



Emmanuel Presbyterian Church

Empowering People in Christ

Emmanuel Presbyterian Church

Bedford, Texas

Sunday, February 2, 2025

10:00am

Welcome to this service of worship. We are glad you are here whether it is in person or online. Children are welcome for all aspects of our worship service and church life. To aid parents and children attending in person, children's bulletins and activity bags are available from the ushers. A "Fidgety Friends" room is available upstairs behind the sanctuary if children become restless and parents would like a comfortable place to continue to participate in worship.

Mission Statement

L- Loving

I- Inclusive

F- Family of Faith

E- Empowering People in Christ

-seeking justice

-loving kindness

-walking humbly (Micah 6:8)

We are a certified PCUSA Earth Care Congregation:

- Our worship and discipleship will celebrate God's grace and glory in creation.
- Our education will encourage and support each other in keeping and healing creation.
- Our facilities will be managed, maintained, and upgraded to respect and cherish all of creation.
- Our outreach will encourage community involvement and public policy to protect and restore the earth.

Celebration of Worship

Th 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

10:00am

February 2, 2025

We Gather in Worship

Greeting and Announcements

[Please note your nearest exit. Silence your cell phones. Restrooms are available behind the sanctuary in the narthex. Remember to add your prayer requests on the sheets provided for inclusion in the Prayers of the People or online by scanning the QR code here.]



Centering Words

Do not forget that you serve a Mystery that neither you, not your father's father, nor your mother's mother began. And the laughter and the tears that accompany your labor and not born of your cleverness, or your holiness, but are reflections of the Mystery of God in the still waters of the eternal lake by moonlight. The God you serve is like an eternal lake, whose waters are always calm and clear like glass, reflecting truth to all who gaze upon them. A million million reflections, and the lake remains the same. It is not your job to stir the waters, but to show the way to the lakeside.

Prelude

Communion

Walter R. Clarke

*Call to Worship *adapted from Jeremiah 1:4-10*

Leader: Before we were ready,

People: God knew us.

Leader: Before we were ready,

People: God chose us.

Leader: Before we were ready,

People: God sent us,

Leader: To speak God's word with courage,

to pluck up injustice and to pull down dividing walls.

People: To build peace and to plant hope.

Leader: We do not have to be ready;

we need only be open to the call. Let us worship God!

*Hymn (GTG) No. 69

I, the Lord of Sea and Sky

MOON

We Are Renewed in Grace

Invitation to Confession

Come before God with honesty. Come before one another with humility. We confess our sin, not to dwell on our weakness, but to rest upon God's grace.

Prayer of Confession *Ted Loder, Guerrillas of Grace*

Gracious and Holy One, creator of all things, and of emptiness, we come to you: full of much that clutters and distracts, stifles and burdens us. Empty us now of gnawing dissatisfactions, of anxious imaginings, of fretful preoccupations, of nagging prejudices, of old scores to settle, and of the arrogance of being right. Empty us of the ways we unthinkingly think of ourselves as powerless, as a victim, as being less than we are, or as other than yours. Empty us of the disguises and lies, in which we hide ourselves from other people, and from our responsibility for our neighbors and for the world. Hollow out in us a space, in which we will find ourselves, find peace and a whole heart, a forgiving spirit and holiness, the springs of laughter, and the will to reach boldly for abundant life for ourselves, and the whole human family. (silent confession) Amen.

(Worshippers are invited to offer silent prayers of confession)

Sung Response (GTG) No. 578

O Lord, Have Mercy

ORÉ PORIAJÚ VEREKÓ

Assurance of Pardon

Hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn?

Only Christ, and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us,

Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us.

We are forgiven; a new creation! Thanks be to God.

We Receive God's Word

Children's Gathering

Barbara Edwards

Prayer for Illumination

New Testament Reading 1 Corinthians 13:1-13 (page 1047, red Bible)

Anthem

Give Me a Servants Heart

Lura Foster

(Emmanuel Chancel Choir)

Old Testament Reading Jeremiah 1:4-10 (pages 685, red Bible)

The Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon Title Not Ready but Willing Rev. Dr. Whitney Wilkinson Arreche

*Hymn (GTG) No. 501

Feed Us, Lord

FEED US

We Experience God's Grace

*Affirmation of Faith *The Confession of 1967*

The institutions of the people of God change and vary as their mission requires in different times and places. The unity of the church is compatible with a wide variety of forms, but it is hidden and distorted when variant forms are allowed to harden into sectarian divisions, exclusive denominations, and rival factions. Wherever the church exists, its members are both gathered in corporate life and dispersed in society for the sake of mission in the world.

The church gathers to praise God, to hear God’s word for humankind, to baptize and to join in the Lord’s Supper, to pray for and present the world to God in worship, to enjoy fellowship, to receive instruction, strength, and comfort, to order and organize its own corporate life, to be tested, renewed, and reformed, and to speak and act in the world’s affairs as may be appropriate to the needs of the time. Each member is the church in the world, endowed by the Spirit with some gift of ministry and is responsible for the integrity of their witness in their own particular situation.

Offering our Gifts to God

*[Note: if you wish to contribute online, you may do so
at emmanuelpc.org or using the QR code in the bulletin insert.]*

Offertory

Chime Interlude

Nella Sharpe Holden

*Doxology

Glory to God Hymnal, page 607

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all people here below;
praise Holy Spirit evermore; praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.**

*Prayer of Dedication

**Freely, we offer these gifts, O God. Freely, receive them for the good and welfare
of all people, for the work of your hands on earth, and for the life of the world,
amen.**

Ordination and Installation of Officers

Opening Words *1 Corinthians 12:4-11*

There are different gifts,
But it is the same Spirit who gives them.
There are varieties of ways to serve God,
But it is the same Lord who is served.
God works through people in different ways.
But it is the same God who inspires a faithful response.
Each one is given gifts by the Spirit, to use for the common good.
Together we are the body of Christ.

Presentation of Elders and Deacons

Elders

Deacons

Denise Karrikert†

Joyce Morris

Frank LeCocq†

Barbara Edwards

Jude Langsdorf†

Marji Berault

† *first time ordinand*

Constitutional Questions for Elders and Deacons

Constitutional Questions for the Congregation

Do we, the members of the church accept these people as elders and deacons, chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ?

We do.

Do we agree to encourage them, to respect their decisions, and to follow as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is Head of the Church?

We do.

Prayer

All ordained ruling elders and ministers are invited to come forward for the laying on of hands.

Declaration of Ordination and Installation

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Lord's Table

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

(Minister continues praying)

Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever, amen.

Words of Institution and Breaking of the Bread

***Communion of the People**

(Please come forward using the center aisle and return to your seats using the side aisle. If you are not able to come forward, remain in your seat and you will be served. Gluten free bread and cup are available on the small table in the center aisle.)

We Leave to Serve

*Hymn (GTG) No. 726

Will You Come and Follow Me

KELVINGROVE

*Invitation, Charge and Benediction

You are encouraged to remain and enjoy the postlude as a moment of prayer and worship before departing today.

*Postlude

Alla Maestoso

Chester Norman

All are welcome to share the Peace of Christ with one another over refreshments in the narthex following this service.

*please stand, if able

(GTG) – Glory to God Hymnal

Words in **bold print** are said in unison by the congregation.

Liturgy by: William C. Martin, Ted Loder, Whitney Wilkinson Arreche.

Worship Leaders

Rev. Dr. Whitney Wilkinson Arreche, Pastor

Brittney Axton, Director of Music

Dr. Tak Yan Yeung, Organist

Emmanuel Chancel Choir

Assisting in Today's Service:

John Stocking, Liturgist

Barbara Edwards, Children's Gathering

