

Earle Street Baptist Church

10:30 am Worship

September 27, 2026

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

CHIMES

WELCOME

Gary Strickland

PRELUDE

Improvisation on KELERIN

by Jackson Morton

CALL TO WORSHIP

Stuart Moore

Leader: We gather to witness the story of God's salvation acted out in the waters of baptism. In holy worship, remember your baptism and give thanks.

People: As we watch the picture of putting away old things and rising to walk in newness of life, once again we hear Jesus Christ call us into the risky vocation of Christian discipleship.

Leader: Through our baptism we are marked as a peculiar people who believe in the radical act of our redemption through Jesus Christ.

People: We are immersed into newness of life and raised to walk on mission with Christ in the world.

Leader: We do not know what new thing will be born in us, but we ask God's grace to respond in Christ-like love.

People: Let us listen once again for the voice from heaven, naming us the beloved children of God, connecting us to all who have felt the waters of baptism soaking them in grace.

Leader: God, drench us in the living water of your love. Immerse us in the depths of life in your Spirit.

All: Raise us once again to walk in new life with you. Amen.

INVOCATION

ORDINANCE OF BAPTISM

Janice Hinnant

Candidates: Hadley Clow and Mary-Brooke Wells

*HYMN OF PRAISE #448

Come to the Water

KELERIN

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

Come to the water on this holy day. Our Lord has called us, we come to obey.

Follow the One who has shown us the way. Live in God's kingdom forever.

Gathering under God's heaven above, brothers and sisters surround you in love.

God's Holy Spirit will come like a dove now to be with you forever.

God gives us water to spring through our years, water for life and the water for tears.

Though life runs dry and our hope disappears, God will be with us forever.

Here as we meet at the water's face, we come to celebrate wonderful grace.

And as we come, we discover our place, joined with God's family forever.

*OFFERTORY HYMN #14 *Eternal Father, Strong to Save*

MELITA

**Eternal Father, strong to save, whose arm doth bind the restless wave,
Who bids the mighty ocean deep its own appointed limits keep;
O hear us when we cry to Thee for those in peril on the sea.**

**O Savior, whose almighty word the winds and waves submissive heard,
Who walked upon the foaming deep, and calm amid the rage did sleep;
O hear us when we cry to Thee for those in peril on the sea.**

**O Holy Spirit, who did brood upon the waters, dark and rude,
And from their angry tumult cease, and give for wild confusion peace;
O hear us when we cry to Thee for those in peril on the sea.**

**O Trinity of love and power, Your children shield in danger's hour;
From rock and tempest, fire, and foe, protect them where so e'er they go;
Thus, evermore shall rise to Thee glad hymns of praise from land and sea.**

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

Randy Ellenburg

OFFERTORY

Footsteps of Jesus

arr. Don Schlosser

*RESPONSE #706

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.**

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 8:23-27

Gary Strickland

²³ Then he got into the boat and his disciples followed him. ²⁴ Suddenly a furious storm came up on the lake, so that the waves swept over the boat. But Jesus was sleeping. ²⁵ The disciples went and woke him, saying, "Lord, save us! We're going to drown!" ²⁶ He replied, "You of little faith, why are you so afraid?" Then he got up and rebuked the winds and the waves, and it was completely calm. ²⁷ The men were amazed and asked, "What kind of man is this? Even the winds and the waves obey him!"

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Christ Be in My Waking

arr. Larry Shackley

Sanctuary Choir

Christ be in my waking, as the sun is rising, in my day of working, with me every hour.
Christ be in my resting as the day is ending, calming and refreshing, watching through the night.

Christ be in my thinking and my understanding, guarding me from evil, walking in the light.
Christ be in my speaking, every word a blessing, pure and not deceiving, grace to all who hear.

Jesus, this is my devotion, all my life to know You, every day to walk with You.
Savior, You're my deepest longing; You're the one I live for; teach me, Lord, to walk with You.

Christ be in my gladness, for the joy of living, thankful for the goodness of the Father's hand.
Christ be in my sorrow, in my day of darkness, knowing that I follow in the steps He trod.

Christ when hope has faded, nothing left to cling to, every pleasure jaded, every well is dry.

Christ the loving Shepherd draws me with His kindness,
Leads me from the desert to the streams of life.

Jesus, this is my devotion, all my life to know You, every day to walk with You.
Savior, You're my deepest longing; You're the one I live for; teach me, Lord, to walk with You.

Christ be in my waking, as the sun is rising, in my day of working, with me every hour,
With me every hour, with me every hour.

MESSAGE

“Why Are You Afraid?”
Sermon Series: *Questions God Asks*

Gary Strickland

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

*HYMN OF COMMITMENT #72 *Day By Day* BLOTT EN DAG

**Day by day and with each passing moment, strength I find to meet my trials here;
Trusting in my Father's wise bestowment, I've no cause for worry or for fear.
He whose heart is kind beyond all measure gives unto each day what He deems best—
Lovingly, its part of pain and pleasure, mingling toil with peace and rest.**

**Every day the Lord Himself is near me with a special mercy for each hour;
All my cares He gladly bears and cheers me, He whose name is Counselor and Power.
The protection of His child and treasure is a charge that on Himself He laid:
“As your days, your strength shall be in measure,” this the pledge to me He made.**

**Help me then in every tribulation so to trust your promises, O Lord,
That I lose not faith's sweet consolation offered me within Your holy Word.
Help me, Lord, when toil and trouble meeting, e'er to take, as from a father's hand,
One by one, the days, the moments fleeting, till I reach the promised land.**

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

Veset on Ave Maris Stella

by Marcel Dupré

*Congregation please stand, if able.

Hearing devices are available upon request. Please see one of the ushers if you would like to use one.
Our worship services are live streamed via the ESBC YouTube channel. The services are also archived
for future viewing on YouTube.

For an explanation of the meaning of the colors and symbols used for worship in our sanctuary, please
refer to the worship guide located on the front page of the hymnal.

We welcome Jackson Morton back as our guest organist today.

Acolyte—Luke Register

Deacon of the Week—Randy Ellenburg

Greeters—Margaret Kirby and Norma Green

Sound Technician—Eddy Leo/Wells Smith

Video Technician—Derek Lord

Ushers—Mary Arrowood, Glenn Arrowood, Dru Hester, Denise Plumblee, Roger Massengale, Quay Farmer

Preschool/Children's Volunteers—Rebecca Register, Marsha Burt, Anna Kay Lord, Elizabeth King, Jan Hubble, Erin Baggett, Bill Burt, Calder Standridge, Jane Leo, Noellen Groff, Gabe Carnes, Jeannie Flowe