



EARLE
STREET
BAPTIST CHURCH

Daily Prayer Guide

January - June 2026



Our **Mission**

The mission of Earle Street Baptist Church is to worship God (worship); to share the gospel of Jesus Christ in word and deed (missions); to be a home to all who would enter (fellowship); to minister to the needs of one another (ministry); and to assist in spiritual growth (spiritual growth).

This daily prayer guide is offered as a way to encourage our church family to be unified in our daily praying, not as a substitute for our personal prayers.

The ESBC Prayer Team

Rosemary Bomar (December)

Bettie Fabian (September)

Helen Hewitt (November)

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Steven Rau (August)

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1. Since this month we focus on freedom, let us thank God the He has set us free from the bonds of sin. (John 8:33)
2. Let us pray that we will become devoted to righteous living after being set free from sin. (Romans 6:18)
3. Thank God that we are free from the power of sin that leads to death. (John 8:23)
4. Pray that God will help us see that we are all one in Christ Jesus, no male or female, now Jew or Gentile, no slave or free man: God's children. (Galatians 3:28)
5. Pray that we will remain free in Christ and not get caught up in the distractions of this world. (Galatians 5:1)
6. Lead us, Father, to understand that if we satisfy our own sinful nature, we will harvest decay and death. (Galatians 6:8)
7. Open our eyes, Heavenly Father, to see that if we live to please the Spirit, we will harvest everlasting life. (Galatians 6:8)
8. Pray that God will help us to demonstrate our freedom in Christ by our actions, not just by our faith. (James 1:24)
9. Pray that our church members will continue to live out our freedom in Christ by doing good deeds for others.
10. As God shouted out to Moses and the people, let us, too, remember that He is a God of compassion and mercy. (Exodus 34:6)
11. Just as God has compassion on us, pray that we may also have compassion on all people. (Psalm 51:1)
12. Thank you, Father, that you shower your compassion on all of your creation. (Psalm 148:9)
13. Let us pray that God will provide a harvest of generosity in us. (2 Corinthians 9:10)
14. Father, give us your wisdom from above that is peace-loving, gentle at all times, and willing to accept others. (James 3:17)
15. Most gracious Father, teach us that peacemakers not only plant seeds of peace but also reap a harvest of righteousness. (James 3:18)



16. Ask God for humility and kindness as we minister to others. (Ephesians 4:2)
17. Pray for a humble attitude before God so that He can bless us. (James 4:10)
18. Ask God to help us remember that He opposes the proud but favors the humble. (1 Peter 5:6)
19. In our troubled times, let us pray for peace. (Numbers 6:26)
20. Pray that we will be reassured that those who love God's instructions will have peace and not stumble. (Psalm 119:165)
21. Pray that we will find peace in God's house. (Haggai 2:9)
22. Father, help us to claim peace as a fruit of the Spirit. (Galatians 5:22)
23. Father, help us to be anxious for nothing, but by prayer and supplication to find peace in you as you guard our hearts through Christ Jesus. (Philemon 4:7)
24. As much as it depends on us and if it is possible, help us, Father, to live peaceably with all people. (Romans 12:18)
25. Pray for peace today because God calls us to peace. (1 Corinthians 7:15)
26. Thank God for being our peace by breaking down the middle wall of separation. (Ephesians 2:14)
27. Pray for patience as we wait for God to lead us to our new pastor.
28. Pray for discernment for our pastor search committee.
29. Pray for commitment from our members as we seek to minister to our world.
30. Pray that we may find joy in God's presence. (Psalm 16:11)
31. Pray that we will comfort the fainthearted, uphold the weak, and be patient with all as we seek to make disciples. (1 Thessalonians 3:14)

August



1. "Know now then that the LORD your God is the only true God!" We are grateful that you have revealed your love to us, O Holy Trinity, Thou Divine Flow. (Deuteronomy 7:9)

2. "The people who trust in the LORD are like Mount Zion: never shaken, lasting forever." We trust you to lead us where we would otherwise not have the courage to tread, O Christ. (Psalm 125:1)

3. "I'm convinced that nothing can separate us from God's love in Christ Jesus our Lord." My Lord and King, thank you for the comfort of your eternal nearness. (Romans 8:38)

4. "Have you understood all these things?" Jesus asked. They said to him, "Yes." Christ, thank you that your true Word requires no special knowledge or training to grasp. (Matthew 13:51)

5. "Listen carefully to me and eat what is good; enjoy the richest of feasts." Lord, we relish the abundance that you have prepared for us. Give us ears to hear your life-giving Word. (Isaiah 55:2f)

6. "But Jesus said to them, "There's no need to send them away. You give them something to eat.'" Lord, merely say the word, and we will do miraculous things through your love. (Matthew 14:16)

7. "I have great sadness and constant pain in my heart." Lord God, give me comfort as only you can. Hear the wordless groans of my spirit. (Romans 9:2)

8. "Your steadfast love endures forever!" Twenty-six times the Psalm repeats the phrase. May that refrain be the rhythm beneath our days. (Psalm 136)

9. "Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth?" O Lord, you speak from the whirlwind and we grow quiet. We have made ourselves the center. Forgive us. Take us back to your vastness. (Job 38:4)

10. "Just then Jesus spoke to them, 'Be encouraged! It's me. Don't be afraid.'" Christ, when we rest in you, our fear dissolves. Thank you, O source of grace and blessing. (Matthew 14:27)

11. "Peter replied, 'Lord, if it's you, order me to come to you on the water.'" O Christ, we too cry out as we sink. Take hold of our hand. Do not let the water swallow our small faith (Matthew 14:28).

12. "The LORD is my solid rock, my fortress, my rescuer. My God is my rock—I take refuge in him!—he's my shield, my salvation's strength, my place of safety." (Psalm 18:2)

August



13. "How beautiful are the feet of those who announce the good news." Lord, you send the ordinary and call their going lovely. May we walk this day, beautiful in your sight, without fear of insignificance. (Romans 10:15)

14. "So, faith comes from listening, but it's listening by means of Christ's message." Speak, O Lord. In the silence of this day, in the stillness we sometimes detect, let your word find us. (Romans 10:17)

15. Before the Sunday word breaks open, O God, we come in quiet. Still the noise of our own opinions. Let us arrive tomorrow empty enough to be filled, open enough to be changed.

16. Lord, may we find new ways to support and defend immigrants. Bring them joy in your house of prayer. May Earle Street be known as a house of prayer for all peoples. (Isaiah 56:6f)

17. You widen, O God, when we would narrow. You gather when we would exclude. Make our hearts porous to those we have not thought to welcome. Your table has no walls. (Isaiah 56:7)

18. Your salvation is near, Lord, and your righteousness is being revealed. Teach us to live in that light. May we keep justice not as duty but as joy. May we choose right not from fear but from love. (Isaiah 56)

19. "She said, 'Yes, Lord. But even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall off their masters' table.'" Teach us that desperate, unbowed faith — the kind that will not let you go without a blessing. (Matthew 15:27)

20. "Let God grant us grace and bless us; let God make his face shine on us." We offer nothing elaborate, O God. Only the upturned face, the open hand, the breath that says: we are here. Shine on the space we have cleared for you. (Psalm 67:1)

21. "Let all the people thank you!" Lord, our worship is too small, too tribal, too enclosed. Expand It with us, O Lord. (Psalm 67:3)

August



22. "God has locked up all people in disobedience, in order to have mercy on all of them." O Lord, this is almost too large to hold. There is not one left outside your mercy. Hallelujah! (Romans 11:32)

23. "He said, 'And what about you? Who do you say that I am?'" O Christ, the question settles in us still. We have heard the world's answers, and they are not enough. In the quiet of this day, let our own answer rise — not rehearsed, but true. (Matthew 16:15)

24. "He said, 'And what about you? Who do you say that I am?'" O Christ, the question settles in us still. We have heard the world's answers, and they are not enough. In the quiet of this day, let our own answer rise — not rehearsed, but true. (Matthew 16:15)

25. "I'll build my church on this rock." Lord, you build on confession, not on our competence. When we are shaken, remind us that you are the builder. We are not the cornerstone. We are the gathered ones, held by what you made. (Matthew 16:18)

26. "Listen to me, you who look for righteousness, you who seek the LORD: Look to the rock from which you were cut and to the quarry where you were dug." (Isaiah 51:1)

27. "God's riches, wisdom, and knowledge are so deep! They are as mysterious as his judgments, and they are as hard to track as his paths!" We rest, O God, in your mystery. Teach us the peace of the creature before its Creator, I before Thou. (Romans 11:33)

28. "Don't be conformed to the patterns of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds." Lord, transformation is your work, not ours. Do in us, O God, what no effort of our own could accomplish. (Romans 12:2)

29. "On the day I cried out, you answered me. You encouraged me with inner strength." Give us fortitude through difficult times, knowing that we can endure with you. (Psalm 138:3)

30. "Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'All who want to come after me must say no to themselves, take up their cross, and follow me.'" Christ, you do not hide the cost, nor do you promise comfort. May we see that your presence with us on our path far surpasses our self-centered desires. (Matthew 16:24)

31. "Love should be shown without pretending." O God, strip us of performative devotion. Fill us with your genuine love. (Romans 12:9)

September



1. Praise God from whom all blessings flow. We praise you God, that you give every good blessing.
2. Praise Him all creatures here below. What joy to know that rocks and mountains, birds and crickets join us in praising you, oh Lord.
3. Praise Him above ye heavenly host. Even the angels join us in praising you, Lord.
4. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Thank you, Lord, that you are the perfect three in one.
5. For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations. (Ps. 100:5) Thank you, God, that your love is universal and eternal.
6. The Lord is good to all and his mercy is over all he has made. (Psalm 45:9) How amazing are you Lord that you care for all of your creation.
7. God, help me to be still today and hear your voice and message to me. (Psalm 46:10)
8. Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of Lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. (James 1:17) everything good is from you. Thank you, Jesus.
9. Thank you, God, for the seasons of the Earth and the seasons of our lives. (Genesis 8:22)
10. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him. (Psalm 34:8) Help me rest in you, Lord Jesus.
11. Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever. (Psalm 107:1) Every day, all day you love me. Thank you, Lord, for your goodness and love.
12. Dear God, show me how to be generous out of the plenty you have provided. (Deuteronomy 24:19)
13. According to the work of Christ in us, help our congregation to be of one mind together. (Philippians 2:2)
14. God, as I pray and study scripture, show me your paths and your ways. (Psalm 25:4)
15. "The Lord is good, a stronghold in the day of trouble. Nahum 1:7 What peace to know that I can trust you even in the hard times.

September



16. Bless my work, Lord, according to the calling and gifts you have given me. (1 Corinthians 7:17)
17. Oh! How abundant is your goodness, which you have stored up for those who fear you and worked for those who take refuge in you. (Psalm 31:19) Thank you for the storehouse of your goodness.
18. And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. (Romans 8:28) Make my purpose clear, Lord Jesus, so that I am walking in your way.
19. God, multiply my tithes and offerings to accomplish your purposes in our world. (Malachi 3:10)
20. Thank you, Jesus, that you have called us to be your people. Let us never bring shame to your holy name. (John 10:14)
21. Give me grace, Lord, to do your will and follow your ways. (James 4:6)
22. In you, Lord, help me to see and focus on your plan for me and our church family. (Romans 12:4-5)
23. Lord Jesus, breathe your life into my working day and fix my eyes on you. (Hebrews 3:1)
24. Lord, help us to be a Great Commission people and break our hearts for the lost. (Matthew 28:18-20)
25. God, please protect your missionaries as they serve around the world. Protect them from danger, discouragement, fatigue and loneliness. (James 1:12)
26. Help me to be generous, Lord, not for blessing but for love of you and your people. (Acts 20:35)
27. God, help us to respect and honor the work you have given each of us to do. Combine our efforts for your glory. (1 Corinthians 10:31)
28. Mold me in your likeness, Lord, and use me for your glory. (Isaiah 64:8)
29. Jesus, I pray that the worship and praise I offer today will be pleasing to you. (Psalm 19:14)
30. Lord, help me to use the gifts you have given me to serve others as a faithful steward. (1 Peter 4:10)

October



1. God wants to be known. "So I will display my greatness and my holiness and make myself known in the eyes of many nations. Then they shall know that I am the Lord." (Ezekiel 38:23)
2. Our prayers are heard. "We have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God....let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need." (Hebrews 4:14, 16)
3. Prepare our hearts to worship You with fresh love and wonder when we come together with our Christian family tomorrow.
4. We are in awe of what God is doing. "O Lord, I have heard of your renown, and I stand in awe, O Lord, of your work. In our own time revive it; in our own time make it known; in wrath may you remember mercy." (Habakkuk 3:2)
5. May we see You more clearly. "No one has ever seen God. It is the only Son, himself God, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known." (John 1:18)
6. Thank you that you speak to us. "Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds." (Hebrews 1:1-2)
7. Thank you that we are not hidden from you. "O Lord, you have searched me and known me. You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away. You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways." (Psalm 139: 1-3)
8. Help us to "give thanks to the Lord, call on his name, make known his deeds among the peoples" today. (1 Chronicles 16:8)
9. We live in faith with "the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love." (Ephesians 4:1)
10. May our pastor and staff be both blessed by and a blessing to our church family as they prepare the worship service for tomorrow.

October



11. Give us rest in you. "Truly my soul finds rest in God; my salvation comes from him." (Psalm 62:1)
12. We ask for strength to do our work this week. "Those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint." (Isaiah 40:31)
13. Help us to approach life with gentleness. "Let your gentleness be evident to all." (Phil 4:5)
14. Lord, we join the chorus! "Sing praises to the Lord, for he has done gloriously;
let this be known in all the earth." (Isaiah 12:5)
15. We trust your higher ways. "For who has known the mind of the Lord?
Or who has been his counselor?" (Romans 11:34)
16. Please keep us mindful of those "among you in need, do not be hard-hearted or tight-fisted toward your needy neighbor."
(Deuteronomy 15:7)
17. Let us as individuals and a church family make Christ beautiful in our community.
18. Build us together in love. "the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love." (Ephesians 4:16)
19. October 19: Keep us looking for opportunities to serve. "So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all and especially for those of the family of faith."
(Galatians 6:10)
20. Pray for our staff as they seek to walk closely with God. "For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands, for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline." (2 Timothy 1:6-7)

October



21. Fill us with the joy of knowing you! "The fruit of the Spirit is ... joy" (Galatians 5:22)
22. Our prayers are effective. "The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective." (James 5:16)
23. What is unknown now, will be known. "Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known." (1 Corinthians 13:12)
24. May we be listeners, learners and do-ers of God's Word. "Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says." (James 1:22)
25. "Lord, [help us to] love the house in which you dwell and the place where your glory abides." (Psalm 26:8)
26. Let us work to serve both God and our neighbors. "Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might" (Ecclesiastes 9:10)
27. Thank you that we see the beauty of the seasons changing. "You have made the moon to mark the seasons; the sun knows its time for setting." (Psalm 104:19)
28. Help us not to be afraid. "There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear" (1 John 4:18)
29. Help us to recognize your voice, and obey. "My sheep listen to my voice; I know them and they follow me." (John 10:27)
30. Thank you for the hope of the resurrection. "So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable; what is raised is imperishable. It is sown in dishonor; it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness; it is raised in power. It is sown a physical body; it is raised a spiritual body." (1 Corinthians 15:42-44)
31. Praise God we are part of the community of saints. "To all God's beloved... who are called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ." (Romans 1:7)

November



“So let us be thankful because we have a kingdom that cannot be shaken. We should worship God in a way that pleases Him with respect and awe.” (Hebrews 12:28)

1. “Observe the Sabbath day by keeping it holy, as the Lord your God has commanded you.” (Deuteronomy 5:12) May our worship be pleasing to You, Father.
2. Father, thank You for Your faithfulness to us.
3. Thank You for Your love that endures forever.
4. “Every word of God is flawless. He is a shield to those who take refuge in Him.” (Proverbs 30:5) Thank You for Your word, Father.
5. “And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.” (Philippians 4:7)
6. We are thankful that you are a merciful God. “Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.” (Luke 6:36) May we not be selfish with Your mercy.
7. “See, the Sovereign Lord comes with power.” (Isaiah 40:10a) Thank You for the comfort of knowing You are all powerful for eternity.
8. “Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song.” (Psalm 95:2) Thanks be to God.
9. “I know that my Redeemer lives.” (Job 19:25a) Thank you for making salvation possible for us.
10. “For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” (Jeremiah 29:11) Thank you for inviting us to be in your plan.

November



"For God so loved the world that He gave his one and only Son, that whosoever believes on Him shall not perish but have eternal life." (John 3:16)

11. Father, we are thankful for all your gifts to us, but first and foremost, we are thankful for our Savior, Jesus Christ.
12. Lead us to have the right perspective to be grateful for what we have. Thank you, Lord, for what You have provided.
13. "Count your blessings, name them one by one. Count your blessings, see what God hath done." Johnson Oatman, Jr. 1897
14. "...for His compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is Thy faithfulness." (Lamentations 3:22b-23) We thank you every morning.
15. "Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise; give thanks to Him and praise His name." (Psalm 100:4)
16. We give thanks to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine. (Ephesians 3:20)
17. "Every good and perfect gift is from above." (James 1:17) Thank You for all the good and perfect gifts.
18. "Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others." (1 Peter 4:10) How thankful we are to use our gifts for You.
19. "Give thanks to the Lord, call on His name; make known among the nations what He has done." (Psalm 105:1) Help us to continue telling your story.
20. "Jesus loves me. This I know, for the Bible tells me so." Anna B. Warner, 1860. May we sing and sing and sing!

November



"And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God." (Micah 6:8b)

21. "...For the Lord your God goes with you; He will never leave you nor forsake you." (Deuteronomy 31:6b) Thank You for Your presence.
22. "Come let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the Lord our Maker." (Psalm 95:6)
23. "Being confident of this, that He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus." (Philippians 1:6)
24. Thank you Father, that you hear our concerns and care. "Cast all your anxiety on Him because He cares for you." (1 Peter 5:7)
25. Thank you Father, for carrying us when we struggle. "He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds." (Psalm 147:3)
26. Thank you for our families and friends on this special day.
27. "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God." (Philippians 4:6)
28. "Be still and know that I am God." (Psalm 46:10) Thank you for reminding us that sometimes it is wiser to wait. The answers will come.
29. "Let everything that has breath praise the Lord." (Psalm 150:6)
30. "Give thanks in all circumstances." (1 Thessalonians 5:18a) Help us to be thankful in all circumstances, not for all circumstances.

December



Hymn with themes for the four weeks of Advent:

"Hope, Peace, Joy and Love" by Randy Edwards and Sherry Upshaw

Hope, Peace, Joy and Love

These are the gifts You bring from Above,

Jesus, Emmanuel, come to be

Light of your (hope), (peace), (joy), (love) reflected in me.

1. Dear God, As the calendar year draws to a close and the season of Advent begins the new church year, we give thanks for all we have received from You, this year and in years past. Help us realize it is never too late recommit ourselves to You as we focus on this first Advent week's theme of HOPE. (Micah 7:7)
2. Help us to remember and be encouraged by the hope of Mary and Joseph, who trusted God to do even things which seemed impossible.
3. God, help us to put feet to our prayers, and find ways we can share hopeful news of our congregation's Advent activities and possibilities with our neighbors on Earle Street and the surrounding community. Thank you for our ministers, mission committees, choir members and musicians who prepare celebrations and programs that can help us welcome others.
4. Thank you that the Biblical hope that You gave through Jeremiah applies to us today. "For I know the plans I have for you...plans to give you hope and a future." (Jeremiah 29:11)
5. Thank you, Lord, that we can depend on your inspiration and comfort always to be with us, even in trying situations. (Romans 12:12) We are thankful for others who share God's hope with us even when we are in despair. (Romans 15:13) May we share this with others.
6. As we light a candle this second Sunday of Advent, help us to reflect on the Advent theme of PEACE. God of Creation, help us know what we can do to create a peaceful life and a peaceful holiday season.
"I learned that peace is not the absence of pain, peace is the presence of God."
---Kathleen Bauer
7. God, help us to not get caught up in the stress of busyness but intentionally plan ways to enjoy and savor special times this month.
8. Lead us to set realistic goals for our holiday spending and celebrations and remember the "why" of Christmas. (Philippians 4:6-7)
9. Help us to do what we can for peaceful family gatherings and leave the rest to You. (Romans 12:18)
10. Help us to allow peaceful times, alone or with family or friends, to be outside and enjoy the world of nature in winter.

December



11. In the midst of the holidays, show us ways to also take time for ourselves, and to spend peaceful moments with You. "If we don't know how or what to pray, it doesn't matter. (The Spirit of God) does our praying in and for us, making prayer out of our wordless sighs..." (Romans 8:26, The Message)
12. Lord, help our congregation continue to strive for peace, listening and shared goals; help us always look to You for guidance and wisdom. (2 Corinthians 13:11; Col. 3:15)
13. Help us join on this third Sunday of Advent to celebrate JOY "Joy to the World, the Lord is Come!" (Psalm 16:11)
14. God, help us remember that Emmanuel means "God with us". Help us know how, despite our hardships, You can bring us Joy and Peace. (Psalm 16:9)
15. We thank you, God, for family and friends; help us to make time to feel the joy of special people in our lives.
16. If we choose to send Christmas cards, help us to see this as a joyful outreach to friends, not an obligation; or lead us to other ways to connect to those we care about in this joyful season.
17. We thank you for our church family. Show us how to truly make this a place where all ages can be joyfully connected.
18. Help us to look at our schedules and commitments to see what we truly enjoy and what we can let go of; as well as see how obligations that we may not prefer but that are needed can be performed and possibly transformed by your joy and love.
19. Help us take time in our busyness to share joy and thanks with shopkeepers, restaurant workers and others who work to serve us throughout this season. Help us to think of others we might be able to serve, with a meal, a snack, a visit or a greeting. (2 Corinthians 9:8)
20. Advent comes from the word that means "coming". Dear God, who came to live as one of us, on this fourth week of Advent help us reflect on and live out the Advent theme of LOVE. "Love Came Down at Christmas" (Christmas hymn by Christina Rossetti)

December



21. When we miss being with loved ones, December and Christmas can be a time that is sad or bittersweet. Help us never to forget your comfort, care and love, and find ways to reach out to others who are lonely especially at this time of year.
22. As we lovingly hold others in prayer, help us to pray not for our will, but to ask for your guidance to help our thoughts, words or actions to be present in love. Matthew 6:10 (Help us remember an all-purpose thought prayer for others: "Father, bless (them) with the blessings they stand in need of".)
23. We thank You for music that can convey a gift of love throughout this season, whether we sing, hum, play or listen!
24. **Christmas Eve** Thank you God, for our ministers, church staff and volunteers who do so much to lovingly create special services for the Advent season.
25. **Christmas Day**

A Christmas Prayer by Robert Louis Stevenson
Loving Father,
Help us rightly to remember the birth of Jesus,
That we may share in the song of the angels,
the gladness of the shepherds,
and worship of the wise men.

Close the door of hate and open the door of love all over the world.
Let kindness come with every gift and good desires with every greeting.
Deliver us from evil by the blessing which Christ brings,
And teach us to be merry with clear hearts.

May Christmas morning make us happy to be thy children,
And Christmas evening bring us to our beds with grateful thoughts,
forgiving and forgiven.
for Jesus' sake,
Amen

December

26. Father, let us carry the message of Christmas with us as the twelve days of the church Christmas season continue into the “in between days” after December 25 and on into the New Year until we celebrate Epiphany on January 6. Help us recognize Your love and care for us in each of these days and beyond!
27. As we see the circle of Advent candles fully lit this Sunday, show us how to make the Advent gifts of peace, hope, joy and love become even more tangible in our lives through the year to come.
28. Help us to give and receive these gifts from You with gratitude and joy. 2 Thessalonians 3:16 (hope); Isaiah 26:3 (peace); John 15:11(joy); John 13:34 (love)
29. Help us to know that your gifts from Christmas go with us into the year ahead as we look and find Your inspiration everywhere. “Every time a hand reaches out to help another...that is Christmas. Every time someone puts conflict aside and strives for understanding...that is Christmas. Every time people look beyond their differences and realize their love for each other...that is Christmas.” ---(words from a Hallmark card)
30. And Creator God, help us know and always remember that returning to the assurance of your love and guidance is our true compass that keeps us steady in spite of any challenges in our personal lives or changing world events.

31. **The Man at the Gate by M. Louise Haskins**

I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year,

"Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown."

And he replied, "Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the hand of God,

That shall be to you better than the light and safer than a known way!"
So, I went forth, and finding the hand of God, trod gladly into the Light.

THE ESBC GREATER WAY COVENANT

"LOVE GOD, LOVE NEIGHBORS, MAKE DISCIPLES"

MATTHEW 22:37-39

MATTHEW 28:19-20

The vision for Earle Street Baptist Church is that "the greater way" become our identity as a church, and the three components of "the greater way" become our core values.

Earle Street Baptist Church

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