



Emmanuel Presbyterian Church

2701 Harwood Road, Bedford, Texas

Sunday, July 27, 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

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

10:00am

July 27, 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

What is the greatest gift? Could it be the world itself — the oceans, the meadowlark, the patience of the trees in the wind? Could it be love, with its sweet clamour of passion? Something else — something else entirely holds me in thrall. That you have a life that I wonder about more than I wonder about my own. That you have a life — courteous, intelligent — that I wonder about more than I wonder about my own. That you have a soul — your own, no one else's — that I wonder about more than I wonder about my own. So that I find my soul clapping its hands for yours more than my own.

Prelude

Grace

Arrangement by James Koerts

*Call to Worship *adapted from Psalm 8*

Gathered in the name of Jesus Christ,
inspired by the Holy Spirit,
and blessed by God,

we come to worship one, holy God.

O God, our own God,

how wonderful is your name in all the earth.

Your majesty is the music of the starry skies.

yet even children of dust can sing your praises.

In the name of the Healer, the Provider and the Enabler

let your gratitude and joy be made known.

O God, our own God,

how wonderful is your name in all the earth!

*Hymn (GTG) No. 12

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

ST. DENIO

We Are Renewed in Grace

Invitation to Confession

We come before God with no need to hide, or feel shame, or retreat from each other. We come before God as a people resting upon the grace of Jesus Christ, ready to be made new, and to welcome that newness in each other. We come to find our truest selves in community together.

Prayer of Confession

Creating and redeeming God, even before you laid the foundations of the earth, you loved us with an everlasting love, and provided all things in your Son Jesus. Yet we confess that too often we fail to center our lives in you. We do not abide in your Word and Spirit. Our actions do not reflect your love and justice. We have allowed the poor to be neglected and the weak to be oppressed. We lose heart in working for peace and wholeness for the world that you love. Forgive us, we pray. Ground us once again in your love and your truth. Mend what is broken and scattered in us. Grant us your peace.

(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

Let us hold firmly to this good news! In Jesus Christ, God is holding all things together.

God has brought us into the light of new life. No longer strangers, no longer in the dominion of sin, we are held in the power of God's love and forgiveness.

Thanks be to God!

We Receive God's Word

Children's Gathering

Tonia Thompson

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Reading Psalm 8 (page 482, red Bible)

Anthem I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me African American Spiritual
(Blaise Ferrandino, Ken Richardson)

New Testament Reading Colossians 1:15-23 (page 1072, red Bible)

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

Sermon Title Held Together Rev. Katie Cummings

*Hymn (GTG) No. 543 God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me GREEN TYLER

We Experience God's Grace

*Affirmation of Faith *Book of Common Worship*

This is the good news which we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved, as we hold it fast; that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day, and that he appeared first to the women, and then to Peter, and to the Twelve, and then to many faithful witnesses. We believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the

living God. Jesus Christ is the first and last, the beginning and the end; he is our Lord and our God. 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 or using the QR code here.]*



Offertory

Love Lifted Me

Arrangement by James Koerts

*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

Generous God, we offer the gifts of this day, and the gifts of our lives, not out of obligation, but freely, openly. We are curious to see what you will do with them: the community you will create, the new life you will stir, the abundance of you in our midst, and us in the midst of our community. Freely we offer, freely you give, Generous God, Creator and Sustainer of All. Amen.

We Leave to Serve

*Hymn (GTG) No. 450

Be Thou My Vision

SLANE

*Invitation, Charge and Benediction

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

*Postlude

Give Me Jesus

Arrangement by James Koerts

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 Mary Oliver, Bruce Pewter, Whitney Wilkinson Arreche.

We are delighted to welcome Rev. Katie Cummings, Associate Executive Presbyter of Grace Presbytery, as our guest preacher this morning! Welcome, Katie.

Worship Leaders

Rev. Katie Cummings, Guest Preacher

Dr. Hanqiu Xu, Pianist

Blaise Ferrandino, bass

Ken Richardson, alto saxophone

Assisting in Today's Service:

Sheryl Taylor, Liturgist

Tonia Thompson, Children's Gathering

