EMMANUEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

LOVING GOD
LOVING OUR NEIGHBOR

2701 Harwood Road, Bedford, Texas

Sunday, November 15, 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

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

10:00am November 15, 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

Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate. Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure. It is our light, not our darkness that most frightens us. We ask ourselves, 'Who am I to be brilliant, gorgeous, talented, fabulous?' Actually, who are you not to be? You are a child of God. Your playing small does not serve the world. There is nothing enlightened about shrinking so that other people won't feel insecure around you. We are all meant to shine, as children do. We were born to make manifest the glory of God that is within us. It's not just in some of us; it's in everyone. And as we let our own light shine, we unconsciously give other people permission to do the same. As we are liberated from our own fear, our presence automatically liberates others.

Prelude I Sing Praises Terry Mac Almon

*Call to Worship

Before there was any time,
there was God.
When we wandered the wilderness,
God built a way for us.
When we lived in exile,
our homes were built by God.
When we are overwhelmed by life,
God unknots the tightness in our shoulders.
When we seek to serve faithfully,
God provides the opportunities.
When tomorrow comes,
we find God awake and waiting for us.
When time ends,
there will still be God.

*Hymn (GTG) No. 192 Lord, the Light of Your Love Is Shining SHINE, JESUS, SHINE

We Are Renewed in Grace

Invitation to Confession

God created us for goodness, and we make foolish choices. God, who walked this earth, knows our temptations. God, whose hope is for wholeness, runs towards us with grace. Let us come to our God, bringing that which lives in the shadows into the light.

Prayer of Confession

Forgive us, God, for living in ways that are too small. When we ignore your light within us, or allow others to dim it, or diminish the light of others, reignite our fire for you. When we forget your goodness alive within us, and forget to extend that goodness to others, forgive us. Set alight within us the joy of living, the purpose of our days, the shape of this life that is from you: the shape of loving others. *(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

In every time, in every place, in every life, God shows compassion and mercy. We trust that God has heard our prayers and has filled us with grace and hope.

In this time, in this place, in our lives, our grace and hope are sustained by God's abiding love. Thanks be to God, we are forgiven!

We Receive God's Word

Children's Gathering Barbara Edwards

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Reading Isaiah 60:1-3, 18-22 (pages 676, 677, red Bible)

Anthem Even Here Mark A Miller
(*Emmanuel Chancel Choir*)

New Testament Reading 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 (page 1077, red Bible)

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

Sermon Shine Rev. Dr. Whitney Wilkinson Arreche

*Hymn (GTG) No. 458 Thy Word Is a Lamp unto My Feet THY WORD

We Experience God's Grace

*Affirmation of Faith *Nicene Creed hymnal page 34*

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 Take My Life, and Let It Be Arr. Bill Wolaver

*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

Freely, you give to us, God of grace. Freely we return to you a portion, for the shining of your loving light to our community, for the good of our neighbor, for the proclamation of your good news to all people. Use all we have offered for your radiant glory, in Jesus' name, amen.

We Leave to Serve

*Hymn (GTG) No. 749 Come! Live in the Light! WE ARE CALLED

*Invitation, Charge and Benediction

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

*Postlude Be Thou Exalted Edward H. Wetherill

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

Liturgy by: *Marianne Williamson, Thom Shuman, 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:
Elaine Hsieh, Liturgist
Barbara Edwards, Children's Gathering