



Emmanuel Presbyterian Church

Empowering People in Christ

Emmanuel Presbyterian Church

Bedford, Texas

Sunday, July 21, 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

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

10:00am

July 21, 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

We waited and hoped for God, who bent toward us and heard our cry. God lifted us from the noisy pit, out of the muddy mire. God set our feet on a firm rock and gave us a new song. Happy is the one who trusts in the Lord, not in gods who lie or people who are proud. Your wonders are so many, God. You have so many plans for us. Nobody could tell them all or count everything you have done.

Prelude

Spirit Song

Arr. Mark Zeeman

*Call to Worship

Come to God's house of rest.

Here, we do not need to perform.

Here, we do not need to be perfect.

Here, we do not need to keep ourselves in constant motion.

Here, we reconnect with the One who guides the universe and our lives with grace.

**Here, we reconnect with each other,
so that no one need carry a burden alone.**

We come to this house of rest, and we worship God.

*Hymn (GTG) No. 402

How Lovely, Lord

MERLE'S TUNE

We Are Renewed in Grace

Invitation to Confession

Aren't you tired? Tired from life's circumstances, tired from pretending to have it all together, tired from the wearying weight of *more* our world places upon us? Come, lay down your burdens before the God who brings us rest and renewal.

Prayer of Confession

Some sins are so obvious to us, God. The do not kill; the do not steal; the do not create idols. But the sin of failing to keep Sabbath, of failing to embrace true rest to honor you and our bodies – we do not often even recognize this as sinful. And yet, our bodies, our relationship with money and our neighbor, and our theological imaginations bear the scars of such a sin. We are too tired to think

of others. We are too tired to pray. We are too tired to listen to your Spirit and imagine a better economy of care. Forgive us. Create space in these weary hearts for your life-giving leisure, that we might hear you clearly, and love ourselves and our neighbor fully.

(Worshippers are invited to offer silent prayers of confession)

Sung Response (GTG) No. 578
Assurance of Pardon

O Lord, Have Mercy

ORÉ PORIAJÚ VEREKÓ

The good news of God is this: we are made to bear God's image, even in these tired bodies of ours. **The good news of God is this: Jesus showed us what it means to be human, going away and seeking his rest. The good news of God is this: we are not made for exhaustion, but for joy and delight, for all people. Thanks be to God!**

We Receive God's Word

Children's Gathering

Ken Richardson

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Reading

2 Samuel 7:1-14a (page 278, red Bible)

Anthem

Hymn of Promise

Lloyd Larson

(Duet: Sheryl Taylor and Brittney Axton)

Gospel Reading

Mark 6:30-34, 53-56 (pages 916-917, red Bible)

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

Sermon Title

God's Gift of Leisure

Rev. Dr. Whitney Wilkinson Arreche

*Hymn (GTG) No. 183

Come to Me, O Weary Traveler

AUSTIN

We Experience God's Grace

*Affirmation of Faith *Nicene Creed*, hymnal page 34

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

The Sweetest Name of All

Arr. Mark Zeeman

*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

We give you all these gifts, God, asking that you would use them to do what we cannot: to work in ways of incredible change and grace. We also pray, God, that you would stir us to also do what we can: offering rest to the exhausted and relief to the victims of economic injustice. Move us, Jesus, from an ethic of accumulation to an ethic of abundant care, in your name, amen.

We Leave to Serve

*Hymn (GTG) No. 182 I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say KINGSFOLD

*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 Fanfare Jacques Lemmens

*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 40), Whitney Wilkinson Arreche.

Worship Leaders

Rev. Dr. Whitney Wilkinson Arreche, Pastor

Brittney Axton, Director of Music

Dr. Tak Yan Yeung, Organist

Sheryl Taylor and Brittney Axton, Anthem Duet



Assisting in Today's Service:

Dina Ferreira, Liturgist

Ken Richardson, Children's Gathering

