

"Zacchaeus" by Cara B. Hochhalter



THE WORSHIP OF GOD
SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY
FEBRUARY 23, 2025
ONLINE AND IN-PERSON WORSHIP
11:00 A.M.

The Worship of God Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany February 23, 2025

As we try to follow Christ in worship, in our work lives, or in the marketplace, we can remember a happy saint of the church: wee Zacchaeus. We may not have to climb a tree to see Jesus above the crowd – Jesus will find us anyway. If, however, you are finding yourself tired of staring at the backs of the crowd, look for your tree to climb.

- Laura S. Sugg

Gathering Music

"To God Be the Glory"

William H. Doane/Marilynn Ham. © 1999 Pilot Point Music/Lillenas Pub. Co. Used by permission. CCLI #20126570

Welcome and Lighting of the Christ Candle

Rev. Cristina Adams

Prelude

"Immortal, Invisible"

Lani Smith. © 1987 Lorenz Pub. Co/The Lorenz Corp. Used by permission. CCLI #20126570

LIFTING OUR VOICES IN PRAISE

* Call to Worship

Andrew Lord

Psalm 37

Leader: Take delight in the Lord, who satisfies the desires of your heart. **People: Commit your way to the Lord and trust in God's actions.**

Leader: Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for God.

People: The Lord is our salvation and our refuge in times of trouble.

* Hymn of Praise (CONGR 36)

"Light on the Path"

ELLERS

* Passing of the Peace

Leader: The Lord be with you. **People: And also with you!** Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord!

* Responding in Peace (CONGR 536, vs 1)

"Lord, You Call Us to Your Service"

LAUDA ANIMA

Children's Sermon

Sharing Ourselves in Prayer

Call to Prayer

"Praise We Sing to Thee"

Words: Jane Lewis McKnight. Music: Josef Haydn, arr. Morten J. Luvass. © 1945, renewed 1972 by Neil A. Kjos Music Company. Used by permission. CCLI #20126570

Hearing Our Joys and Concerns

^{*} In-person worshippers are invited to stand as able

Unison Discipline of Confession

Merciful God, we confess that we have not followed your ways or trusted your promises. We love only those who love us; we show kindness only to those who are kind to us; we give only when we expect to receive. Forgive us, Lord. Fill our hearts with your selfless love. Change our lives by your matchless grace.

Discipline of Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Children of the Most High God, through Jesus Christ our Lord we have received grace in good measure—spilling out and running over.

Morning Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

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. Amen.

Prayer Response (CONGR 680)

"I Then Shall Live" FINLANDIA

RETURNING OUR GIFTS IN GRATITUDE

"Ministry not Mortgage" Moment

John Pauls, MNM Steering Team

Sentences of Stewardship

Offertory

"'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus"
William J. Kirkpatrick/Marilynn Ham. © 1999 Pilot Point Music/Lillenas Pub. Co.
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* Doxology and Prayer of Thanksgiving

(Those attending Children's Church may leave now.)

PROCLAIMING THE TRUTH WITH HOPE

* Gospel Reading

Rev. Matthew Sturtevant

Luke 19.1-8

Leader: This is the Word of God for the People of God.

People: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

Rev. Matthew Sturtevant

"Threading the Needle: Zacchaeus"

* Hymn of Invitation (CONGR 665)

"Because I Have Been Given Much"
SEMINARY

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- * Life of the Church
- * Benediction

Postlude "Magnificat"

Forrest Hill. © 1987 Lorenz Pub. Co/The Lorenz Corp. Used by permission. CCLI #20126570

The flowers on the altar today are given for the greater glory of God by Susan Pauls & family in honor of her husband John's birthday today.

TODAY IN WORSHIP

Senior Pastor: Rev. Dr. Matthew Sturtevant
Assoc. Pastor for Children, Youth, & Families: Rev. Cristina Adams
Liturgist: Andrew Lord • Organist & Choir Accompanist: Evelyn Falen • Chancel Choir Director: Mark Robinson
Livestream Video Crew: Joanna Gillette, Brandon Gillette • Sound: Chad Johnston

YouTube & Facebook Chat Moderator: Jenny Purvis

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Local Church: Morris Baptist Center

American Baptist Churches, USA: Executive Min. Rev. Dr. Trisha Miller Manarin, serving the American Baptist Churches of the District of Columbia Baptist Convention International Ministries Global Servants: Ketly & Vital Pierre, serving in the Dominican Republic

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Every member of First Baptist Church, like every disciple of Christ, is commissioned to participate in Christian ministry.

The following persons have been called by this congregation to empower such ministry:

Rev. Dr. Matthew Sturtevant – matt@firstbaptistlawrence.com
Rev. Cristina Adams – cristina@firstbaptistlawrence.com
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Senior Pastor Assoc. Pastor for Children, Youth, and Families Administrative Support Manager Bookkeeper Building Manager Digital Media Manager Director of Worship Music Organist & Chancel Choir Accompanist 8:38 a.m. Worship Pianist

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