



Emmanuel Presbyterian Church

E m p o w e r i n g P e o p l e i n C h r i s t

Emmanuel Presbyterian Church

2701 Harwood Road, Bedford, Texas

Sunday, August 2, 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

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

10:00am

August 2, 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 Cole Arthur Riley

It seems like anytime God is talking about salvation in the Bible, God makes a point to name rest. "I'll refresh tired bodies" (Jeremiah); "Find rest for your souls" (Matthew); and in Psalm 23, we have "He makes me lie down." What a peculiar answer to the valley of the shadow of death. You might expect God's response to be to have a people rise, to empower them to fight. But God's answer is unapologetic care for the body. The deepest yet most neglected of needs. The Bible says, "In returning and rest, you shall be saved" (Isaiah). Maybe I'm saved a little every time I rest my eyes.

Prelude Jesus, Name Above All Names/O, How I Love Jesus Nadia Hearn/Arr. Mark Hayes

*Call to Worship

Come to our God,
all who hunger for life:
for it is God who nourishes us
at the Table of Grace.
Come to our God,
all who are worn out by life:
for it is God who provides
the rest we need.
Come to our God,
all who are weighed down:
for it is our God who carries
our burdens for us.

*Hymn (GTG) No. 683

Lord of All Hopefulness

COURTNEY

We Are Renewed in Grace

Invitation to Confession

Come before the God who made you and tells you: you deserve more than exhaustion. Return home to yourself. Rest and dream. You have given enough. Choose rest.

Prayer of Confession

Rested God, we want more than a life lived exhausted. Keep us from apologizing for our own healing. Show us that rest is restoring our bodies, and the world held captive by greed and utility. We grow weary of societies who view us as more machine than human, more product than soul, and we repent for our participation in that subjection. Liberate us from the structures that require that the poor and vulnerable sacrifice their own rest at the altar of survival. Remind us that the beauty and paradox of our humanness is that we were made to close our eyes, that we might see.

(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

Let your soul receive this rest: the God who sends the sun to sleep each night without apology, so too grants you the rest that has been withheld from you and your ancestors. **She forgives us all our restlessness, that we would no longer be tormented by silence and stillness, but find in it a sacred reprieve from a world that asks too much. Amen.**

We Receive God's Word

Children's Gathering

Miriam Bolles

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Reading

Psalms 17:1-7, 15 (page 486, red Bible)

Anthem

Be Still My Soul

Arr. Mack Wilberg

(Emmanuel Chancel Choir)

Gospel Reading

Matthew 14:13-21 (pages 892-893, red Bible)

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

Sermon Title

A Rested People

Miriam Bolles

Inquirer for the Ministry in PC(USA)

*Hymn (GTG) No. 183

Come to Me, O Weary Traveler

AUSTIN

We Experience God's Grace

*Affirmation of Faith *The Confession of 1967*

Wherever the church exists,
its members are both gathered in corporate life
and dispersed in society for the sake of mission in the world.
The church gathers to praise God, to hear God's word for humankind,
to baptize and to join in the Lord's Supper,
to pray for and present the world to God in worship,
to enjoy fellowship, to receive instruction, strength, and comfort,
to order and organize its own corporate life,
to be tested, renewed, and reformed, and to speak and act in the world's affairs
as may be appropriate to the needs of the time.
The church disperses to serve God wherever its members are,
at work or play, in private or in the life of society.
Their prayer and Bible study are part of the church's worship
and theological reflection. Their witness is the church's evangelism.
Their daily action in the world is the church in mission to the world.
The quality of their relation with other persons is the measure
of the church's fidelity.
Each member is the church in the world,
endowed by the Spirit with some gift of ministry
and is responsible for the integrity of their witness
in their own particular situation.

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

Bread of Heaven

Marc Jordan

*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 offer these gifts for the restoration of a weary world, and for the reclamation
of rest, wonder, and wisdom. We offer our lives for the good of our neighbor,
knowing we were created to look after one another. We offer all we give in
gratitude and joy, amen.**

Communion Liturgy

Invitation to the Lord's Table

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

(Minister continues praying)

Prayer of Thanksgiving 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.

Words of Institution and Breaking of the Bread

***Communion of the People**

(Please come forward using the center aisle and return to your seats using the side aisle. If you are not able to come forward, remain in your seat and you will be served. Gluten free bread and cup are available on the small table in the center aisle.)

We Leave to Serve

*Hymn (GTG) No. 526

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

LINSTEAD

*Invitation, Charge and Benediction

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

*Postlude

Fanfare

Jacques Lemmens

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

Liturgy by: Cole Arthur Riley, Thom Shuman, Whitney Wilkinson Arreche.

Worship Leaders

Rev. Dr. Whitney Wilkinson Arreche, Pastor

Miriam Bolles, Inquirer for the Ministry in PC(USA)

Brittney Axton, Director of Music

Dr. Tak Yan Yeung, Organist

Emmanuel Chancel Choir

Assisting in Today's Service:

Dina Ferreira, Liturgist

Miriam Bolles, Children's Gathering

