless you as long as I live; I will lift up my hands and call on your name.

Many: My soul is satisfied as with a rich feast, and my mouth praises you with joyful lips when I think of you on my bed, and meditate on you in the watches of the night;

One: For you have been my help, and in the shadow of your wings I sing for joy.

All: My soul clings to you; your right hand upholds me.

Anthem

“I Want Jesus to Walk with Me”

arr. Christopher Aspaas

I want Jesus to walk with me.
I want Jesus to walk with me.
All along my pilgrim journey,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

In my trials, Lord, walk with me.
In my trials, Lord, walk with me.
When my heart is almost breaking,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

I know Jesus will walk with me.
I know Jesus will walk with me.
All along my pilgrim journey,
Lord, I know Jesus will walk with me.

Sermon

“We Want Karma!! We Get Mercy...”

Erin Conaway

(Isaiah 55:1-9)

Silent Reflection

May Almighty God, with whom is the Word and from whom is the silence, grant to us gratitude for all his gracious gifts and wonder at his infinite mercy and love; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit come down upon you and remain with you always. Amen.

— Michael Mayne

Hymn of Commitment, No. 41

“There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy”

*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

One: Every step closer to Holy Week brings us that much closer to the darkness.

Many: Give us courage to walk this path with you.

One: We know even as the light grows dim, there is an increasing brightness behind the shadows.

Many: Fellow bearers of light...let us walk out together in hope and joy.

One: Go out into the world ready to receive unexpected grace and live into the high calling of Christ's sacrificial love.

Choral Benediction

“When I Survey”

Robert H. Young

Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a present far too small.

Love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.

Postlude

“If Thou Would Suffer God to Guide Thee” BWV 642

J.S. Bach

Today at Seventh

Our Pianist today is Donnie Balmos.

The Artwork on the Cover is by Rachel Farris.

The Sanctuary Flowers are given in honor of Valerie Willis with gratitude for her 39 years of service at Seventh & James!

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

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