



EMMANUEL

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

WORSHIP SERVICE NOVEMBER 23, 2025

The word Emmanuel means *God With Us*, the extraordinary promise that there is no person, place or context beyond the presence of God. “Emmanuel” also has the same meaning and pronunciation in virtually every language on earth—a beautiful indication that the gospel is for all of us, equally. Regardless of who we are, where we come from, or what we’ve done, we are all freely invited to experience the nearness of God in our life and worship.

WELCOME TO EMMANUEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

If you are new to Emmanuel, we’d like to stay in touch!

Fill out our Keeping Connected form to let us know you visited and to receive information about our church. You can use the QR code below, use this link (bit.ly/EPCkeepingconnected), or complete a physical form found at our Welcoming Table in the lobby.

We are so happy that you visited!



ORDINARY TIME

During Ordinary Time, we are shaped by the story of God's faithfulness in every ordinary and extraordinary moment of our lives.

WHO YOU SAY I AM

Who am I that the highest King would welcome me
I was lost but He brought me in
Oh His love for me, oh His love for me

Chorus

Who the Son sets free
Oh is free indeed
I'm a child of God
Yes I am

Free at last, He has ransomed me
His grace runs deep
While I was a slave to sin Jesus died for me
Yes He died for me

Chorus

In my Father's house
There's a place for me
I'm a child of God
Yes I am

I am chosen, not forsaken
I am who You say I am
You are for me not against me
I am who You say I am

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Ben Fielding | Reuben Morgan

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

We gather in response to God's gracious invitation, not because worship earns favor with him.

Leader: To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

People: O my God, in you I trust; let me not be put to shame;

Leader: Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths.

People: Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all the day long.

~Psalm 25:1-2, 4-5

WHAT A FRIEND WE HAVE IN JESUS

What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear
What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer!
Oh, what peace we often forfeit,
Oh what needless pain we bear
All because we do not carry everything to God in prayer

Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?
Jesus, Savior, is our refuge, take it to the Lord in prayer
Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care?
Jesus knows our every weakness, take it to the Lord in prayer

Oh what a friend, Oh what a friend in Jesus (2x)

Blessed Savior, You have promised, all our burdens You will bear
May we ever, Lord, be bringing all to you in earnest prayer
Soon, in glory bright unclouded, face to face will be our prayer
Joyful praise and endless worship will be our sweet portion there

Charles Crozat Converse | Joseph Medlicott Scriven
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OLD TESTAMENT READING

Leader: “Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture!” This is the Lord’s declaration. “Therefore, this is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says about the shepherds who tend my people: You have scattered my flock, banished them, and have not attended to them. I am about to attend to you because of your evil acts”—this is the Lord’s declaration. “I will gather the remnant of my flock from all the lands where I have banished them, and I will return them to their grazing land. They will become fruitful and numerous. I will raise up shepherds over them who will tend them. They will no longer be afraid or discouraged, nor will any be missing.” This is the Lord’s declaration.

People: “Look, the days are coming”—this is the Lord’s declaration— “when I will raise up a Righteous Branch for David. He will reign wisely as king and administer justice and righteousness in the land. In his days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely. This is the name he will be called: The Lord Is Our Righteousness.”
~*Jeremiah 23:1-6*.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord, absolutely true and given to us in love.

People: Thanks be to God.

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

GREETING AND PROCESSIONAL

Children up to 3rd grade are invited to attend Children’s Church. K-3rd will meet their teacher in the lobby. Preschoolers will head directly to their classroom upstairs. Fourth and fifth graders are invited to stay in the service every fourth Sunday. First-time visitors, please visit the Children’s Ministry Table for more information.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SERMON TEXT

The public reading of the Scriptures reminds us of the truth that can only be found in God’s Word.

“¹David fled from Naioth in Ramah and came to Jonathan and asked, ‘What have I done? What did I do wrong? How have I sinned against your father so that he wants to take my life?’ ²Jonathan said to him, ‘No, you won’t die. Listen, my father doesn’t do anything, great or small, without telling me. So why would he hide this matter from me? This can’t be true.’ ³But David said, ‘Your father certainly knows that I have found favor with you. He has said, ‘Jonathan must not know of this, or else he will be grieved.’ David also swore, ‘As surely as the Lord lives and as you yourself live, there is but a step between me and death.’ ⁴Jonathan said to David, ‘Whatever you say, I will do for you.’ ⁵So David told him, ‘Look, tomorrow is the New Moon, and I’m supposed to sit down and eat with the king. Instead, let me go, and I’ll hide in the countryside for the next two nights. ⁶If your father misses me at all, say, ‘David urgently requested my permission to go quickly to his hometown, Bethlehem, for an annual sacrifice there involving the whole clan.’ ⁷If he says, ‘Good,’ then your servant is safe, but if he becomes angry, you will know he has evil intentions. ⁸Deal kindly with your servant, for you have brought me into a covenant with you before the Lord. If I have done anything wrong, then kill me yourself; why take me to your father?’ ⁹‘No!’ Jonathan responded. ‘If I ever find out my father has evil intentions against you, wouldn’t I tell you about it?...’ ¹³If my father intends to bring evil on you, may the Lord punish Jonathan and do so severely if I do not tell you and send you away so you may leave safely. May the Lord be with you, just as he was with my father. ¹⁴If I continue to live, show me kindness from the Lord, but if I die, ¹⁵don’t ever withdraw your kindness from my household—not even when the Lord cuts off every one of David’s enemies from the face of the earth.’ ¹⁶Then Jonathan made a covenant with the house of David, saying, ‘May the Lord hold David’s enemies accountable.’ ¹⁷Jonathan once again swore to David in his love for him, because he loved him as he loved himself.... ⁴¹When the servant had gone, David got up from the south side of the stone Ezel, fell facedown to the ground, and paid homage three times. Then he and Jonathan kissed each other and wept with each other, though David wept more.”

~1 Samuel 20:1-9, 13-17, 41

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

O Lord, quiet our hearts that we may know and hear you today. Where our hearts are hard, soften them; where they are broken, bind them up; where we are anxious, give us peace; where we doubt, give us trust. For you alone are the One who is making all things new, even us today. Amen.

SERMON

Sermons at Emmanuel encourage us to depend on the finished work of Christ rather than self-justification.

KINGDOM FRIENDSHIP

REV. YOUNG LEE

OFFERING

Offering is a grateful acknowledgement of trust and worship of our God who owns everything and withholds nothing.

GREAT ARE YOU LORD

You give life You are love
You bring light to the darkness
You give hope, You restore ev'ry heart that is broken
And great are You Lord

Chorus

It's Your breath in our lungs
So we pour out our praise
We pour out our praise
It's Your breath in our lungs
So we pour out our praise to You only

And all the earth will shout Your praise
Our hearts will cry these bones will sing
Great are You Lord

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CONFESSION OF SIN

Since we are forgiven in Christ, confession is an honest word of grace and not an exercise in shame.

Lord, you taught us: "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God." For the ways we turn our backs on healthy restoration, forgive us. For the ways we revel in bitterness, forgive us. Holy Spirit, help us seek your peace and pursue it. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

We are forgiven in Christ and our assurance is based on God's promises.

¹⁴For he himself is our peace, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, ¹⁵by setting aside in his flesh the law with its commands and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new humanity out of the two, thus making peace, ¹⁶and in one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility. ¹⁷He came and preached peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near. ¹⁸For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit.
~Ephesians 5:14-18

COMMUNION

The Lord's table is open to all who have faith in Jesus and have joined themselves to the visible body of Christ. (Gluten free wafers are available.)

BENEVOLENCE OFFERING - DEACONS' FUND

WE WILL FEAST IN THE HOUSE OF ZION

Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart
Naught be all else to me save that Thou art
Thou my best thought by day or by night
Waking or sleeping thy presence my light

Be Thou my wisdom and Thou my true Word
I ever with Thee and Thou with me Lord
Thou my great Father, I Thy true son
Thou in me dwelling and I with Thee one

Riches I heed not nor man's empty praise,
Be Thou mine inheritance now and always;
Thou and Thou only first in my heart,
High King of heaven, my Treasure Thou art.

High King of heaven, Thy vict'ry won
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all

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BENEDICTION

Benediction means "good word" and is a pronouncement of grace and blessing.

The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Benevolence Offering - Today

November's special offering will go to our deacon's benevolence fund to support the needs of people within our congregation. Consider giving during the closing song today or on Church Center.

Youth Group - Today

All 6th-12th graders are invited to youth group for games & discussion. Come up to the Art Room for lunch right after service.

Sparks - Today

Third, fourth, and fifth graders: come eat lunch, talk about the Bible, and play games together! Meet in the conference room upstairs after the service and stay until 2 PM.

Flag Football Game - November 28

Join in Emmanuel's annual flag football game the day after Thanksgiving. (More information forthcoming)

ABB Bridge Kids Hat & Glove Donation

Help the Arlington Bridge Builders - Bridge Kids this winter by donating hats and gloves. These items will be included in holiday gift bags, alongside new donated winter coats, and distributed at their annual holiday luncheon on Nov 29 and to other needy families by mid December. Make an impact on families in need with a small donation through this Amazon Wish List: Amazon Bridge Kids Hats and Gloves, using the Arlington Bridge Builders address to mail your selected donation item directly. https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/28YTBLNHLNUZ8?ref=wl_share

Women's Advent Devotional - November 30

Join us for a gentle pause in this busy season as we gather to reflect and prepare our hearts for the coming Savior. Join us on Sunday, November 30 before the service, from 9:00 to 10:15 on the top floor at Rivendell. We'll share a short devotional together, followed by a time of quiet, personal reflection. All women are warmly invited—come as you are, and rest in the hope of Advent.

Emmanuel Christmas Party - December 7

Our congregation-wide Christmas party will be on December 7 from 5-7pm here at Rivendell. All ages are welcome! **Please bring a large side to share.**

Chili Cookoff - December 7

Sign up on Church Center to enter the stiff competition for our annual Chili Cookoff! Last year's winner, Courtney Roberts, set the bar high. This fun event will take place on December 7 during the Christmas party.

Cookie Exchange - December 14

Celebrate Christmas together with our annual cookie exchange after the service on December 14! Bring cookies to share and take some home. Sign up on Church Center to participate in the swap.

New ESOL Class for Adults

Are you—or someone you know—interested in learning English? We're starting a fun and welcoming ESOL class for beginners, meeting one evening a week for 1.5 hours. Our goal is to create a community where everyone is known, cared for, and encouraged as we learn together. You don't need to be part of the church to join—everyone is welcome! Email Mona Lindeman for more information. (mona.lindeman62@gmail.com)

Christmas Strings Music

Calling all interested bowed string players, no matter level or age, to consider playing for our Advent service on Dec. 21st. Please contact Lynne Denig by December 5. (lynndenig4900@gmail.com)

Call for Photos

Did you take photos at a fellowship event or other church event this year? Please share them for the Christmas party slideshow. Photos will not be posted publicly outside this event without express permission. (bblakeney@emmanuelarlington.org)