

# Earle Street Baptist Church

10:30 am Worship

December 1, 2024

## *First Sunday of Advent*

CHIMES

WELCOME

Dale Lynch

CIRCLE OF WELCOME

Chirinjev Peterson  
Lutheran Services

PRELUDE

*O Holy Night*

arr. Elmo Mercer

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Young Family

Leader: On this first Sunday of Advent, another Christian year begins,

**People: And the church begins to tell the gospel story once again.**

Leader: The story begins with the birth of Jesus,

**People: When people who walked in darkness were looking for the light.**

Leader: In this season of Advent, we are looking for the light again.

**People: Now is the time of watching and waiting.**

Leader: The same Jesus who came as a baby, is coming now by His Spirit, and will come again as King of kings and Lord of lords.

**All: Come, Lord Jesus; and when You come, bring us hope. Amen.**

LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF HOPE

Hymn #80

*Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love*

BAUGH

**Hope, peace, joy, and love! These are gifts you bring from above.  
Jesus, Emmanuel, come to be light of Your hope, reflected in me.**

INVOCATION

\*+ HYMN OF PRAISE #83

*Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

HYFRYDOL

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

**Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;  
From our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee.  
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art,  
Dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.**

**Born thy people to deliver, born a child, and yet a king;  
Born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.  
By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone;  
By thine all sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Catherine Carnes

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

\*OFFERTORY HYMN #95

BEREDEN VAG FOR HERRAN

*Prepare the Royal Highway*

**Prepare the royal highway; the King of kings is near!  
Let every hill and valley a level road appear!**

**The hope of every nation, God's promise of salvation.  
Hosanna to the Lord, for He fulfills God's word!**

**We wait our Savior's coming, our own eternal King!  
Long promised by the prophets, let heaven with praises ring.  
Our hope is ever growing, God's peace to all bestowing.  
Hosanna to the Lord, for He fulfills God's word!**

**Come fling the gates wide open to greet your promised King!  
All lands will bow before Him, their voices join to sing  
Of hope and peace abounding, of joy to heaven resounding.  
Hosanna to the Lord, for He fulfills God's word!**

**Christ's is no earthly kingdom; it comes from heaven above.  
His rule secures our freedom, and justice, truth, and love.  
Hope, peace, and joy our treasure, God's love above all measure.  
Hosanna to the Lord, for He fulfills God's word!**

\*OFFERTORY PRAYER

Phil Plumblee

OFFERTORY

*O Sing a Song of Bethlehem*

arr. David Winkler

\*RESPONSE

DIX

**For Thyself, best Gift Divine! To our race so freely given;  
For that great, great love of Thine, peace on earth and joy in heaven.  
Lord of all, to thee we raise, this our hymn of grateful praise. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING

Jeremiah 33:1-3, 10-16

Gary Strickland

<sup>1</sup>While Jeremiah was still confined in the courtyard of the guard, the word of the Lord came to him a second time: <sup>2</sup>“This is what the Lord says, he who made the earth, the Lord who formed it and established it—the Lord is his name: <sup>3</sup>‘Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know.’

<sup>10</sup>“This is what the Lord says: ‘You say about this place, “It is a desolate waste, without people or animals.” Yet in the towns of Judah and the streets of Jerusalem that are deserted, inhabited by neither people nor animals, there will be heard once more <sup>11</sup>the sounds of joy and gladness, the voices of bride and bridegroom, and the voices of those who bring thank offerings to the house of the Lord, saying, “Give thanks to the Lord Almighty, for the Lord is good; his love endures forever.” For I will restore the fortunes of the land as they were before,’ says the Lord. <sup>12</sup>“This is what the Lord Almighty says: ‘In this place, desolate and without people or animals—in all its towns there will again be pastures for shepherds to rest their flocks. <sup>13</sup>In the towns of the hill country, of the western foothills and of the Negev, in the territory of Benjamin, in the villages around Jerusalem and in the towns of Judah, flocks will again pass under the hand of the one who counts them,’ says the Lord. <sup>14</sup>“‘The days are coming,’ declares the Lord, ‘when I will fulfill the good promise I made to the people of Israel and Judah. <sup>15</sup>“‘In those days and at that time I will make a righteous Branch sprout from David’s line; he will do what is just and right in the land. <sup>16</sup>In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. This is the name by which it will be called: The Lord Our Righteous Savior.’

<sup>25</sup> “There will be signs in the sun, moon and stars. On the earth, nations will be in anguish and perplexity at the roaring and tossing of the sea. <sup>26</sup> People will faint from terror, apprehensive of what is coming on the world, for the heavenly bodies will be shaken. <sup>27</sup> At that time they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. <sup>28</sup> When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.” <sup>29</sup> He told them this parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees. <sup>30</sup> When they sprout leaves, you can see for yourselves and know that summer is near. <sup>31</sup> Even so, when you see these things happening, you know that the kingdom of God is near. <sup>32</sup> “Truly I tell you, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened. <sup>33</sup> Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away. <sup>34</sup> “Be careful, or your hearts will be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness and the anxieties of life, and that day will close on you suddenly like a trap. <sup>35</sup> For it will come on all those who live on the face of the whole earth. <sup>36</sup> Be always on the watch, and pray that you may be able to escape all that is about to happen, and that you may be able to stand before the Son of Man.”

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

arr. Mark Edwards

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

O come, Thou Dayspring, come and cheer  
Our spirits by Thine advent here;  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
And death's dark shadows put to flight.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

O come, Desire of nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind;  
Bid envy, strife, and quarrels cease;  
Fill the whole world with heaven's peace.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

MESSAGE

**“Long Lay the World in Sin and Error Pining”**

Gary Strickland

Sermon Series: *A Thrill of Hope*

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

\*HYMN OF COMMITMENT #99

AR HYD Y NOS

*View the Present Through the Promise*

**View the present through the promise, Christ will come again.  
Trust despite the deepening darkness, Christ will come again.  
Lift the world above its grieving through your watching and believing  
In the hope past hope's conceiving: Christ will come again.**

**Probe the present with the promise, Christ will come again.  
Let your daily actions witness, Christ will come again.  
Let you loving and your giving and your justice and forgiving  
Be a sign to all the living: Christ will come again.**

**Match the present to the promise, Christ will come again.  
Make this hope your guiding premise, Christ will come again.  
Pattern all your calculating and the world you are creating  
To the advent you are waiting: Christ will come again.**

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

*Suisse Noel*

Louis Claude D'Aquin

\*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**—Graham Patterson

**Deacon of the Week**—Phil Plumblee

**Greeters**—Margaret Kirby, Bruce Doolittle, Norma Green

**Sound Technician**—Frank Tedards

**Video Technician**—Dan Boehm

**Ushers**—Keith Merck, Jay Gibson, Grant Wooten, Curtis Dobbins, Robin Scott Blackburn

*Circle of Welcome*

Earle Street Baptist Church is being given the opportunity to participate in a Circle of Welcome. A Circle of Welcome is a group of 6-10 people who commit to assist Lutheran Services in welcoming a refugee family for the first 4-6 months after their arrival. A Circle of Welcome team helps prepare for the family's arrival, assists in providing core services once they've arrived, and encourages the family along their journey of resettlement. It does not primarily involve any money, but includes things like picking them up at the airport, giving rides to social services or doctor appointments, helping them know how to pack a school lunch for their kids, helping them to navigate American grocery stores, etc. Circles of Welcome are invaluable in helping refugees get on their feet and become a part of our communities!

Matthew 25: 37 "Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? 38 When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? 39 When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?' 40 "The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'