



Emmanuel Presbyterian Church

Empowering People in Christ

Emmanuel Presbyterian Church

Bedford, Texas

Sunday, September 20, 2020

10:00am

Mission Statement

Courageously proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ, we:

- worship and glorify God,
- grow in faith as disciples,
- seek justice and mercy,
- and nurture those in need while embracing all humanity.

Welcome to this service of worship. The Emmanuel congregation invites all ages to worship God together. 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.

Celebration of Worship

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

10:00am

September 20, 2020

We Gather in Worship

Greeting and Announcements

Rev. Robin Lyn Valdez

Centering Words

Rev. Chuck Schneider

“Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

Prelude

Holy, Holy, Holy

arr. Ken Richardson

*Call to Worship

Rev. Chuck Schneider

O give thanks to the Lord, call on God’s name,
make known God’s deeds among the peoples.

**Sing to the Lord, sing praises to God;
tell of all the Lord’s wonderful works.**

Glory in God’s holy name;

let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

Seek the Lord and God’s strength;

seek the Lord’s presence continually.

Remember the wonderful works God has done.

*Hymn (GTG) No. 1

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty

NICAEA

*Opening Prayer

Rev. Chuck Schneider

The gospel of Christ has drawn us once more to seek the realm of heaven. Your ways, O God, surprise us, for your standards are not our own. We want quick results, while you work patiently for steady transformation. We seek to comprehend within narrow limits, but you come to us to broaden our horizons. We dare to worship what we cannot see because Christ has demonstrated that your love is real. Love us now into becoming all we are meant to be. Amen.

We Are Renewed in Grace

Invitation to Confession (Liturgist)

Rev. Chuck Schneider

Prayer of Confession

Rev. Chuck Schneider

Lord God, you hear our cries of pain and our murmured complaining. Your relentless compassion for your people defies any human logic or understanding. You provide manna in the wilderness, bread from heaven and the assurance that

you will not abandon us in our need. Despite your overflowing goodness, we grumble. Rather than rejoice in your grace to us, we resent that you extend kindness to others. Instead of gratitude for your mercy, we question why you would embrace those we think undeserving — forgetting that none of us are righteous, all of us saved by grace. Forgive us for judging others and begrudging your generosity. We thank you for yet again hearing our cries and responding with love. Amen.

(Worshippers are invited to offer silent prayers of confession)

Declaration of Forgiveness Rev. Chuck Schneider

*Sung Response (GTG) No. 422 Create in Me a Clean Heart CREATE IN ME

We Receive God's Word

Anthem Now Is the Time Carl Nygard, Jr.
(Emmanuel Chancel Choir)

Children's Gathering Rev. Chuck Schneider

Old Testament Reading Exodus 16:2-15 (page 62, red Bible) Rev. Chuck Schneider

Gospel Reading Matthew 20:1-16 (page 897, red Bible) Rev. Robin Lyn Valdez

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord. **People: Thanks be to God.**

Sermon If you can't beat 'em, join 'em... Rev. Robin Lyn Valdez

*Hymn (GTG) No. 703 Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me ST. CATHERINE

We Experience God's Grace

*Affirmation of Faith - *(Selections from the Belhar Confession, 1986)*

Rev. Chuck Schneider

We believe in the triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, who gathers, protects and cares for the church through Word and Spirit. This, God has done since the beginning of the world and will do to the end. We believe in one holy, universal Christian church, the communion of saints called from the entire human family. We believe that Christ's work of reconciliation is made manifest in the church as the community of believers who have been reconciled with God and with one another; that unity is, therefore, both a gift and an obligation for the church of Jesus Christ; that through the working of God's Spirit it is a binding force, yet simultaneously a reality which must be earnestly pursued and sought: one which the people of God must continually be built up to attain; that this unity must become visible so that the world may believe that separation, enmity and hatred between people and groups is sin which Christ has already conquered, and accordingly that anything which threatens this unity may have no place in the

church and must be resisted; that this unity of the people of God must be manifested and be active in a variety of ways: in that we love one another. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Rev. Chuck Schneider

Lord's Prayer

Rev. Chuck Schneider

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

Invitation to the Offering

Rev. Chuck Schneider

Offertory

Interlude

Mark Hayes

*Doxology

Glory to God Hymnal, page 606

*Prayer of Dedication

Rev. Chuck Schneider

Generous God, receive these gifts as an outward sign of our inward gratitude. We cannot repay you for your goodness to us, but we know you accept that which is given in faith. Take and distribute this offering in ways that show forth your mercy and goodness. Multiply what we offer in ways that nourish others hungry to know they are your beloved people. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

We Leave to Serve

*Hymn (GTG) No. 10

Sing Glory to the Name of God

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

*Benediction

Rev. Robin Lyn Valdez

*Sign of Peace

*Postlude

Bread of Heaven

Marc Jordan

*please stand, if able

(GTG) – Glory to God Hymnal

Words in **bold print** are said in unison by the congregation.

Worship Leaders

Reverend Chuck Schneider, Temporary Pastor

Reverend Robin Lyn Valdez, Pastor

Susan LaPointe, Director of Music

Tak Yan Yeung, Accompanist

