



Emmanuel Presbyterian Church

2701 Harwood Road, Bedford, Texas

Sunday, July 20, 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

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

10:00am

July 20, 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

Sacred Origin, by story, we are made of those who come before us. Too often our false ideas of healing cause us to reject the past, distancing us from our own stories. Show us how liberation stretches out in both directions, past and future. Assure us that what has been does not always have to be. Sow compassion and curiosity and a sacred transience in us, that we would meet one another again and again in new seasons of life. Affirm the need for collective remembrance and processing, but remind us that our processing need not be rushed; that we can go slowly, taking time to tend to our wounds. To travel into the trauma of past generations is costly; may we do so carefully, and with a companion who is safe and trustworthy, with you. Amen.

Prelude

Prelude on Kelvingrove
(JuBELLant Ensemble)

arr. Sandra Eithun

*Call to Worship

God says, "Come to me all you who are weary,
and carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest."

**God says, "Cast your burdens on the LORD,
you will be sustained."**

**God says, "The LORD is near to the brokenhearted
and saves the crushed in spirit."**

God says, "Be strong and courageous.
Do not be afraid, and do not be discouraged,
for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go."

**Wherever we are, whatever we endure,
God is with us! We are with each other. God is here.**

*Hymn (GTG) No. 840

When Peace like a River

VILLE DU HAVRE

We Are Renewed in Grace

Invitation to Confession

Come, this is a safe place. You can be your real self here. You can let go of past hurts, or have them tenderly held by God for you. Come, to this place of new life, and be set free. Come, and be unburdened.

Prayer of Confession

Divine Shelter, who can we trust? The origins of so many wounds are leaders who habitually abuse their spiritual authority. Spaces that demand our fealty and faith have been breeding grounds for abuse of all kinds. Reveal their false moral superiority. Spew from the pulpit the deceptive and power-thirsty. Expose them for who and what they are. Break every false teaching and attune the spiritually vulnerable to the sound of their own voice. Lead us into new spaces of physical and spiritual safety where we can heal and connect and meet our pain and alienation with true belonging. May it be so.

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

Sung Response (GTG) No. 551 Lord, Have Mercy (*sung twice*) LAND OF REST

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us.

Assurance of Pardon

Inhale: there is power in this breath.

Exhale: there is agency in this body.

Where can we go? God, take us where it's safe.

God, tear down the tyrant. Lift up the healers.

We are forgiven, made new, set free.

Thanks be to God!

We Receive God's Word

Children's Gathering

Miriam Bolles

Prayer for Illumination

Gospel Reading

Matthew 11:25-30 (pages 887-888, red Bible)

Anthem

I Surrender All

arr. Sandra Eithun

(JuBELLant Ensemble)

Old Testament Reading

Genesis 22:1-14 (page 17, red Bible)

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

Sermon Title

Trauma + PTSD in the Bible

Rev. Dr. Whitney Wilkinson Arreche

*Hymn (GTG) No. 851 (*sung three times*) Come, Bring Your Burdens to God

WOZA NOMTHWALO WAKHO

We Experience God's Grace

*Affirmation of Faith Apostles' Creed (*hymnal page 35*)

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 here.]



Offertory

Adore and Be Still

Arr. Lani Smith

*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

Abundant God, we thank you for your generosity towards us, and all your children. Use these gifts, and all we offer this day, for the healing of this fractured world, for the repair of all wounds, and for the setting right of all that is wrong. Make us a brave people, emboldened by your grace and love, ministers of your grace. Amen.

We Leave to Serve

*Hymn (GTG) No. 547

Go, My Children, with My Blessing

AR HYD Y NOS

*Invitation, Charge and Benediction

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

*Postlude

Toccata in D minor (excerpts)

Gordon Balch Nevin

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

*please stand, if able

(GTG) – Glory to God Hymnal

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

Liturgy by Cole Arthur Riley, Whitney Wilkinson Arreche.

Worship Leaders

Rev. Dr. Whitney Wilkinson Arreche, Pastor

Brittney Axton, Director of Music

Dr. Tak Yan Yeung, Organist

JuBellant Ensemble Members:

Tonia Thompson, Jude Langsdorf, Katie Phillips,

Sheryl Taylor, John Field, Chris Cable



Assisting in Today's Service:

Miriam Bolles, Liturgist

Miriam Bolles, Children's Gathering