



Emmanuel Presbyterian Church

Empowering People in Christ

Emmanuel Presbyterian Church

Bedford, Texas

Sunday, November 27, 2022

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 parents and children attending in person, children's bulletins and activity bags are available from the ushers. 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

1st Sunday of Advent

10:00am

November 27, 2022

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

I asked God—
what about my
fingernail-biting habit
or the way I leave all the cabinets
open in the kitchen?
What about the way I can be dramatic,
drumming up a fight, only to
hand out apologies like souvenirs?
What about the way I second-guess myself,
let shame drive, or stay quiet when I
have something to say?
What about the way I chase accomplishments
like a dog with a bone?
What about the doubt, or the fact
that I'm terrible at prayer and
cannot help but yawn during church?
What about
What about
What about?
My baggage might be too big for the van.
But then
God called me by my first and middle name,
which always means business,
and said:
Who told you that you were too much?
Sugar, there is so much room for you here.
So that's when I grabbed a seat

and we hit the road
and I knew right then
that the rumors were true.

There is room.

There is room.

There is room.

-by Rev. Sarah Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

Prelude O Come, O Come Emmanuel" Arr. Marianne Kim

Candlelighting Liturgy

*Hymn (GTG) No. 107 Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn REJOICE, REJOICE

We Are Renewed in Grace

Invitation to Confession:

In God's house, everyone is welcome—those who seem like they have it all together, and those who feel like their world is falling apart. No matter who we are, there's room for us here. With that confidence, we turn to God in prayer, speaking the truth of our lives. Let us pray:

Prayer of Confession

God of today and God of tomorrow,
you say, "Bring your full self. There's room for you here."

But we say, "Our lives are too messy."

You say, "Bring your hopes and your dreams. There's room for you here."

But we say, "It's too risky to hope."

You say, "Bring your grief and your prayers. There's room for you here."

But we say, "Some things are easier to forget."

God of today and God of tomorrow,
we know in our hearts that there's room for us here.

Forgive us for withholding our full selves from you.

Forgive us for giving only our Sunday best.

Help us remember, today and tomorrow,

There's room for every story. Amen.

(Worshippers are invited to offer silent prayers of confession)

Sung Response (GTG) No. 579 Lord, Have Mercy (all 3 stanzas) KYRIE ELEISON

Declaration of Forgiveness

Family of faith, we who feel scattered are held together. We who have lost our way are forgiven and found. And we who are lonely are brought into the fold and are

told, "There's room for you here." From generation to generation, this is the good news of the gospel. In Jesus Christ we are held, forgiven, found, and welcomed. Thanks be to God! Amen.

We Receive God's Word

Children's Gathering

Old Testament Isaiah 2:1-5 (page 618, red Bible)

Special Music Of The Father's Love Forgotten Arr. K. Richardson
(Jordan Drake, Ashley Lindorm, Ken Richardson & Helen Richardson)

Gospel Lesson Matthew 1:1-17 (page 877, red Bible)

Leader: The Word of God for the People of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon "There's Room for Every Story" Rev. Dr. Kyle M. Walker

We Experience God's Grace

***Affirmation of Faith**

We believe in a God

who promised to Abraham,

who wrestled with Jacob,

who walked with Ruth,

who spoke with Moses,

who grieved with Bathsheba,

who danced with David,

who dreamed with Joseph,

and who hoped like Mary.

We believe in a God who has been

loving, inviting, transforming, and challenging us

from generation to generation.

And we believe that same God

is here with us now,

saying, "Come on in; there's room for you here."

Amen.

Prayers of the People ending in the Lord's Prayer

Glory to God Hymnal, page 35

Offering our Gifts to God

[Note: An offering plate is available at the back of the sanctuary or you may contribute online at emmanuelpc.org or use the QR code in the bulletin insert.]

Invitation to the Offering

In response to God's abundant gifts to us, let us give generously to Christ's mission

