



Emmanuel Presbyterian Church

Empowering People in Christ

Emmanuel Presbyterian Church

2701 Harwood Road, Bedford, Texas

Sunday, May 11, 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

The 4th Sunday of Easter

10:00am

May 11, 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

May you know you are worthy. May you unlearn all the silence and shame you were taught through hints and insinuations. May the truth woven into your being find its way out in words and music, in dance and poetry, in loving and marching, in creating and tearing down. May you know your own power to speak and to listen, to make room for others and to claim what is yours. May you be heard. May you be seen. May you take up space in the world. May you know you are whole and holy, blessed and beautiful, bold and brave. Be who you are: it is enough. Amen.

Prelude

Think About His Love

Arr. Mark Hayes

*Call to Worship *Psalm 65*

Praise is due to you, O God!

You visit the earth and water it,

you greatly enrich it;

the river of God is full of water;

you provide the people with grain,

for so you have prepared it.

You water its furrows abundantly,

settling its ridges,

softening it with showers,

and blessing its growth.

The pastures of the wilderness overflow,

the hills gird themselves with joy,

the meadows clothe themselves with flocks,

the valleys deck themselves with grain,

they shout and sing together for joy.

*Hymn (GTG) No. 626 (*sung twice*)

As the Deer

AS THE DEER

We Are Renewed in Grace

Invitation to Confession

We take a moment each Sunday in worship to confess our sin. This is not a time to dwell on our guilt, or feel we are worth very little. This is a time where our honesty is met with God's abundant grace, as we seek healthier paths for ourselves, and the world.

Prayer of Confession

Weaver God, we come to you, or —more the truth— you find us, disconnected and out of sorts. We are disheartened by our failures, discouraged by our weakness, and little that we do seems worthy of your grace. Restore our future. Weave for us the tapestry on which our lives are stretched. Give us patience with the endless back and forth of shuttle, hand and effort. We look too closely, seeing only strands and knots and snarled threads of too-much-trying or none-at-all. Grant us eyes to see the whole of which we are a part. In the end, we ask for gentleness with ourselves, acceptance of our less than perfect ways. We pray that what we do and what you weave form patterns clear to all, woven with mercy and love throughout.

(Worshippers are invited to offer silent prayers of confession) Amen.

Sung Response (GTG) No. 578 O Lord, Have Mercy ORÉ PORIAJÚ VEREKŌ
*O Lord, have mercy; O Lord, have mercy; O Lord, have mercy, have mercy on us.
O Christ, have mercy; O Christ, have mercy; O Christ, have mercy, have mercy on us.*

Assurance of Pardon

Good people, greening with God's mercy,
Rooted in the sun you shine with radiant light.
In this circle of earthly existence, you shine so finely
It surpasses understanding. God hugs you.
We are encircled by the arms of the mystery of God.
As siblings in Christ, as children of creation, we believe the good news:
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

We Receive God's Word

Children's Gathering

Katie Phillips

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Reading

Psalm 23 (page 491, red Bible)

Anthem

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

arr. Jantz A. Black

(Emmanuel Bell Choir)

New Testament Reading

Acts 9:36-43 (page 1001, red Bible)

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

Sermon Title

The Tale of Tabitha

Rev. Dr. Whitney Wilkinson Arreche

