



EMMANUEL

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

WORSHIP SERVICE

SEPTEMBER 20, 2026

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!



HOW GREAT THOU ART

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the works Thy hand have made
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder
Thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed

Chorus

Then sings my soul my Saviour God to Thee
How great Thou art how great Thou art
Then sings my soul my Saviour God to Thee
How great Thou art how great Thou art

When through the woods and forest glades I wander
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze

And when I think that God His Son not sparing
Sent Him to die I scarce can take it in
That on the Cross my burden gladly bearing
He bled and died to take away my sin

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
And take me home what joy shall fill my heart
Then shall I bow in humble adoration
And there proclaim my God how great Thou art

Stuart Wesley | Keene Hine
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INVITATION TO WORSHIP

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

Leader: Lord, you are the creator. You said, "Let there be light," and there was light! (*Genesis 1:3*)

People: O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Leader: Lord, you are the great "I AM WHO I AM." Who else is like you? (*Exodus 3:13*)

People: O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Leader: God, you are our Abba Father. (*Romans 8:15*)

People: O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Leader: Christ, you are our cosmic rescuer. (*Colossians 1:13*)

People: O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Leader: Spirit, you are our great teacher. (*Colossians 1:14-17*)

People: O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Leader: Father, Son, and Spirit, help us to worship you in spirit and in truth.

People: O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

NOTHING TO FEAR

When you pass through the waters
I will be with you
And the depths of the river
Shall not overwhelm
When you walk through the fire
You will not be burned
I am the Lord, I am the Lord

Chorus

And there is nothing to fear, nothing to fear
There is nothing to fear nothing to fear
For I am with you always

In the depths of your sorrow
I wept beside you
When you walked through the shadow
I drew you near
Yesterday today tomorrow
Always the same
I am the Lord, I am the Lord

What can separate you from my perfect love?
Do not fear, do not fear, do not fear

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OLD TESTAMENT READING

Leader: ¹Hallelujah! Praise God in his sanctuary. Praise him in his mighty expanse. ²Praise him for his powerful acts; praise him for his abundant greatness. ³Praise him with the blast of a trumpet; praise him with harp and lyre. ⁴Praise him with tambourine and dance; praise him with strings and flute.

People: ⁵Praise him with resounding cymbals; praise him with clashing cymbals. everything that breathes praise the Lord. Hallelujah (*Psalms 150:1-6*)

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

People: Thanks be to God.

KENYA TEAM PRESENTATION

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

GREETING AND PROCESSIONAL

Children up to 5th grade are invited to attend Children's Church. Preschoolers and 4th and 5th graders, please head directly to your classrooms upstairs. Other children, meet your teachers in the lobby to walk upstairs together. 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.

¹³He has rescued us from the domain of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of the Son he loves. ¹⁴In him we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. ¹⁵He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. ¹⁶For everything was created by him, in heaven and on earth, the visible and the invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷He is before all things, and by him all things hold together. ¹⁸He is also the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in

everything. ¹⁹For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, ²⁰and through him to reconcile everything to himself, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross. ²¹Once you were alienated and hostile in your minds as expressed in your evil actions. ²²But now he has reconciled you by his physical body through his death, to present you holy, faultless, and blameless before him—²³if indeed you remain grounded and steadfast in the faith and are not shifted away from the hope of the gospel that you heard. This gospel has been proclaimed in all creation under heaven, and I, Paul, have become a servant of it.” (*Colossians 1:13-23*)

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

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

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

REV. STEPHEN BATES

TESTIMONY

Tommy Park

OFFERING

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

'TIS SO SWEET TO TRUST IN JESUS

'Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus
Just to take Him at His word
Just to rest upon His promise
Just to know thus saith the Lord

Chorus

Jesus Jesus how I trust Him
How I've proved Him o'er and o'er
Jesus Jesus precious Jesus
O for grace to trust Him more

O how sweet to trust in Jesus
Just to trust His cleansing blood
Just in simple faith to plunge me
'Neath the healing cleansing flood

Yes 'tis sweet to trust in Jesus
Just from sin and self to cease
Just from Jesus simply taking
Life and rest and joy and peace

I'm so glad I learned to trust Thee
Precious Jesus Savior Friend
And I know that Thou art with me
Will be with me to the end

CONFESSION OF SIN

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

Lord, you invite us to worship you in spirit and in truth but we confess that we are apathetic and forgetful. Forgive our lack of awe at who you are. Forgive our lack of awe at what you've done. By your grace, draw us back to proper worship, that we may stand amazed in your presence.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and the God of all comfort. He comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any kind of affliction, through the comfort we ourselves receive from God....We will not trust in ourselves but in God who raises the dead. (2 Corinthians 1:3-4, 9)

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 available.)

O COME TO THE ALTAR

Are you hurting and broken within
Overwhelmed by the weight of your sin
Jesus is calling
Have you come to the end of yourself
Do you thirst for a drink from the well
Jesus is calling

Chorus

O come to the altar
The Father's arms are open wide
Forgiveness was bought with
The precious blood of Jesus Christ
Leave behind your regrets and mistakes
Come today there's no reason to wait
Jesus is calling
Bring your sorrows and trade them for joy
From the ashes a new life is born
Jesus is calling

Oh what a Savior
Isn't he wonderful
Sing alleluia Christ is risen
Bow down before him
For he is Lord of all
Sing alleluia Christ is risen

Bear your cross as you wait for the crown
Tell the world of the treasure you've found

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PARTNERSHIP OFFERING: THE MAKUKUS IN KENYA

FATHER LET YOUR KINGDOM COME

Chorus

Hallelu hallelujah

Father let Your kingdom come

May the works of my hands bring You joy (repeat)

May the words from my mouth speak Your peace (repeat)

You make all things new

You make all things new

In places we don't choose

You make all things new

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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. (*Numbers 6:24-26*)

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ministry Partner Offering: Imbumi and Martha Makuku in Kenya - Today

Our September partnership offering will go to our partners Pastor Imbumi and Martha Makuku in Kenya. Consider giving to support them and their work during the closing song or [online](#).

Introduction to Emmanuel - Today

If you're relatively new to Emmanuel or interested in pursuing membership, please join us for our Intro to Emmanuel seminar and lunch at Young and Michele's home. This also serves as our membership class, but you are not obligated to become a member by joining. Children are welcome. Even if you haven't RSVP'd, you are welcome! Please see Young in the lobby after the service for directions.

Adult Women's Bible Study

Emmanuel women are invited to join an ongoing 6-week Adult Sunday School on 2 Timothy at 9:00 a.m. at Rivendell. Lisa Lee and Mona Lindeman will lead us as we explore Paul's exhortations to Timothy to guard, suffer for, continue in, and preach the gospel—and what these instructions mean for us today. No sign up is necessary, and women are welcome to join at any point in the study..

Youth Study Club - September 22

All middle and high schoolers are welcome to come out to the church office (5545 Langston Blvd) this Tuesday, September 22 between 7-9 pm for a study and homework session. Snacks and adult supervision provided!

Parenting Seminar - September 27

Parents, join us for a talk, parent panel, and discussion about how we can meet our children and youth where they are developmentally as we help encourage their faith formation in our homes. Emmanuel member Jacqueline Anderson, LPC, will share helpful information on child and adolescent development and connection, and other families will share a variety of practical ways they connect and intentionally foster faith formation. All parents are welcome; childcare is provided. RSVP on [Church Center](#).

Installation Service - October 4

Join us as we install Stephen Bates as associate pastor and John Downer as an elder during the service.

Conversational Spanish Class - October 4

Arlington Bridge Builders will be offering a free (and fun!) 10 week Spanish class this fall for Emmanuel attendees who are interested in improving their Spanish conversation skills. All skill levels are welcome, but content will be catered towards beginners. The goals of this class are to build community and give members of our partnering churches more confidence to engage with the neighbors we serve in south Arlington. Classes will be held at Rivendell on Sunday mornings from 9:00-10:15 and will run from October 4 December 13 (no class November 29). Sign up on [Church Center](#).

Fellowship Month Events - October

Get to know others from Emmanuel at our annual fellowship month events! To view the full lineup and register, see the QR codes in the lobby or sign up on Church Center.