

Earle Street Baptist Church

10:30 a.m. Worship

January 12, 2025

First Sunday after the Epiphany

CHIMES

WELCOME Dale Lynch

PRELUDE *The Lord Is My Light* arr. Mickelson/Wyrtzen

CALL TO WORSHIP Russell Young

Leader: God, it's a tall order you set before us—to be light to the world.

People: Are we really the kind of people you had in mind to minister alongside you, people like us who forget to carry our light any farther than our doorstep?

Leader: And the world as our place of service? Our candles are already burning at both ends. Sometimes your holy calling is an idea too big to get our hearts around.

People: But, the more we know of you, the more we know that you imagine us as your fellow servants on the road, and that it is through us that your light shines in the world.

Leader: Help us take the risk of exposing our hearts, finding the lost, healing the broken, feeding the hungry,

People: Releasing the prisoners, rebuilding the nations, and bringing peace among the people;

All: Starting right here and right now. Amen.

INVOCATION

*HYMN OF PRAISE #353 JUBILEE

Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

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

CHILDREN'S LOVE OFFERING Rebecca Register

Marie Younts Girls' Home

(Following this, preschoolers, ages 3 – K5, may go to Sunday School.)

*OFFERTORY HYMN #646 CAMACHA

Teach Me Your Way

*OFFERTORY PRAYER Dana Collier

OFFERTORY *I Am Thine, O Lord* arr. Dan Mitchell

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.

SCRIPTURE READINGS Isaiah 43:1-7 Gary Strickland

Philippians 3:10-16

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM *Be Not Afraid* Craig Courtney

Sanctuary Choir

MESSAGE **“Resolve”** Gary Strickland

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

*HYMN OF COMMITMENT #501 RESOLUTION

I Am Resolved

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 *Sortie in F Major* Paul Fey

*Congregation will please stand.

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.

Acolyte—Bear Wilkinson

Deacon of the Week—Dana Collier

Greeters—Dana Collier, Bert Kirby, Norma Green

Sound Technician—Jay Gibson

Video Technician—Derek Lord

Ushers—Mary Beth Young, Bruce Doolittle, Mary Arrowood, Glenn Arrowood, Monte McKinney, Robin Scott Blackburn

Preschool/Children's Volunteers—Sarah Spivey, Tammy Dowdy, Amanda Cushman, Calder Standridge, Jeannie Flowe, Jane Leo, Noellen Groff, Margo Love, Emily Watson, Brittani Costanza

Be Not Afraid

By Craig Courtney

Be not afraid: for I have redeemed you;

Be not afraid: I have called you by name.

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;

When you pass through the floods, they will not sweep over you;

When you walk through the fire, you will not be consumed;

You are mine, you are precious in my sight.

Be not afraid: for I have redeemed you;

Be not afraid: I have called you by name.

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;

When you pass through the floods, they will not sweep over you;

When you walk through the fire, you will not be consumed;

You are mine, you are precious in my sight.

My love for you is everlasting,

My love for you shall have no end.

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;

When you pass through the floods, they will not sweep over you;

When you walk through the fire, you will not be consumed;

You are mine, you are precious in my sight.

Greenville Church Without Walls is starting a new ministry at Grove Elementary this Thursday, January 9th. The focus will be teaching young boys on how to grow into men. We will meet weekly after school with myself as the lead teacher. There will be guest speakers and instructors involved as well. I'm asking any of you with young sons, grandsons, nephews etc., with used blazers or dress jackets that your boys have outgrown please donate them. My vision is to have each boy come to the training sessions in a dress jacket. Please keep us in your prayers as we move forward walking in faith. I'm reminding of this quote by the African American Abolitionist Fredrick Douglass who himself was an escaped slave “it easier to build strong boys than to rebuild broken men.”

Thank you,
Alfred Johnson
Senior Pastor
Greenville Church Without Walls

If you have any used blazers or dress jackets you would like to donate, please bring them to the church. We will collect them through Sunday, January 19.