



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, September 6, 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

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

10:00am

September 6, 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

God our maker, we honor the sacred multitude that resides in you. May the guardian in you protect us. May the child in you delight in us. May the friend in you challenge us. May your ashes resurrect us. May your sky shelter us. May the mystery of you liberate us. Provide abundance and healing in all its forms to those who need it today, and deliver from shame, hatred, and the chains that bind us. For you have made us – glory – and we are still being made. Amen.

Prelude

Take My Life, and Let It Be

Arr. Bill Wolaver

*Call to Worship *adapted from Psalm 57*

Our heart is steadfast, O God;

our heart is steadfast.

We will sing and make melody.

Awake, our soul!

Awake, O music!

We will awake the dawn.

We will give thanks to you, O God, among all peoples.

For your steadfast love is as high as the heavens;

your faithfulness extends to the clouds.

Let your glory be over all the earth.

*Hymn (GTG) No. 401

Here in This Place

GATHER US IN

We Are Renewed in Grace

Invitation to Confession

We begin this day near to the divine, near to our ancestors, and near to our own souls. In the company of the collective, we ground our day in truth-telling and compassion. Together we listen to our own interior worlds and seek grace together.

Prayer of Confession

God of mercy, awaken us to your life within us, and to your call to truly love our neighbors as ourselves. Forgive us for the times we have wandered through our faith or our life half-asleep. We have not noticed the harm caused to others, and we have dismissed their pain. We have not listened to your voice nudging us to new paths of courage and creativity. We have slumbered through our days when we should be truly living them. Wake us up by your Spirit, and send us out, as a people refreshed and ready to serve.

(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

Hear this good news: how things are is not how they will always be. The Spirit of God is on the move, forgiving, freeing, and making all things new. **We will awaken to God's grace, opening our eyes and our hearts to each other and this world.**

We Receive God's Word

Children's Gathering

Barbara Edwards

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Reading

Psalm 57 (page 513, red Bible)

Anthem

Beloved Let Us Love One Another

Charles F. Brown

(Emmanuel Chancel Choir)

New Testament Reading

Romans 13:8-14 (page 1034, red Bible)

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

Sermon

Worth Waking For

Rev. Dr. Whitney Wilkinson Arreche

*Hymn (GTG) No. 252

Day of Arising

RAABE

We Experience God's Grace

*Affirmation of Faith *Apostles' Creed, hymnal page 35*

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

Offertory in G

Edward Broughton

*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**

God of wasteful generosity and surprising abundance, we offer these gifts as a sign that we do not believe in scarcity. We believe you give enough. We will not waste our resources or our lives. We will use all you have given in gratitude to you and for the good of our neighbor. Show us your path of abundant life for all. 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. 543 God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me GREEN TYLER**

***Invitation, Charge and Benediction**

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

***Postlude Postlude in F Ashford**

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, Whitney Wilkinson Arreche.

Worship Leaders

Rev. Dr. Whitney Wilkinson Arreche, Pastor

Brittney Axton, Director of Music

Dr. Tak Yan Yeung, Organist

Emmanuel Chancel Choir

Assisting in Today's Service:

James Taylor, Liturgist

Barbara Edwards, Children's Gathering

