

Celebration of Worship

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Intergenerational Service

10:00am

August 3, 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 *Sheryl Taylor*

*From generation to generation, Lord God, you are with us, generously giving us all that we need;
sheltering us from danger and granting us peace and rest within your arms of love.
The saints who came before us marked our lives in meaningful ways –
blessing us to continue to be a blessing to those who follow.
When the road is long and the way is hard, you remind us that we're never alone.
How great is your faithfulness!*

Prelude **Be Still My Soul with It Is Well With My Soul** Arr. by Melody Bober

*Call to Worship *adapted from April Yamasaki*

Sheltering God, we gather:

**as infants in our parents' arms,
as children with our snacks and crayons,
as youth whispering with our friends;
we're just learning what it means to worship.**

Abundant God, we gather:

**as young adults trying to find our place within the church,
as parents caring for our children,
as mid-life people with mid-life questions,
as older adults wondering why the questions haven't stopped;
we're just learning what it means to worship.**

Sending God, we gather:

**as people with lives too busy or not busy enough,
bursting with energy or already looking forward to that afternoon nap,
content, discontent, or somewhere in between;
we're just learning what it means to worship.**

God of all ages, all people,

**We gather with our unique personalities and experiences,
ready and not yet ready for this time together.**

Draw us by your Spirit into your embrace.

Turn our thoughts and voices to thankfulness and praise.

*Hymn (GTG) No. 39

Great is Thy Faithfulness

FAITHFULNESS

We Are Renewed in Grace

Invitation to Confession

Come, children of God, of all ages and stages of life: let go of regret and hurt, set down your fears and worries, and seek the God who runs to welcome you home.

Prayer of Confession

God of all the ages, we confess that we have not always listened to the wisdom of the younger ones. We have called them dreamers, and have not heard your voice calling us to justice through their voice. Help us to listen and love. We confess that we have not always listened to the wisdom of the middle-aged ones. We have called them distracted, and have not heard your voice calling us to action through their voice. Help us to listen and love. We confess that we have not always listened to the wisdom of the older ones. We have called them outdated, and have not heard your voice calling us to rootedness through their voice. Help us to listen and love. We seek your call to justice, to action, and to rootedness. We need all ages, all voices, to hear and tell of your good works in our midst. Help us to listen and love.

(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 *adapted from Psalm 145*

Hear, believe, and tell this good news:

The LORD is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

The LORD is good to all, God's compassion is over all that God has made.

We are forgiven. We belong to God and each other. Thanks be to God!

We Receive God's Word

Children's Gathering

Barbara Edwards

Prayer for Illumination

New Testament Reading

1 Timothy 4:4-6,11-16 (pages 1081, 1082, red Bible)

Anthem

Together at the Table

by John Purifoy

(Emmanuel Chancel Choir)

Old Testament Reading

Psalm 145 (pages 569-570, red Bible)

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

Sermon Title One Generation Tells of God's Works to Another
 Caroline Renee Loy, Jude Langsdorf, Elaine Hsieh, Ray Karriker

*Hymn This Little Light of Mine

*This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine. This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine, Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.*

*Hide it under a bushel, NO! I'm gonna let it shine. Hide it under a bushel, NO! I'm gonna let it shine.
Hide it under a bushel, NO! I'm gonna let it shine, Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.*

*Won't let someone blow it out, I'm gonna let it shine. Won't let someone blow it out, I'm gonna let it shine.
Won't let someone blow it out, I'm gonna let it shine, Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.*

*Shine all over Bedford, Lord, I'm gonna let it shine. Shine all over Bedford, Lord, I'm gonna let it shine.
Shine all over Bedford, Lord, I'm gonna let it shine, Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.*

*Let it shine 'til Jesus comes, I'm gonna let it shine. Let it shine 'til Jesus comes, I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine 'til Jesus comes, I'm gonna let it shine, Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.*

We Experience God's Grace

*Affirmation of Faith *Caroline Renee Loy*

Everyone: Emmanuel Presbyterian Church places its faith in the hands, brains, and hearts of many. Through a wide variety of talents, EPC is better able to spread God's grace, mirror Jesus's actions, and catalyze acts of the Holy Spirit in our sanctuary and beyond.

If you are a member of the choir or bells, please say with me: We make our melodies, like the Psalms, joyfully celebrating God's glory. Our voices and instruments sing truths born deep into our hearts in hopes of sharing spiritual praises to God. We share the good news of God's listening kingdom.

If you are in Book Mavens Book Club, please say with me: We study the world around us to bring new ideas into our lives and minds. We educate each other, spread our love of literature, and make EPC a witness to God's wise kingdom.

If you are a part of Wednesday Work Crew, please say with me: We rebuild, repair, replenish, and renew our spaces so that we may make more room for our growing family. We find the glitter beneath the dust, setting aglow this small but mighty portion of God's generous kingdom on earth.

If you currently are or have ever been an elder or a deacon, please say with me: We serve our people, guided by God, to nourish hungry souls and pray through hardships. We don't have all the answers, but we always provide our passion for God's loving kingdom in our midst.

Everyone: All of our voices are stronger together, so as one we say this. We are a place where all people are valued - old and young, all expressions of gender, all ways of loving, those who have much and those who have little. We are a place where all knowledge is used, as linguistic, ethnic, and cultural diversities make

***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. 70 What Does the Lord Require of You MOON
(sung three times - men, women, all)

***Invitation, Charge and Benediction**

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

*Postlude Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus Helen Lemmel. Arr. by Melody Bober
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 Sheryl Taylor, April Yamasaki, Caroline Renee Loy, Whitney Wilkinson Arreche.

Worship Leaders

Rev. Dr. Whitney Wilkinson Arreche, Pastor

Brittney Axton, Director of Music

Jessy Lee, Pianist

Emmanuel Chancel Choir

Assisting in Today's Service:

Jude Langsdorf, Liturgist

Caroline Renee Loy, Jude Langsdorf, Elaine Hsieh, Ray Karriker: Preachers

Barbara Edwards, Children's Gathering

