EMMANUEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

LOVING GOD
LOVING OUR NEIGHBOR

2701 Harwood Road, Bedford, Texas

Sunday, November 22, 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- **E**mpowering **P**eople in **C**hrist
-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

Reign of Christ Sunday/UKirk TCU Celebration Sunday

10:00am November 22, 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

There is a shepherd guiding each of us, and all of us, through every season of this life. This good shepherd finds us from all the places we roam, gathering us into one intergenerational church where all belong and all are fed. As those gathered by God, we see blessing in the differences between generations. We see new and excited ways to be the church in such a time as this. We watch with joy as Jesus Christ, our Good Shepherd, guides us into ever deeper ways of belonging to each other. No one is forgotten, and no one is alone. In all places, across all generations, we are the church.

Prelude Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us Robert Lau

*Call to Worship

We gather, seeking to follow God's call wherever it may lead us.
Together, we make the journey of faith.
Through transitions and turning points, through questions and doubts,
we are not alone.
Together, in life and in death, we belong to God.
Whoever we have been, whoever we are today,
and whoever we will be tomorrow,
Together, we worship God!

*Hymn (GTG) No. 265 Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun DUKE STREET

We Are Renewed in Grace

Invitation to Confession

Friends, we enter this space fully human and fully imperfect. God calls us to lay down our egos and confess the ways we let distractions distance and reroute us from the Word. Let us come together now as a people of prayer to confess our sins together.

Prayer of Confession

O Lord, our shepherd, maker of heaven and earth, we lift our eyes up to the mountain tops, looking for tour guidance and your love. You watch over us day

in and day out, yet we let our feet lead us astray. We slip, stumble, and fall into sin. We confess that we do not wait for your guidance, or trust in your protection, or become a place of comfort for others. Forgive us. As we go into this scary world, we need your direction to help us see the way. We go into this world as fully human and fully imperfect, knowing you love us.

(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.
Spirit, spirit of gentleness, blow through the wilderness, calling and free.
Spirit, spirit of restlessness, stir me from placidness, wind, wind on the sea.

Assurance of Pardon

What a gift it is that we are fully human and fully imperfect, known and loved by a God that wouldn't have us any other way. **This is the good news: we are loved fully and completely exactly as we are. Thanks be to God!**

We Receive God's Word

Children's Gathering Ken Richardson

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Reading Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24 (pages 788, 789, red Bible)

Anthem Praise to the Lord, the Almighty arr. Robert Sterling
(*Emmanuel Chancel Choir*)

Gospel Reading Matthew 25:31-46 (page 904, red Bible)

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

Sermon Our Searching and Gathering Shepherd Rev. Sarah Crowther-Dixon

*Hymn (GTG) No. 187 Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us BRADBURY

We Experience God's Grace

*Affirmation of Faith *Iona Community, Scotland*

With the whole church,
we affirm that we are made in God's image,
befriended by Christ,
empowered by the Spirit.
With people everywhere,
we affirm God's goodness at the heart of humanity
planted more deeply than all that is wrong.

With all creation,
we celebrate the miracle and wonder of life,
the unfolding purposes of God
forever at work in ourselves and in the world.

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 Interlude Mark Hayes

*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

As we offer our gifts to you, Gentle Shepherd, may we lay down our prejudices towards others, so they might find a welcome in our hearts; may we set aside our fears of the future, so you might lead us into your future, may we become the goodness and mercy for which others have been looking all their lives. This we pray in Jesus' name, amen.

We Leave to Serve

*Hymn (GTG) No. 767 Together We Serve SAN ANSELMO

*Invitation, Charge and Benediction

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

*Postlude O Worship the King Arr. Ethel Tench Rogers

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

Liturgy by: *Whitney Wilkinson Arreche, UKirk Collegiate Ministries, Iona Community Scotland, Thom Shuman.*

We are delighted to welcome Rev. Sarah Crowther-Dixon, the Campus Minister and Executive Director of UKirk TCU as our guest minister! UKirk TCU is an authentic community dedicated to embodying Jesus' unconditional love in the world to our neighbors, following God by engaging with holy scripture even with questions, and having fun with friends along the way. You may support their important ministry today by giving as you leave worship or at https://www.ukirktcu.org/donate.

Worship Leaders

Rev. Sarah Crowther-Dixon, Guest Preacher
Brittney Axton, Director of Music
Dr. Tak Yan Yeung, Organist
Emmanuel Chancel Choir

Assisting in Today's Service:
Sheryl Taylor, Liturgist
Ken Richardson, Children's Gathering