



# Emmanuel Presbyterian Church

*Empowering People in Christ*

## Emmanuel Presbyterian Church

Bedford, Texas

Sunday, June 16, 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

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

10:00am

June 16, 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

*O God, you are my shelter: I hide under your wings until disaster passes by, because you rescue me. My heart is set on you, Lord. It is firm and strong. So I will sing my song to you! I will wake up the dawn! Let me sing to the whole world about your great kindness! Your truth is as tall as the sky, and your love is as wide as the heavens. And on the earth below, your glory covers everything.*

Prelude

There's Wideness in God's Mercy

Richard Blake

### \*Call to Worship

All around us, God is looking for folks  
who will join in serving others.

**It is as if God is planting seeds of compassion in us,  
watching for them to bloom in our lives.**

In our midst, Jesus is walking among us,  
tending our hearts, watering us with grace.

**It is as if Jesus is trusting that our souls  
will grow big enough to welcome everyone.**

From morning to evening, the Spirit is at work,  
gently tending this garden called life.

**It is as if the Spirit has found the perfect spots  
to bring forth crops of justice and peace.**

\*Hymn (GTG) No. 36 For the Fruit of All Creation

AR HYD Y NOS

## We Are Renewed in Grace

### Invitation to Confession

We long to live as God's people, yet in the very depths of our lives, we know how we have hurt those around us, through words and actions, as well as from indifference. But God hears us when we call, and answers with the grace we need. Let us pray together, as we confess our lives to our God.

## Prayer of Confession

**How we must frustrate you at times, God of all. You give us blessings to share with others, but we hoard everything for ourselves. You look for us to join you in serving the most vulnerable, but find us worshipping the wealthy and powerful. You offer us joy and wonder to embrace, but we continue to cling to weapons and things. Have mercy on us, Anointing God, as you pour your forgiveness into our foolish lives. Plant the seeds of grace, hope, love, and peace in us, so we may blossom and share all these gifts with everyone we meet. We pray this in the name of Jesus.**

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

Sung Response (GTG) No. 578

O Lord, Have Mercy

ORÉ PORIAJÚ VEREKÓ

Assurance of Pardon

God's love is not logical and understandable. For God forgives those we never would, and welcomes those we would continue to ignore.

**This is the One who has mercy on everyone, pouring grace and joy into everyone, including us! Thanks be to God, we are forgiven! Amen.**

## We Receive God's Word

Children's Gathering

Tonia Thompson

Prayer for Illumination

New Testament Reading 2 Corinthians 5:6-17 (page 1053, red Bible)

Anthem (GTG) No. 829 My Faith Looks Up to Thee

*(Emmanuel Men: All men are invited to come forward and join together in song for the anthem.)*

Gospel Reading Mark 4:26-34 (page 914, red Bible)

The Word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

Sermon Title A Mighty Shrub

Rev. Dr. Whitney Wilkinson Arreche

\*Hymn (GTG) No. 714 God of the Fertile Fields

ITALIAN HYMN

## We Experience God's Grace

\*Affirmation of Faith Apostles' Creed, page 35 (GTG)

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

Verset

Léon Boëllmann

\*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

**Let us remember those seeds of love, hope, grace, and peace which we carry in our hearts and souls, as well as our wallets and purses, so that in remembering, we would offer them to our God for use in the work of restoration and hope. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.**

Honoring Our High School Graduate: Jude Langsdorf

## **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.*

\*Sign of Peace

\*Postlude

Toccata all' Offertorio

Zipoli

\*please stand, if able

(GTG) – Glory to God Hymnal

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

*Liturgy by: Carey Wallace (Psalms of Wonder - Psalm 57), Thom Shuman, Whitney Wilkinson Arreche.*

**Worship Leaders**

Rev. Dr. Whitney Wilkinson Arreche, Pastor

Brittney Axton, Director of Music

Dr. Tak Yan Yeung, Organist

Men of the Church

Assisting in Today's Service:

Dina Ferreira, Liturgist

Tonia Thompson, Children's Gathering

