



# EMMANUEL

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

WORSHIP SERVICE  
MARCH 17, 2024

**REFLECTION**

"I assumed that faith was something you arrived at, either because it was drummed into your head when you were little or by some emotional experience or some sort of cultural pressure. The idea that you would arrive at faith because it made sense, because it was rational, because it was the most appropriate choice when presented with the data, that was a new concept."

*~Francis Collins*

YOU ARE GOOD

Lord You are good  
And Your mercy endureth forever  
Lord You are good  
And Your mercy endureth forever  
People from every nation and tongue  
From generation to generation

*Chorus:*

We worship You  
Hallelujah hallelujah  
We worship You for who You are  
We worship You  
Hallelujah hallelujah  
We worship You for who You are  
For You are good

*Bridge:*

You are good all the time  
All the time You are good  
You are good all the time  
All the time You are good

Israel Houghton

**INVITATION TO WORSHIP**

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

*Leader:* Not to us, O Lord

***People:* Not to us, but to your name give glory, for the sake of your steadfast love and your faithfulness!**

*Leader:* Trust in the Lord

***People:* He is their help and their shield.**

*~Psalm 115:1, 9*

JESUS I COME

Out of my bondage sorrow and night  
Jesus I come Jesus I come  
Into Thy freedom gladness and light  
Jesus I come to Thee  
Out of my sickness into Thy health  
Out of my wanting and into Thy wealth  
Out of my sin and into Thyself  
Jesus I come to Thee

Out of my shameful failure and loss  
Jesus I come Jesus I come  
Into the glorious gain of Thy cross  
Jesus I come to Thee  
Out of earths sorrows into Thy balm  
Out of lifes storms and into Thy calm  
Out of distress into jubilant psalm  
Jesus I come to Thee

Out of the fear and dread of the tomb  
Jesus I come Jesus I come  
Into the joy and light of Thy home  
Jesus I come to Thee  
Out of the depths of ruin untold  
Into the peace of Thy sheltering fold  
Ever Thy glorious face to behold  
Jesus I come to Thee

Greg Thompson | William True Sleeper

## OLD TESTAMENT READING

To the choirmaster: according to The Doe of the Dawn. A Psalm of David.

<sup>1</sup>My God, my God, why have you abandoned me? Why are you so far from my deliverance and from my words of groaning?  
<sup>2</sup>My God, I cry by day, but you do not answer, by night, yet I have no rest. <sup>3</sup>But you are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel.  
<sup>4</sup>Our ancestors trusted in you; they trusted, and you rescued them. <sup>5</sup>They cried to you and were set free; they trusted in you and were not disgraced. <sup>6</sup>But I am a worm and not a man, scorned by mankind and despised by people. <sup>7</sup>Everyone who sees me mocks me; they sneer and shake their heads: <sup>8</sup>"He relies on the Lord; let him save him; let the Lord rescue him, since he takes pleasure in him." It was you who brought me out of the womb, making me secure at my mother's breast. <sup>10</sup>I was given over to you at birth; you have been my God from my mother's womb. <sup>11</sup>Don't be far from me, because distress is near and there's no one to help. <sup>12</sup>Many bulls surround me; strong ones of Bashan encircle me. <sup>13</sup>They open their mouths against me— lions, mauling and roaring. <sup>14</sup>I am poured out like water, and all my bones are disjointed; my heart is like wax, melting within me. <sup>15</sup>My strength is dried up like baked clay; my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth. You put me into the dust of death. <sup>16</sup>For dogs have surrounded me; a gang of evildoers has closed in on me; they pierced my hands and my feet. <sup>17</sup>I can count all my bones; people look and stare at me. <sup>18</sup>They divided my garments among themselves, and they cast lots for my clothing. <sup>19</sup>But you, Lord, don't be far away. My strength, come quickly to help me.

~Psalm 22:1-19

## CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

## GREETING AND PROCESSIONAL

Children up to 5<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to attend Children's Church. Please meet your teacher in the lobby.

## DOXOLOGY

## 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.*

<sup>1</sup>Again he began to teach by the sea, and a very large crowd gathered around him. So he got into a boat on the sea and sat down, while the whole crowd was by the sea on the shore. <sup>2</sup>He taught them many things in parables, and in his teaching he said to them, <sup>3</sup>"Listen! Consider the sower who went out to sow. <sup>4</sup>As he sowed, some seed fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured it. <sup>5</sup>Other seed fell on rocky ground where it didn't have much soil, and it grew up quickly, since the soil wasn't deep. <sup>6</sup>When the sun came up, it was scorched, and since it had no root, it withered away. <sup>7</sup>Other seed fell among thorns, and the thorns came up and choked it, and it didn't produce fruit. <sup>8</sup>Still other seed fell on good ground and it grew up, producing fruit that increased thirty, sixty, and a hundred times." <sup>9</sup>Then he said, "Let anyone who has ears to hear listen."  
<sup>13</sup>Then he said to them, "Don't you understand this parable? How then will you understand all of the parables? <sup>14</sup>The sower sows the word. <sup>15</sup>Some are like the word sown on the path. When they hear, immediately Satan comes and takes away the word sown in them. <sup>16</sup>And others are like seed sown on rocky ground. When they hear the word, immediately they receive it with joy. <sup>17</sup>But they have no root; they are short-lived. When distress or persecution comes because of the word, they immediately fall away. <sup>18</sup>Others are like seed sown among thorns; these are the ones who hear the word, <sup>19</sup>but the worries of this age, the deceitfulness of wealth, and the desires for other things enter in and choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful. <sup>20</sup>And those like seed sown on good ground hear the word, welcome it, and produce fruit thirty, sixty, and a hundred times what was sown."

~Mark 4:3-9, 13-20 CSB

## PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

God of mercy, you are the same yesterday, today, and forever. Amid all the changing words of our generation, speak your eternal Word that does not change. Give us the grace to live out your promises with faithful and obedient lives; through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

## SERMON

*The sermon is a time to hear God's Word explained and applied. Sermons at Emmanuel encourage us to depend on the finished work of Christ rather than self-reliance or self-justification.*

## PARABLE OF THE SOILS

REV. YOUNG LEE

## OFFERING

*The offering is our grateful acknowledgement of trust and worship of the God who owns everything and withholds nothing. If you give online, consider contributing a dollar or loose change as a tangible act of worship.*

## HE WILL HOLD ME FAST

When I fear my faith will fail  
Christ will hold me fast  
When the tempter would prevail  
He will hold me fast  
I could never keep my hold  
Through life's fearful path  
For my love is often cold  
He must hold me fast

### *Chorus:*

He will hold me fast, He will hold me fast  
For my Savior loves me so  
He will hold me fast

Those He saves are His delight  
Christ will hold me fast  
Precious in His holy sight  
He will hold me fast  
He'll not let my soul be lost  
His Promises shall last  
Bought by Him at such a cost  
He will hold me fast

For my life He bled and died  
Christ will hold me fast  
Justice has been satisfied  
He will hold me fast  
Raised with Him to endless life  
He will hold me fast  
Till our faith is turned to sight  
When He comes at last

Ada Ruth Habershon | Matthew Merker

## **CONFESSION OF SIN**

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

Lord, the fruit of your spirit is gentleness, but we confess that our hearts are often harsh. For the ways we fail to speak with gentleness, forgive us. For the ways we fail to act with gentleness, forgive us. Help us to live out of the reality that you have "dealt gently" with us (Heb. 5:2). Amen.

## **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

*We are forgiven in Christ! Using the words of Scripture reinforce that our assurance is based on God's declaration and promises.*

I have been crucified with Christ, and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

~Galatians 2:20

## **COMMUNION**

*This is the Lord's table, not Emmanuel's, and is open to all who have a sincere faith in Jesus and have joined themselves to the visible body of Christ. The Lord's Supper isn't simply a memorial, but is also a time of real grace imparted and received in union with God. Gluten free wafers available at communion table.*

BLESSED BE YOUR NAME

Blessed be Your name  
In the land that is plentiful  
Where Your streams of abundance flow  
Blessed be Your Name

Blessed be Your name  
When I'm found in the desert place  
Though I walk through the wilderness  
Blessed be Your name

Ev'ry blessing You pour out I'll  
Turn back to praise  
When the darkness closes in Lord  
Still I will say

*Chorus:*

Blessed be the name of the Lord  
Blessed be Your name  
Blessed be the name of the Lord  
Blessed be Your glorious name

Blessed be Your name  
When the sun's shining down on me  
When the world's all as it should be  
Blessed be Your name

Blessed be Your name  
On the road marked with suffering  
Though there's pain in the offering  
Blessed be Your name

You give and take away  
You give and take away  
My heart will choose to say  
Lord blessed be Your name

Matt Redman | Beth Redman

**BENEDICTION**

*Benediction literally means "good word." It is a pronouncement of grace and blessing as we are sent, that we would live out the Christian life solely because God is with us.*

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. ~Numbers 6:24-26

**After the service, a male and female leader of Emmanuel will be available to pray for any concerns you have, through the door on the right of the stage.**

CCLI #3184477

**EMMANUEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH** is a congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA), a denomination committed to the historic truths of Scripture & the relevance of the gospel in everyday life.

\*In the event of an emergency, call 911. Rivendell School's address is:  
2410 N Kensington St, Arlington, VA 22205\*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **Newcomers Lunch - TODAY**

If you're relatively new to Emmanuel, or would just like to get to know others, you are invited to a newcomer's lunch with Korean food, hosted by Young and Michele Lee. Their address will be available in the lobby at the hospitality table.

### **Youth Group: Discipleship Groups - TODAY**

Please join us after service from 12:30-2:00pm on the second floor, right next to the entrance to the gym for youth group (when you see the orange "youth" sign, you've come to the right place). All grades (6th-12th) are invited. Lunch will be provided. We will break off into four groups (Middle school guys/girls, High school guys/girls) with two mentors each for focused questions, discussion, and prayer and snacks.

### **Men's Sexual Integrity Group - TODAY**

The sexual integrity group (men only) will meet after service for a time of sharing and prayer. The men's group will meet at our office (5545 Langston Blvd) which is a block from the church.

### **Egg Hunt and Brunch - March 30**

Emmanuel's Egg Hunt will be at the Ballston Park Apartments in partnership with Apartment Life Ministries. It will be at 11am and brunch will be served. There are many opportunities to serve, including bringing food, hiding eggs, and manning activity stations. You can sign up to volunteer here using this link: [bit.ly/3Tcr4xY](http://bit.ly/3Tcr4xY)

### **Recruiting for Call to Worship during Easter Services**

We will start Easter service with a call to worship in languages spoken at Emmanuel as a way to remember that Christ rose for all peoples. If you can converse or just "get by" in a language and are willing to read a short verse we'll supply you with, please email Marissa with the language(s) you can speak: [mdiaz@emmanuelarlington.org](mailto:mdiaz@emmanuelarlington.org)

### **In Memoriam Tribute for Easter Service**

During both Easter services, we will have lilies displayed on the stage in honor of loved ones, in memoriam, along with names and an optional message printed in the bulletin. If you would like to have a family member or friend's name and optional message as part of the tribute, please email Marissa: [mdiaz@emmanuelarlington.org](mailto:mdiaz@emmanuelarlington.org)

### **Good Friday and Easter Sunday Services**

We're excited to host a Good Friday and two Easter services this year at Rivendell! Please consider inviting a friend or family member to one of the following services:

Good Friday Service: Friday, March 29 @ 7-8pm

Easter Sunday, March 31

First Service @ 8:30am (nursery provided)

Second Service @ 10:30am (nursery and Sunday school provided)

### **Arlington Bridge Builders Brunch - March 23**

ABB is hosting a Spring Family Brunch for pantry families. Come join us as we build friendships through food, games and fun. Please meet at Greenbrier 5401 7th R S, from 10am - 12pm. For more information, please contact Judy Kauer at [jlkauer@gmail.com](mailto:jlkauer@gmail.com).

### **Wrap Around Team for The Johnsons**

Project Belong is seeking volunteers interested in supporting Evan & Mollie Johnson as they care for their daughter, Amaris, who requires considerable medical care.

This wrap-around team will serve in various ways such as helping assemble Amaris' medical care kits, unbox and organize her monthly supply deliveries, and Saturday mother's helper. For more information, please contact Marianna Stone:

[mariannafountainstone@gmail.com](mailto:mariannafountainstone@gmail.com)

### **March Partnership Offering - Assist Pregnancy Center**

We will have a special offering for Assist on Sunday, March 24. As you may know, Assist Pregnancy Center (also known as Metro Women's Care) exists to promote life through Christ. Please consider donating generously to this worthy partner.