



Emmanuel Presbyterian Church

Empowering People in Christ

Emmanuel Presbyterian Church
Bedford, Texas
Sunday, February 28, 2021
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

Second Sunday in Lent

10:00am

February 28, 2021

We Gather in Worship

Greeting and Announcements

Rev. Dr. Kyle Walker

Centering Words

Ray Karriker

Recall a time you received a hard truth that, in Rev. T. Denise Anderson's words, "troubled the waters" of your understanding and challenged your notions of what is real. How did you react? What led you to transformation or change? Did the hard truth become less threatening at some point? If so, what changed in you so that you were more open and willing to receive it?

Prelude

Spirit Song

arr. Mark Zeeman

*Call to Worship

Ray Karriker

*Hymn (GTG) No. 702

Christ Be Beside Me

BUNESSAN

*Opening Prayer

Ray Karriker

God of Grace, for so long, we have been warned of a divine love that punishes. This teaching has taken hold around us and within us at great cost. We shun and shame. We fear accountability. We close off possibilities for transformation. As we confront the sins of our own era, help us to break this pattern and learn new ways of living out love and justice together. Amen.

We Are Renewed in Grace

Invitation to Confession (Liturgist)

Ray Karriker

Prayer of Confession

Ray Karriker

Listening God, take what is closed in us and open it. Take what is distracted in us and settle it. Take what is hurting in us and hold it. Take any and all parts of us that create distance from you. For we are like Peter, O God. We argue what we don't know. We fear what we cannot see. And we almost always speak sooner than we listen. So open us, settle us, hold us, and forgive us. We long to hear you more clearly. We long to know you more fully. With hope we pray, and with gratitude we confess. Amen.

(Worshippers are invited to offer silent prayers of confession)

Declaration of Forgiveness

Ray Karriker

Siblings in Christ, we confess with gratitude because we know that God already has heard and forgiven us. No matter what we have done or left undone, we are held in God's hand. So rest in this good news:

God invites us in.

God meets us where we are.

God hears our prayers.

God forgives us.

Thanks be to God for a love like that.

We Receive God's Word

Anthem

Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God

Carl Mueller

(Emmanuel Chancel Choir)

Children's Gathering

Jim and Laura Mahon

Scripture Reading

Mark 8:27-38 (page 919, red Bible)

Rev. Dr. Kyle Walker

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"Troubled Waters"

Rev. Dr. Kyle Walker

We Experience God's Grace

***Affirmation of Faith**

Ray Karriker

We believe.

Sometimes our belief is confident,

Like a child on a dance floor—Unashamed and wildly genuine...We believe.

Sometimes our belief is distant,

Flickering and calling out to us Like a lighthouse
on the sea...We believe.

Sometimes our belief shows up as passion,

Guiding the way we vote, shop, give, live, trust, and hope...

We believe.

Sometimes our belief is like a shadow—

Faith stitched to our heels, unmoveable, unloseable,

A gift for winding journeys...We believe.

Sometimes our belief exists like growing pains.

We step forward. We fall back.

But again and again, Jesus invites us to listen,

To grow, and to take another step.

So again and again,

We speak these truths out loud:

We believe.

We believe.

Again and again, we believe.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Rev. Dr. Kyle Walker

The Lord's Prayer

Ray Karriker

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

Ray Karriker

Offertory

Spirit of Grace

Ben Logan

*Doxology

Glory to God Hymnal, page 606

Prayer of Dedication

Ray Karriker

Liberating One, we hope to rise to the calling of this era. There is so much trouble, so much suffering, but also so much potential. Keep us attuned to what you ask of us in these days. And encourage us in our faith, that we may believe we have what we need to live it out together. Amen.

We Leave to Serve

*Hymn (GTG) No. 166 Lord, Who throughout These Forty Days

ST. FLAVIAN

*Charge and Benediction

Rev. Dr. Kyle Walker

*Postlude

Glorify Thy Name

arr. Bruce Greer

*please stand, if able

(GTG) – Glory to God Hymnal

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

Liturgy by Rev. Sarah Are | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org and M Barclay,
Enfleshed



Worship Leaders

Reverend Dr. Kyle Walker, Transitional Pastor

Susan LaPointe, Director of Music

Tak Yan Yeung, Accompanist

Liturgists:

Ray Karriker

Jim and Laura Mahon

