

Earle Street Baptist Church

10:30 am Worship

September 20, 2026

Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost

CHIMES

WELCOME

Janice Hinnant

INTRODUCTION OF PASTORAL CANDIDATE

Amy Moore
Co-Chair, Pastor Search Committee

PRELUDE

Grace

arr. Lopez/Hamlin

CALL TO WORSHIP

Denise Plumblee
Member, Pastor Search Committee

Leader: We confess today our blindness, O Lord.

All: We so often see only evil and darkness around us.

Leader: We see your purposes being thwarted at every turn.

All: Forgive us for closing our eyes and hoping it will go away.

Leader: We forget that even in the darkness, and despite the misery, you are still miraculously working out your purposes.

All: Strengthen our sight, that we might see through the darkness, behind the misery, around the self-centeredness,

Leader: And there discover the quiet, wonderful work of God that continues uninterrupted. Come and see the wonders of God!

All: Amen.

INVOCATION

*HYMN OF PRAISE #58 *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise* ST. DENIO
(All children, grade 5 and under, may come forward on the final stanza.)

**Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
In light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
Almighty, victorious, Thy great name we praise.**

**Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
Nor wanting, nor wasting, Thou rulest in might;
Thy justice, like mountains, high soaring above
Thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.**

**To all, life Thou givest, to both great and small;
In all life Thou livest, the true life of all;
We blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,
And wither and perish—but naught changeth Thee.**

**Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,
Thine angels adore Thee, all veiling their sight;
All praise we would render; O help us to see
‘Tis only the splendor of light hideth Thee!**

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

*OFFERTORY HYMN #353

JUBILEE

Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

**Praise the One who breaks the darkness with a liberating light;
Praise the One who frees the prisoners, turning blindness into sight.
Praise the One who preached the Gospel, healing every dread disease,
Calming storms, and feeding thousands with the very Bread of peace.**

**Praise the One who blessed the children with a strong, yet gentle, word;
Praise the One who drove out demons with the piercing, two-edged sword.
Praise the One who brings cool water to the desert's burning sand;
From this well comes living water, quenching thirst in every land.**

**Let us praise the Word Incarnate, Christ, who suffered in our place.
Jesus died and rose victorious that we all may know God's grace.
Let us sing for joy and gladness, seeing what our God has done;
Let us praise the true Redeemer, praise the One who makes us one.**

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

Linda Kirkland

OFFERTORY

Open My Eyes/Be Thou My Vision

arr. Mark Hayes

*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.**

ANTHEM

A Resting Place

by Mary McDonald

Sanctuary Choir

My faith has found a resting place, not in device nor creed;
I trust the Ever-living One, His wounds for me shall plead.
Enough for me that Jesus saves, this ends my fear and doubt;
A sinful soul, I come to Him, He'll never cast me out.
I need no other argument, I need no other plea,
It is enough that Jesus died, and that He died for me, and that He died for me.

My heart is leaning on the Word, the living Word of God,
Salvation by my Savior's name, salvation through His blood.
My great Physician heals the sick, the lost He came to save;
For me His precious blood He shed, for me His life He gave.
I need no other argument, I need no other plea,
It is enough that Jesus died, and that He died for me, and that He died for me.

Thank You, Jesus, for Calvary's grace, where my faith has found a resting place.
I need no other argument, I need no other plea,
It is enough that Jesus died, and that He died for me,
And that He died for me, died for me.

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Acts 9:10-19a

Pastoral Candidate

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

“Three Streets Away”

Pastoral Candidate

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

*HYMN OF COMMITMENT #395

SCOTT

Open My Eyes, That I May See

**Open my eyes that I may see glimpses of truth Thou hast for me;
Place in my hands the wonderful key that shall unclasp and set me free.
Silently now I wait for Thee, ready, my God, Thy will to see;
Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine!**

**Open my ears that I may hear voices of truth Thou sendest clear;
And while the wave-notes fall on my ear, everything false will disappear.
Silently now I wait for Thee, ready, my God, Thy will to see;
Open my ears, illumine me, Spirit divine!**

**Open my mouth, and let me bear gladly the warm truth everywhere;
Open my heart, and let me prepare love with Thy children, thus to share.
Silently now I wait for Thee, ready, my God, Thy will to see;
Open my mouth, illumine me, Spirit divine!**

**Open my mind, that I may read more of Thy love in word and deed.
What shall I fear while yet Thou dost lead? Only for light from Thee I plead.
Silently now I wait for Thee, ready, my God, Thy will to see;
Open my mind, illumine me, Spirit divine!**

INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Janice Hinnant

*BENEDICTION

Pastoral Candidate

*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

Sing for Joy

by Smith

*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 Ken West back as our guest organist today.

Acolyte—Mary-Brooke Wells

Deacon of the Week—Linda Kirkland

Greeters—Becky Bridges/Bill Smith/Norma Green

Sound Technician—Frank Tedards

Video Technician—Avery Wooten

Ushers—Curtis Dobbins, Calder Standridge, Quay Farmer, Keith Merck, Chuck Adams, Rick Green

Preschool/Children's Volunteers—Rebecca Register, Melanie Wells, Jan Hubble, Margo Love, Libby Young, Erin Baggett, Anna Kay Lord, Jane Leo, Noellen Groff, Jeannie Flowe

Procedure for Pastoral Candidate Vote

- Church members may sign in at the Welcome Center and pick up a ballot before Sunday School and between Sunday School and worship.
- After the worship service, church members who have not already signed in and gotten a ballot may do so in the sanctuary.
- Voting will take place in the sanctuary following the worship service, and the ballots will be counted after they have been collected.