

Seventh & James Baptist Church
October 25, 2026 · 11:00 a.m.
Children's Sabbath

Seventh & James Baptist Church
October 25, 2026 · 11:00 a.m.
Children's Sabbath

Chiming of the Hour

Meditation "Lord, I Want to Be a Christian" arr. Kiesling

Children's Handbell Choir

Dean Kiesling, *director*

Welcome Leslie Rosencrans

Call to Worship Sefton Farris

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 "Joyful Noise" Ruth Elaine Schram

Choristers

Jim Williams, *piano*
Pat Hynan, Dean Kiesling, and Terry Reeves, *handbells*

Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all the earth;
Make a joyful noise unto the Lord.
Worship Him with joy, worship Him with joy,
Come into His presence with a song.

Know that the Lord is God; He is the one who made us.
We are His, we are His people, we are the sheep of His pasture.

Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all the earth.
Make a joyful noise unto the Lord.
Worship Him with joy, worship Him with joy,
Come into His presence with a song.
Come, make a joyful noise!

Gathering Hymn, No. 310 "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

Litany of Loving Our Neighbor Camden McAllister

One: The Bible tells us over and over we are to love our neighbor as we love ourselves.

Many: God, help us to love.

One: Jesus said it was the second greatest commandment, and all of the law and the prophets hang on these two things: loving God and loving our neighbors.

Many: God, help us to love.

One: It's easy to love the people who love us, the people who are like us, the people who don't need anything from us. It's harder to love the ones who don't like us, are mean to us, or who need something we aren't sure we want to give.

Many: God, help us to love.

One: Help us be friends to the lonely ones. Help us to speak out for those whose voices go unheard. Help us love our enemies and the people who create conflict in our hearts.

All: God, help us to love.

Prayer of Thanksgiving Alden Chaput

Meditation "Show Me Thy Ways" Mark Patterson

Choristers

Show me Thy ways, O Lord. Teach me Thy paths, Lord, and I will follow.
Show me Thy ways, O Lord. Guide me in Your truth, lead me in Your love,
Teach me, Lord, I pray. Show me Thy ways.

You are the God of my salvation; You are the hope of my days.
You are the king of all creation; I long to know Your ways.
May Your love go before me; may Your Spirit be my guide.
May Your word stand beside me as I serve You, Lord, all my life.

Show me Thy ways, O Lord. Teach me Thy paths, Lord, and I will follow.
Show me Thy ways, O Lord. Guide me in Your truth, lead me in Your love,
Teach me, Lord, I pray. Show me Thy ways.

Old Testament Reading *Leviticus 19:1-2; 15-18* ShimoNom Felix

Epistle Reading *1 Thessalonians 2:1-8* Ben Coker

Hymn, No. 264 "Where Charity and Love Prevail"

Gospel Reading *Matthew 22:34-46* Eri Hatakeyama

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

The Prayers of God's People Leslie Rosencrans

Offertory "Siciliano in G Minor" from the Second Flute Sonata J.S. Bach
Trans. Edwin Hughes

Jim Williams, *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 Harper Hall 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 1 Jun Hatakeyama

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 "The Image of God" Craig Courtney

Eury Alvarez, *oboe*

In the beginning God shaped and formed me. I am skillfully and wonderfully made.
I am the image of my Creator. In every part of me His likeness is displayed.
Life flows from Life and love from loving; gifts of the Father by nature and by grace.
A heart made glad, a soul unshaken; unbounded joy, in every breath a song of praise.

For His own purpose, God shaped and formed me. I have a place within His plan.
I am the image of my Creator. My past and future are secure within His hand.
Life flows from Life and love from loving; gifts of the Father by nature and by grace.
A heart made glad, a soul unshaken; unbounded joy, in every breath a song of praise.

Inscription for today's anthem: Brock McCauley is a beautiful six-year-old boy. He is also a person who has Down syndrome, autism, a sensory processing disorder, and an immune deficiency. But more importantly, like each of us, he bears the image of God. The truth of Psalm 139 reminds us that we are all created in God's image, uniquely gifted for His own plan and purpose.

Sermon "You Shall Not Stand Idly By" Erin Conaway

(Leviticus 19:1-2; 15-18)

Silent Reflection

In the end, we will remember not the words of our enemies, but the silence of our friends.

— Martin Luther King Jr., *Where Do We Go From Here: Chaos or Community*

Hymn of Commitment, No. 271 "Christian People, Sing Together"

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.

Congregational Blessing Erin Conaway

One: Nancy and Mark, beloved members of our family of God in this place, as you depart for this next season of life:

Many: May the Lord bless you and keep you.

One: God has given us the privilege of using our arms to hold you and keep you, though we haven't always gotten it right, it has been our great joy.

Many: May the face of God shine upon you.

One: In this place we have shared love, care, kinship, and hope; learning and teaching, giving and receiving from you… as you've traveled with us and given us the grace to travel with you.

Many: May the Lord be gracious unto you.

One: You may leave our present company, but you will not leave our hearts. We will keep you, no longer in our arms, but constantly in our prayers, and we will watch the horizon for your return and our glad reunion, regardless of its location.

All: May God give you peace… now and forevermore. Amen.

Choral Benediction "The Lord Bless You and Keep You" Peter C. Lutkin

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord lift His countenance upon you, and give you peace,
The Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you, and be gracious;
The Lord be gracious, gracious unto you. Amen.

Postlude "All Things Bright and Beautiful" (Royal Oak)

Today at Seventh

Choristers and Children's Handbell Choir

Sefton Farris	Camden McAllister	Erik van Gorder
ShimoNom Felix	Comfort Michael	Grace van Gorder
Eri Hatakeyama	Gavin Myers	Tristan van Gorder
Jun Hatakeyama	Edward Smith	
Liam Land	Clare van Gorder	

Our pianist today is Jim Williams.

The Sanctuary Flowers are given in honor of our children, who remind us to ask hard questions, laugh loudly, and celebrate the moments of each day.

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

Permission to print music obtained from CCLI, license #1450684. Permission to record and stream worship services from CCLI, license #22321029.