



# Emmanuel Presbyterian Church

*Empowering People in Christ*

## Emmanuel Presbyterian Church

2701 Harwood Road, Bedford, Texas

Sunday, June 14, 2026

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 people of all ages, including children, in worship participation, a Liturgical Library is available in the narthex to the right of the sanctuary door with tools for engaging the senses in worship, including drawing and movement tools. 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

11<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

10:00am

June 14, 2026

## 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. Add your prayer requests on the sheets in the friendship pad for inclusion in the Prayers of the People by placing them in the offering plate at the back, or online by scanning the QR code here. A note on worship bulletin symbols: \*please rise in body or spirit. (GTG) – purple Glory to God Hymnal under the seat in front of you. Words in **bold print** are said in unison by the congregation.*



### Centering Words *Advice from a Tree* by Ilan Shamir

*Dear friend, stand tall and proud. Sink your roots deeply into the earth, reflect the light of your own true nature. Think long-term, go out on a limb, remember your place among all living things. Embrace with joy the changing seasons, for each yields its own abundance: the energy and birth of Spring, the growth and contentment of Summer, the wisdom to let go like leaves in the Fall, the rest and quiet renewal of Winter. Feel the wind and the sun, and delight in their presence. Look up at the moon that shines down upon you, and the mystery of the stars at night. Seek nourishment from the good things in life: simple pleasures, earth, fresh air, light. Be content with your natural beauty. Drink plenty of water. Let your limbs sway and dance in the breeze; be flexible. Remember your roots! Enjoy the view.*

Prelude

Come and Sing Praises

Arr. Bill Wolaver

### \*Call to Worship

Come out from the heat of the day and the rush of the week.

**We step into the shade of God's presence, seeking rest and renewal.**

Look up and welcome the unexpected ways God meets us here.

**We offer our open doors and welcoming hearts, ready to be refreshed.**

The Lord is present with us in this quiet sanctuary.

**Let us joyfully worship the God of grace.**

\*Hymn (GTG) No. 664

Morning Has Broken

BUNESSAN

## We Are Renewed in Grace

### Invitation to Confession

Here, we do not have to have it all together. Here, we do not need to pretend all is well in our world. Here, we come before the God of grace, surrounded by loving community. Here, we are made new.

## Prayer of Confession

**Sheltering God, we confess that we see your creation as a backdrop of our lives, and not a key source of life. We are distracted by devices and disillusioned by our own overconsumption. Return us to the incredible encounter we have with your presence under the shade of a simple tree. Restore our wonder at your good creation, and our relationship to it. Renew our spirits with your visiting grace in each branch and leaf and ray of dappled sunlight. When we think we are too busy, or too weary, or too important, call us back to sit by a tree, and learn your ways.** (*Worshippers are invited to offer silent prayers of confession*) Amen.

Sung Response (GTG) No. 626

As the Deer

AS THE DEER

*As the deer pants for the water, so my soul longs after You.*

*You alone are my heart's desire and I long to worship You.*

*You alone are my strength, my shield; to You alone may my spirit yield.*

*You alone are my heart's desire and I long to worship You.*

## Assurance of Pardon

Hear this good news, and let it dwell in your body: you are God's beloved, just as you are. You are part of a vast network of creation. You are not alone. **Thanks be to the our Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer! Amen.**

## We Receive God's Word

Children's Gathering

Barbara Edwards

Prayer for Illumination

Gospel Reading

John 1:43-50 (page 967, red Bible)

Anthem

Fantasy on All Creatures of Our God and King

arr. Sandra Eithun

(*Emmanuel Bell Choir*)

Old Testament Reading

Genesis 18:1-10, 21:1-7 (pages 13, 16, red Bible)

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

Sermon Title

The Oak of Mamre

Rev. Dr. Whitney Wilkinson Arreche

\*Hymn (GTG) No. 45

I to the Hills Will Lift My Eyes

DUNDEE

## We Experience God's Grace

\*Affirmation of Faith *Litany by Creation Justice Ministries*

**Creation calls to us.**

To open our eyes to the devastation we have and are causing our earthly home.

The harm being done to trees, soils, oceans, air, and so much more.

**Creation reminds us.**

To recognize our oneness with all beings, human and non-human.

**Creation calls to us.**

To value the community of creation above human greed.

Creation is waiting for us.

To move from doing what is easy to doing what is necessary and right.

**Creation is waiting for us.**

To prioritize the needs of community over the convenience of self, for loving each other is a seed of hope.

**Creation hurts and aches, and is lashing out!**

She asks that we stop polluting, and remove the pollution from our seas, land, air, bodies and hearts.

**Creation longs for us.**

To lament over the devastation of war; the lives lost; Earth, the destruction of her land, and the assault on her climate.

To be like the mustard tree seed that grows into a glorious tree in which a myriad of creatures, including human beings, find shelter, food, and protection.

**Creation is waiting for us but will not wait forever.**

**In all these things and more, creation waits**

for us to remember our connection to it, before technology and self-sufficiency distanced us, before our creaturely instincts became dull behind concrete walls.

**Oh God, we ask for radical courage:**

**to remember that we are creation within creation, for truly nature sustains us.**

Nature is God's face too - mottled with chlorophyll, adorned in foliage, dusted with feathers, and dewy in morning light.

**May we be moved: to assume our roles as creation's servants and protect it.**

**to know that we are a human and nonhuman family, inhabiting the same home.**

**Amen.**

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 here.]*



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

**God of rock and stone, leaf and branch, water and sky: use all that is offered this day for the blessing of all creation, and for the good of all your creatures. We offer our resources, acknowledging that you are the source of all that is. We offer our commitment to a world restored by relationships of care and not overconsumption. We offer our hope that you do not abandon that which you have made, amen.**

## **We Leave to Serve**

\*Hymn (GTG) No. 80 (*sung three times*) You Shall Go Out with Joy THE TREES OF THE FIELD

\*Invitation, Charge and Benediction

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

\*Postlude

To God Be the Glory

Arr. Ethel Tench Rogers

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

*Liturgy by: Ilan Shamir, Chapel Hill Mennonite Fellowship, Creation Justice Ministries, Whitney Wilkinson Arreche.*

### **Worship Leaders**

Rev. Dr. Whitney Wilkinson Arreche, Pastor

Brittney Axton, Director of Music

Dr. Tak Yan Yeung, Organist

Emmanuel Bell Choir

Assisting in Today's Service:

Tonia Thompson, Liturgist

Barbara Edwards, Children's Gathering

