



# EMMANUEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

LOVING GOD  
LOVING OUR NEIGHBOR

2701 Harwood Road, Bedford, Texas

**Sunday, October 11, 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

Stewardship Season Begins

10:00am

October 11, 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

*With every step you take, this blessing rises up to meet you. It has been waiting long ages for you. Look close and you can see the layers of it, how it has been fashioned by those who walked this road before you, how it has been created of nothing but their determination and their dreaming, how it has taken its form from an ancient hope that drew them forward and made a way for them when no way could be seen. Look closer and you will see this blessing is not finished, that you are part of the path it is preparing, that you are how this blessing means to be a voice within the wilderness and a welcome for the way.*

Prelude

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

Robert Lau

### \*Call to Worship

Here we are, bringing all that we are into this place.

**Here we are, held in God's grace.**

Here we gather, with our joys and our questions,  
our confidence and our uncertainty.

**Here we gather, held in God's grace.**

Here we listen, expecting God to meet us  
in familiar words and unexpected dreams.

**Here we listen, open to God's grace.**

Here we worship, trusting that God's love is always greater  
than we can imagine.

**Here we are. Let us worship God.**

\*Hymn (GTG) No. 643

Now Thank We All Our God

NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT

## We Are Renewed in Grace

### Invitation to Confession

Come, shed the heavy things that were never yours to carry. Come, as together we seek the grace that makes for dreaming.

## Prayer of Confession

God of the night, we confess that we have chosen exhaustion over dreaming. We have been tricked and indoctrinated into systems of dehumanization. These systems make the most vulnerable work far more than their bodies ever should. We have set up an economy that demands we sacrifice ourselves at the altars of productivity and utility, that says we won't survive without overwork. We have traded our own peace, our communion with our own interior landscapes, for the frenzied noise of an exhausted world. Forgive us. And have mercy on our weary souls, that we would locate the holy quiet, the divine lullaby that whispers within each of us. That we would dare to dream.

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

Sung Response (GTG) No. 291      Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness, *verse 4*      SPIRIT

*Spirit, spirit of gentleness, blow through the wilderness, calling and free.*

*Spirit, spirit of restlessness, stir me from placidness, wind, wind on the sea. You call from tomorrow; you break ancient schemes; from the bondage of sorrow the captives dream dreams.*

*Our women see visions; our men clear their eyes. With bold new decisions your people arise.*

## Assurance of Pardon

Hear this good news and let it dwell in your body: God is not finished with you. God is not finished with us. A new thing is coming, and we can begin to glimpse it. **Dreams will guide the way. We will find courage for the journey, and provision for the road, together. Thanks be to God!**

## We Receive God's Word

## Children's Gathering

Katie Phillips

## Prayer for Illumination

## New Testament Reading

Luke 12:22-34 (page 949, red Bible)

## Anthem

Ubi Caritas

Victor Johnson

(Emmanuel Chancel Choir)

## Old Testament Reading

Genesis 41:14-38 (pages 36-37, red Bible)

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

Sermon Emmanuel Dreams: Dreams of Provision Rev. Dr. Whitney Wilkinson Arreche

\*Hymn (GTG) No. 36

## For the Fruit of All Creation

AR HYDY NOS

## We Experience God's Grace

\*Affirmation of Faith *Steve Garnaas-Holmes*

**We believe in the God of grace.**

**We follow the Teacher of Love.**

**We live by the Spirit of mercy.**

**We trust God's healing of the world.**

When people spread fear and division,  
 when evil, injustice and oppression thrive,  
 no political revolution, program or platform will save us,  
 but only a people transformed by grace and light,  
 and a bold and sustained outbreak of gentleness.  
 We will stand up to cynicism, hate and indifference,  
 and blanket this world with compassion, calm and mercy.  
 We will proclaim the truth against all resistance.  
 We will meet fear and hate with healing.  
 We will obstruct the progress of injustice  
 with our prayers, our words and our bodies.  
 We will infest the world with grace and love.  
 We pray for open hearts and a spirit of deep listening.  
 We pray for courage to enter the wounds of the world;  
 for a spirit of peace to face violence with nonviolence;  
 for patience to answer shadows with light.  
 We pray for humility to offer ourselves as the first to be changed.  
 We pray for one another, for we are one Body.  
 We devote ourselves to sacrifice and discipline.  
 Giving thanks for the great Spirit of grace  
 already breathing in us, already rising and dreaming in us.  
 In hope and love, as the gentle people of God, we go forth.

#### 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](http://emmanuelpc.org) or using the QR code here.]*



#### Offertory

Prelude in F

Beethoven/arr. Todd Hendall

#### \*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 all goodness, you have given us everything we have—our time, our  
 talents, and our material resources. We offer these gifts to you in gratitude and  
 hope. Please take these tithes and offerings and use them to feed the hungry,  
 comfort the brokenhearted, and bring your peace and justice to our local  
 community and the wider world. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

**Questions to Those Joining**

Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world? **I do.**

Who is your Lord and Savior? **Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior.**

Will you be Christ's faithful disciple, obeying his word and showing his love? **I will, with God's help.**

Will you devote yourself to the church's teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers? **I will, with God's help.**

**Questions to the Congregation**

Do you, as members of the church of Jesus Christ, promise to guide and nurture these new members by word and deed, with love and prayer? **We do.**

Will you encourage them to know and follow Christ and to be faithful members of his church? **We will.**

**We Leave to Serve**

\*Hymn (GTG) No. 79

Light Dawns on a Weary World

TEMPLE OF PEACE

\*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 F

Buxtehude

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

Liturgy by: Jan Richardson, Cole Arthur Riley, Whitney Wilkinson Arreche, Steve Garnaas-Holmes.

**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:

Katie Phillips, Liturgist & Children's Gathering