



Emmanuel Presbyterian Church

Empowering People in Christ

Emmanuel Presbyterian Church

Bedford, Texas

Sunday, June 23, 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

12th Sunday in Ordinary Time

10:00am

June 23, 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

God is our shepherd, so we have everything we need. God tells us when to rest in the beautiful fields. God takes us to quiet streams and makes our souls anew. God leads us down good paths because God's way is true. And when we walk through the valley of the shadows of death, we won't be afraid because you won't leave us for a step. You comfort us by showing us the way. You spread a feast before us no matter what people say. You send goodness and mercy with us everywhere we go, and everywhere we go, you are always our home.

Prelude

Prayer

Jean Langlais

*Call to Worship

We gather in this place to worship our God:

calm Presence in our times of confusion,

Comforter in our nights of struggle.

We gather with fellow pilgrims,

as we seek to follow Jesus:

Sibling to those swamped by fears,

Friend to all overwhelmed by loss.

We are brought together by the Spirit

who lives in the depths of our souls:

the Serenity who travels with us

on this up-and-down journey we call life.

*Hymn (GTG) No. 625 How Great Thou Art

HOW GREAT THOU ART

We Are Renewed in Grace

Invitation to Confession

We let fears control us, we let doubt become the way of life for us. If we but look, we will see our lives, and our world, cradled in God's loving hands. Let us confess our lack of faith, even as we trust the One who has promised to listen to our words, as well as our hearts.

Prayer of Confession

They can be such giants in our lives, God of Grace. Each day, our fears, our doubts, our worries wash over us, until we come to believe that you do not care for us. There seems to be so much wrong in the world, we are convinced that there is nothing good we can do. The storms of sin and temptation batter at us, and we cower, unable to find the faith to withstand them. Forgive us, God of Hope. Remind us that if we but open our hearts, you will heal us. If we but listen to your words, we will hear peace and joy. If we but open our lives to you, we can go forth to serve our sisters and brothers, even as we have been served by our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

(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

With calming words, with a peaceful Spirit, with overflowing love and hope, our God forgives us and fills us with faith.

Our God affirms us for who we are – those whose brokenness is made whole, whose sin is forgiven, whose lives overflow with faith. Thanks be to God!

Amen.

We Receive God's Word

Children's Gathering

Ken Richardson

Prayer for Illumination

New Testament Reading

2 Corinthians 6:1-13 (page 1054, red Bible)

Anthem

Let the Redeemed of the Lord Give Thanks

John Purifoy

(Emmanuel Chancel Choir)

Gospel Reading

Mark 4:35-41 (page 914, red Bible)

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon Title

A Brave Vulnerability

Rev. Dr. Whitney Wilkinson Arreche

*Hymn (GTG) No. 840

When Peace like a River

VILLE DU HAVRE

We Experience God's Grace

**Affirmation of Faith Belhar Confession*

We believe that the unity of the people of God must be manifested

and be active in a variety of ways;

in that we love one another;

that we experience, practice and pursue community with one another;

that we are obligated to give ourselves willingly and joyfully

to be of benefit and blessing to one another;

that we share one faith, have one calling, are of one soul and one mind;
have one God and Father, are filled with one Spirit, are baptized with one baptism,
eat of one bread and drink of one cup, confess one name,
are obedient to one Lord, work for one cause, and share one hope;
together come to know the height and the breadth and the depth of the love of Christ;
together are built up to the stature of Christ, to the new humanity;
together know and bear one another's burdens, thereby fulfilling the law of Christ;
that we need one another and upbuild one another.

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 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

Now is the acceptable time to offer our gifts to you, Holy God. Now is the time to pray that they may be used to remove any obstacles that keep others from knowing your grace, experiencing your healing, or being filled with your hope. Now is the time to give thanks for your blessings, praying they will be used to bless others. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

We Leave to Serve

*Hymn (GTG) No. 623

I've Got Peace like a River

PEACE LIKE A RIVER

*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

Prelude in C

Buxtehude

*please stand, if able

(GTG) – Glory to God Hymnal

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

Liturgy by: adapted from Carey Wallace (Psalms of Wonder - Psalm 23), Thom Shuman, 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:

Sheryl Taylor, Liturgist

Ken Richardson, Children's Gathering

