



Emmanuel Presbyterian Church

Empowering People in Christ

Emmanuel Presbyterian Church

2701 Harwood Road, Bedford, Texas

Sunday, November 2, 2025

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

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

10:00am

November 2, 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

My work is loving the world. Here the sunflowers, there the hummingbird — equal seekers of sweetness. Here the quickening yeast; there the blue plums. Here the clam deep in the speckled sand . . . Let me keep my mind on what matters, which is my work, which is mostly standing still and learning to be astonished. The phoebe, the delphinium. The sheep in the pasture, and the pasture. Which is mostly rejoicing, since all the ingredients are here, which is gratitude, to be given a mind and a heart and these body-clothes, a mouth with which to give shouts of joy to the moth and the wren, to the sleepy dug-up clam, telling them all, over and over, how it is that we live forever. My work is loving the world.

Prelude

Great is Thy Faithfulness

Arr. Mark Hayes

*Call to Worship

This we know, the earth does not belong to us,

We belong to the earth.

This we know, all things are connected,

Like the love that unites one family.

This we know, we did not weave the web of life,

We are merely a strand in it.

This we know, whatever we do to the web,

We do to ourselves.

Let us give thanks for the gift of creation,

Let us give thanks that all things hold together in Christ.

*Hymn (GTG) No. 667

When Morning Gilds the Skies

LAUDES DOMINI

We Are Renewed in Grace

Invitation to Confession

We confess our sin because honesty is the root of life. We face our failings, knowing that God faces us with grace and forgiveness, growing repentance in us.

Prayer of Confession

Not because we have made peace this day. Not because we have treated the other as ourselves. Not because we have walked the earth with reverence today, but because there is mercy, because there is grace, because your Spirit has not been taken from us, we come. Still thirsting for peace, still longing to love, still hungering for wholeness.

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

Sung Response (GTG) No. 851 Come, Bring Your Burdens to God *(sung twice)*

Come, bring your burdens to God.

WOZA NOMTHWALO WAKHO

Come, bring your burdens to God.

Come, bring your burdens to God,

for Jesus will never say no.

Assurance of Pardon

God never tires of redeeming, restoring, and renewing. Nothing can separate us, or creation, from the life-giving love of God.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! We are made new. We are invited to participate in the healing of the land. Thanks be to God!

We Receive God's Word

Children's Gathering

Brittney Axton

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Reading

Habakkuk 1:1-4, 2:1-4 (pages 856, 857, red Bible)

Anthem

And Can It Be?

arr. Dan Forrest

(Emmanuel Chancel Choir)

Gospel Reading

Luke 19:1-10 (pages 956-957, red Bible)

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

Sermon Title

Tree Time

Rev. Dr. Whitney Wilkinson Arreche

*Hymn (GTG) No. 727

Will You Let Me Be Your Servant

THE SERVANT SONG

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, in hope and love,
as the gentle people of God,
we go forth.

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

**We offer these gifts to you, Generous God, offering with them our
commitments to work for a better world, to live with greater care, and to walk,
and climb, with deeper gratitude, in your name. Amen.**

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

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. 80** *(sung three times)* You Shall Go Out with Joy THE TREES OF THE FIELD

***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 on "Hyfrydol" David Lasky

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 Mary Oliver, Iona Community Scotland, Whitney Wilkinson Arreche, Thom Shuman.

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:

John Field, Liturgist

Brittney Axton, Children's Gathering

