

# Earle Street Baptist Church

10:30 am Worship

September 15, 2024

*Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost*

CHIMES

WELCOME

Dale Lynch

PRELUDE

*Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*  
Melanie Wells, clarinet; Debbie Blume, piano

arr. Ron Harris

CALL TO WORSHIP

Vicki Merck

Leader: There is within each of us an emptiness that only God can fill.

**People: Still we try to fill that void in so many other ways.**

Leader: We want what we do not have.

**People: And when we get what we want, we are still not satisfied.**

Leader: That is because there is within each one of us an emptiness that only God can fill.

**People: So we gather to worship the only One who can satisfy the deepest longing of our souls,**

Leader: Responding again to the gracious invitation to draw near to God,

**All: And to claim the promise that, when we do, God draws near to us. Amen.**

INVOCATION

\*HYMN OF PRAISE #319 *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty* LOBE DEN HERREN

(All children, grade 5 and under, may come forward on the final stanza.)

**Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!**

**O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy health and salvation!**

**All ye who hear, now to His temple draw near; praise Him in glad adoration.**

**Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,**

**Shelters thee under His wings, yea, so gently sustaineth!**

**Hast thou not seen how thy desires e'er have been granted in what He ordaineth?**

**Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy works and defend thee;**

**Surely His goodness and mercy here daily attend thee.**

**Ponder anew what the Almighty can do, if with His love He befriend thee.**

**Praise to the Lord, O let all that is in me adore Him!**

**All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before Him.**

**Let the Amen sound from His people again, gladly forever adore Him.**

CHILDREN'S LOVE OFFERING

Catherine Carnes/Rebecca Register

Miracle Hill

(Following this, preschoolers, ages 3 – K5, may go to Sunday School,  
and children, grades 1 – 5, may go to Children's Church.)

\*OFFERTORY HYMN #57

*Be Still My Soul*

FINLANDIA

**Be still, my soul: the Lord is on your side. Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain;**

**Leave to your God to order and provide; in every change He faithful will remain.**

**Be still, my soul: your best, your heavenly friend through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.**

**Be still, my soul: your God will undertake to guide the future, as in ages past.  
Your hope, your confidence let nothing shake; all now mysterious shall be bright at last.**

**Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still know  
The Christ who ruled them while He dwelt below.**

**Be still, my soul: the hour is hastening on when we shall be forever with the Lord,  
When disappointment, grief, and fear are gone, sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored.  
Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past, all safe and blessed we shall meet at last.**

\*OFFERTORY PRAYER

Derek Lord

OFFERTORY

*No One Ever Cared for Me Like Jesus*

arr. Nancy Lyons Smith

\*RESPONSE

*Doxology*

OLD 100TH

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly hosts, praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 40:25-31

Gary Strickland

<sup>25</sup>“To whom will you compare me? Or who is my equal?” says the Holy One. <sup>26</sup>Lift up your eyes and look to the heavens: Who created all these? He who brings out the starry host one by one and calls forth each of them by name. Because of his great power and mighty strength, not one of them is missing. <sup>27</sup>Why do you complain, Jacob? Why do you say, Israel, “My way is hidden from the Lord; my cause is disregarded by my God?” <sup>28</sup>Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom. <sup>29</sup>He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. <sup>30</sup>Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; <sup>31</sup>but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

*Nearer, Still Nearer*

arr. Dan Forrest

Melanie Wells, clarinet; Sanctuary Choir

Nearer, still nearer, close to Thy heart, draw me, my Savior, so precious Thou art;

Fold me, O fold me close to Thy breast, shelter me safe in that “Haven of Rest,”

Shelter me safe in that “Haven of Rest.”

Nearer, still nearer, nothing I bring, naught as an offering to Jesus my King,  
Only my sinful, now contrite heart, grant me the cleansing Thy blood doth impart.

Nearer, still nearer, while life shall last. ‘Til safe in glory my anchor is cast,

Through endless ages, ever to be, nearer, my Savior, still nearer to Thee!

Nearer my Savior, nearer my Savior, nearer my Savior, to Thee.

Nearer, nearer, close to thee!

SERMON

**“Do You Not Know? Have You Not Heard?”**

Gary Strickland

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

\*HYMN OF COMMITMENT #406

ABERYSTWYTH

*Jesus, Lover of My Soul*

**Jesus, lover of my soul, let me to Thy bosom fly, while the nearer waters roll,  
While the tempest still is high; hide me, O my Savior, hide, till the storm of life is past;  
Safe into the haven guide, O receive my soul at last!**

**Other refuge have I none; hangs my helpless soul on Thee;  
Leave, ah! leave me not alone, still support and comfort me.  
All my trust on Thee is stayed, all my help from Thee I bring;  
Cover my defenseless head with the shadow of Thy wing.**

**Plenteous grace with Thee is found, grace to cover all my sin;  
Let the healing steams abound, made and keep me pure within.  
Thou of life the fountain art, freely let me take of Thee;  
Spring Thou up within my heart, rise to all eternity.**

INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS

\*BENEDICTION

Gary Strickland

\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #705

GLORIA PATRI

*Glory Be to the Father*

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be;  
World without end. Amen, amen.**

\*POSTLUDE

*Postlude on THAXTED*

arr. Gordon Young

\*Congregation will please stand.

**Acolyte**—Reese Young

**Deacon of the Week**—Derek Lord

**Greeters**—Becky Bridges/Bruce Doolittle

**Sound Technician**—Frank Tedards

**Video Technician**—Dan Boehm

**Ushers**—Curtis Dobbins, Calder Standridge, Quay Farmer, Keith Merck, Rick Green, Robin Scott Blackburn

**Preschool/Children's Volunteers**— Tammi Knight, Tammy Dowdy, Brittani Costanza, Vicki Merck, Jeannie Flowe, Melanie Wells, Jane Leo, Noellen Groff, Ashley Patterson, Marsha Burt, Bill Burt