



Emmanuel Presbyterian Church

Empowering People in Christ

Emmanuel Presbyterian Church
Bedford, Texas
Sunday, November 8, 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

Twenty Third Sunday after Pentecost

10:00am

November 8, 2020

We Gather in Worship

Greeting and Announcements

Rev. Chuck Schneider

Centering Words (*Matthew 25:11-12*)

Rev. Robin Lyn Valdez

“Lord, lord, open to us,’ But he replied, ‘Truly I tell you, I do not know you.’ Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.”

Prelude

We Have Come Into His House

arr. Bill Wolaver

*Call to Worship

Linda Greenwell & Linda Villarreal

Heirs of the covenant, come;
let us present ourselves before the Lord.
**We gather to worship the Holy One,
to incline our hearts to the one true God.**
Family of faith, come;
choose this day: Whom will you serve?
**As for me and my household,
we will serve the Lord.**

*Hymn (GTG) No. 352

My Lord! What a Morning

MY LORD, WHAT A MORNING

*Opening Prayer

Rev. Robin Lyn Valdez

Meet us here, Gracious God, for we need your reassurance. Amid our griefs and empty toil, comfort and redirect us. From our fears, deliver us. In our confusion, lend your light to guide us. Gather us in watchful anticipation, lest we miss the signs of your presence and fail to hear your summons to ministry. Amen.

We Are Renewed in Grace

Invitation to Confession (Liturgist)

Rev. Robin Lyn Valdez

Prayer of Confession

Linda Greenwell & Linda Villarreal

“Keep awake,” you tell us, urging us to watch with expectant hope as we wait for you to reveal yourself in our midst. But, Lord, we grow tired of looking for signs of your presence among us. We grow weary from a steady diet of distressing news and convince ourselves that you are still far off. We are careless with the tasks you expect of us and, so, are not prepared to encounter you. Forgive us for losing heart

and losing hope. Sustain us in faith, we pray, and keep us ever watchful so that we might be ready to greet you with joy. Amen.

(Worshippers are invited to offer silent prayers of confession)

Declaration of Forgiveness

Linda Greenwell & Linda Villarreal

Set your hope in God, for Christ, the Bridegroom, draws near, to welcome us into the joy of his presence and the light of his salvation. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Thanks be to God.

*Sung Response (GTG) No. 175

Seek Ye First

LAFFERTY

We Receive God's Word

Anthem

I've Got Peace Like a River

traditional

(Blaise Ferrandino and Ken Richardson)

Children's Gathering

Keith Royal

Old Testament Reading

Josh. 24:1-3a, 14-25 (pages 213-214, red bible)

Rev. Robin Lyn Valdez

Gospel Reading

Matthew 25:1-13 (pages 903-904, red bible)

Rev. Chuck Schneider

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

As for me ...

Rev. Chuck Schneider

*Hymn (GTG) No. 824

There Is a Place of Quiet Rest

MC AFEE

We Experience God's Grace

*Affirmation of Faith *(Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.32-33)*

Linda Greenwell & Linda Villarreal

The life, death, resurrection, and promised coming of Jesus Christ has set the pattern for the church's mission. His human life involves the church in the common life of all people. His service to men and women commits the church to work for every form of human well-being. His suffering makes the church sensitive to all human suffering so that it sees the face of Christ in the faces of persons in every kind of need. His crucifixion discloses to the church God's judgment on the inhumanity that marks human relations, and the awful consequences of the church's own complicity in injustice. In the power of the risen Christ and the hope of his coming, the church sees the promise of God's

renewal of human life in society and of God's victory over all wrong. The church follows this pattern in the form of its life and in the method of its action. So to live and serve is to confess Christ as Lord.

Prayers of the People

Rev. Robin Lyn Valdez

Lord's Prayer

Rev. Robin Lyn Valdez

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. Robin Lyn Valdez

Offertory

O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus

Mary Ann Fritz

*Doxology

Glory to God Hymnal, Page 606

Prayer of Dedication

Rev. Robin Lyn Valdez

As we offer you these gifts, we ask for the wisdom to fill our lamps with the oil that enables us to be the light of the world. May this offering enable others to know your near and good presence. Amen.

We Leave to Serve

*Hymn (GTG) No. 727

Will You Let Me Be Your Servant

THE SERVANT SONG

*Benediction

Rev. Chuck Schneider

*Sign of Peace

*Postlude

Toccatina in E minor

Johann Pachelbel

*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

Liturgists:

Linda Greenwell

Linda Villarreal

