



# Emmanuel Presbyterian Church

*Empowering People in Christ*

## Emmanuel Presbyterian Church

Bedford, Texas

Sunday, April 14, 2024

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

The Third Sunday of Easter

10:00am

April 14, 2024

## 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

*This blessing takes one look at you and all it can say is holy. Holy hands. Holy face. Holy feet. Holy everything in between. Holy even in pain. Holy even when weary. In brokenness, holy. In shame, holy still. Holy in delight. Holy in distress. Holy when being born. Holy when we lay it down at the hour of our death. So, friend, open your eyes (holy eyes). For one moment see what this blessing sees, this blessing that knows how you have been formed and knit together in wonder and in love. Welcome this blessing that folds its hands in prayer when it meets you; receive this blessing that wants to kneel in reverence before you: you who are temple, sanctuary, home for God in this world.*

Prelude

We Bring the Sacrifice of Praise

Mark Hayes

### \*Call to Worship

When fear and doubts stroll through our doors:

**God stands beside us, whispering of peace.**

When we toss and turn late at night:

**God sits by our beds, singing lullabies of love.**

When we stumble through the shadows of sin:

**God illuminates the paths of goodness and joy.**

God always comes to us in Christ.

In worship, we come to God. Let us worship God!

\*Hymn (GTG) No. 248

Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!

HYMN TO JOY

## We Are Renewed in Grace

### Invitation to Confession

If our actions mirrored our words, if our hands were mentored by our hearts, if we walked the talk - we would show ourselves as God's children. But too often, it is our silence and our fears that tell others who we truly are. Let us confess to God how we have not been as faithful as we hope.

### Prayer of Confession

**Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment. Set us free**

**from a past that we cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.**

*(Worshippers are invited to offer silent prayers of confession)*

Sung Response (GTG) No. 578

O Lord, Have Mercy

ORÉ PORIAJÚ VEREKÓ

Assurance of Pardon

What marvelous love, what wondrous grace, what abundant mercy God offers to us. We really are God's people - that is exactly who we are.

**We are God's children - those whose lives have been changed by the One who loves us and forgives us. Thanks be to God!**

## **We Receive God's Word**

Children's Gathering

Katie Phillips

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Reading

Psalm 4:1-8 (page 480, red Bible)

Anthem

Behold the Lamb!

Lloyd Larson

*(Emmanuel Chancel Choir)*

New Testament Reading

Luke 24:36b-48 (page 965, red Bible)

Sermon Title

A Bodily Resurrection Rev. Dr. Whitney Wilkinson Arreche

\*Hymn (GTG) No. 509

All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly

HOLY MANNA

## **We Experience God's Grace**

**\*Affirmation of Faith** *Belhar Confession*

**We believe that God has revealed God's self as the one who wishes to bring about justice and true peace among people.**

**We believe that God, in a world full of injustice and enmity, is in a special way the God of the destitute, the poor and the wronged.**

**We believe that God calls the church to follow God in this; for God brings justice to the oppressed and gives bread to the hungry.**

**Therefore, we reject any ideology which would legitimate forms of injustice and any doctrine which is unwilling to resist such an ideology in the name of the gospel.**

Prayers of the People 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.**

Offering our Gifts to God

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

Offertory

Interlude

Mark Hayes

\*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

**As we offer our gifts to you, Loving God, remove any doubts about how they  
might be used, as you offer food to the hungry, hope to the despairing, joy to  
the grieving, and peace to the broken. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.**

## We Leave to Serve

\*Hymn (GTG) No. 314      Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness      CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT  
(Our Total Solar Eclipse Hymn)

\*Invitation, Charge and Benediction

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

\*Sign of Peace

\*Postlude                      Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty                      Arr. Ethel Tench Rogers

\*please stand, if able

(GTG) – Glory to God Hymnal

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

*Liturgy by: Jan Richardson, Thom Shuman, PCUSA Book of Common Worship, 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:

Mary Jane Horr, Liturgist

Katie Phillips, Children's Gathering

