



EMMANUEL

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

WORSHIP SERVICE NOVEMBER 9, 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.

BETTER IS ONE DAY

How lovely is Your dwelling place
O Lord almighty
For my soul longs and even faints for You
For here my heart is satisfied
Within Your presence
I sing beneath the shadow of Your wings

Chorus

Better is one day in Your courts
Better is one day in Your house
Better is one day in Your courts
Than thousands elsewhere
(Than thousands elsewhere)

One thing I ask and I would seek
To see Your beauty
To find You in the place
Your glory dwells

My heart and flesh cry out
For You the living God
Your Spirit's water to my soul
I've tasted and I've seen
Come once again to me
I will draw near to You
I will draw near to You to You

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INVITATION TO WORSHIP

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

Leader: The Lord is good,

People: A refuge in times of trouble.

Leader: He cares for those who trust in him

People: Praise the Lord!

~Nahum 1:7

COME BEHOLD THE WONDROUS MYSTERY

Come behold the wondrous myst'ry
In the dawning of the King
He the theme of heaven's praises
Robed in frail humanity
In our longing in our darkness
Now the light of life has come
Look to Christ who condescended
Took on flesh to ransom us

Come behold the wondrous myst'ry
He the perfect Son of Man
In His living in His suff'ring
Never trace nor stain of sin
See the true and better Adam
Come to save the hell-bound man
Christ the great and sure fulfillment
Of the law in Him we stand

Come behold the wondrous myst'ry
Christ the Lord upon the tree
In the stead of ruined sinners
Hangs the Lamb in victory
See the price of our redemption
See the Father's plan unfold
Bringing many sons to glory
Grace unmeasured love untold

Come behold the wondrous myst'ry
Slain by death the God of life
But no grave could e'er restrain Him
Praise the Lord He is alive
What a foretaste of deliv'rance
How unwavering our hope
Christ in power resurrected
As we will be when He comes

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OLD TESTAMENT READING

Leader: ¹On the twenty-first day of the seventh month, the word of the Lord came through the prophet Haggai: ²Speak to Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, to the high priest Joshua son of Jehozadak, and to the remnant of the people: ³ 'Who is left among you who saw this house in its former glory? How does it look to you now? Doesn't it seem to you like nothing by comparison? ⁴Even so, be strong, Zerubbabel—this is the Lord's declaration. Be strong, Joshua son of Jehozadak, high priest. Be strong, all you people of the land—this is the Lord's declaration. Work! For I am with you—the declaration of the Lord of Armies.

People: ⁵This is the promise I made to you when you came out of Egypt, and my Spirit is present among you; don't be afraid.' ⁶For the Lord of Armies says this: 'Once more, in a little while, I am going to shake the heavens and the earth, the sea and the dry land. ⁷I will shake all the nations so that the treasures of all the nations will come, and I will fill this house with glory,' says the Lord of Armies. ⁸The silver and gold belong to me'—this is the declaration of the Lord of Armies. ⁹The final glory of this house will be greater than the first,' says the Lord of Armies. 'I will provide peace in this place'—this is the declaration of the Lord of Armies."

(~Haggai 2:1-9)

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 5th grade are invited to attend Children's Church. K-3rd will meet their teacher in the lobby. Preschool and 4th-5th graders will head directly to their classroom upstairs. 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.

Psalm 23 A Psalm of David

¹"The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. ²He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. ³He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake. ⁴Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. ⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. ⁶Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever."

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

O Lord, your Word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path. Give us grace to receive your truth in faith and love, and strength to follow on the path you set before us; through Jesus Christ, Amen.

SERMON

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

SHADE OF THE SHEPHERD IN THE SHADOW

REV. STEPHEN BATES

OFFERING

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

PSALM 23: SURELY GOODNESS SURELY MERCY

The Lord is my shepherd I shall not want
In green pastures He makes me lie down
He restores my soul and leads me on
For His name for His great name

Chorus

Surely goodness surely mercy
Right beside me all my days
And I will dwell in Your house forever
And bless Your holy name

You prepare a table right before me
In the presence of my enemies
Though the arrow flies and the terror of night
Is at my door I'll trust You Lord

And even though I walk through the valley
Of the shadow of death I will fear no evil
(And) even though I walk through the valley
Of the shadow of death You are on my side (oh)

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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 merciful for they shall receive mercy." We confess the ways we have ignored your invitation to show mercy to our neighbor. Forgive us for the ways we chose comfort instead. Merciful Father, may your mercy triumph. ~Based on Matthew 5:7

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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

"The Lord is compassionate and merciful...Mercy triumphs over judgment."
~James 5:11; 2:13

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.)

THIS IS AMAZING GRACE

Who breaks the power of sin and darkness
Whose love is mighty and so much stronger
The King of Glory the King above all kings

Who shakes the whole earth with holy thunder
And leaves us breathless in awe and wonder
The King of Glory the King above all kings

Chorus

This is amazing grace
This is unfailing love
That You would take my place
That You would bear my cross
You laid down Your life
That I would be set free
Oh Jesus I sing for all that You've done for me

Who brings our chaos back into order
Who makes the orphan a son and daughter
The King of Glory the King of Glory

Who rules the nations with truth and justice
Shines like the sun in all of its brilliance
The King of Glory the King above all kings

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Worthy worthy worthy

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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

Officer Nominations Open

The nomination process is open for deacons, elders, and women's council. Please prayerfully consider whom to nominate 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.

Intro to Emmanuel - Today

If you are new to Emmanuel and want to learn more about the church, you're invited to an informal luncheon from 12:30-2 PM. Handbooks are available in both English and Spanish. The luncheon also serves as our Membership Seminar, but attending does not obligate you to join the church.

Alpha Group Core Team Training - Today

Join us as we train to host dinners for curious friends, neighbors, and coworkers to lovingly explore questions about Jesus and Christianity. Meet after the service in the 2nd floor conference room.

Nueva clase de inglés para adultos / New ESOL Class for Adults

¿Te interesa aprender inglés? ¿Conoces a alguien que quiera aprenderlo? Estamos comenzando una clase de inglés para principiantes, divertida y acogedora, que se reúne una noche a la semana durante 1.5 horas. Nuestro objetivo es crear una comunidad donde todos se sientan conocidos, apoyados y motivados mientras aprendemos juntos. No necesitas ser miembro de la iglesia para unirte; ¡todos son bienvenidos! ¿Quieres saber más? Pasa por la mesa en el vestíbulo después del servicio para obtener más información y avisarnos que te interesa.

Come to the table after service to learn about a new ESOL class. All language backgrounds are welcome.

Men's Sexual Integrity Group - November 10

The men's group meets every 2nd and 4th Monday for a time of sharing and prayer at 7:30pm. Contact mensintegrity@emmanuelarlington.org for more information.

Vocalist Get-Together / Jam Session - November 15

Calling all singers! Stephen Bates, Eleanore Lee, and Christina Rawls invite you to a vocalists' get-together/jam session at 7:30pm at the Lees' home. This will be an environment perfect for both new and experienced singers, with easy to pick up songs as well as opportunities for four-part harmony. Contact Stephen at sbates@emmanuelarlington.org if you're interested.

Women's Sexual Integrity Group - November 16

The women's sexual integrity group will meet for a time of sharing and prayer womensintegrity@emmanuelarlington.org

Sparks - Serve a Meal at RILA - November 17

Third through fifth graders and your families, help provide and serve a meal to participants in RILA's legal clinic from 6-7:15 PM. Sign up on Church Center.

Rivendell School Info Night - November 20

Families interested in sending a child to Rivendell School, where our church meets, are invited to attend their information night from 7-9pm. Information Night provides an engaging overview of what a Rivendell education looks like for students and families. RSVP to admissions@rivendellschool.net.

Thanksgiving on a Bun - November 22

Save the date for our annual Youth Group service event - This year we're making a few adjustments to better meet the needs of our community. Stay tuned for more details on location. Families and individuals are encouraged to sign up and serve together on Church Center. Please also consider providing a cooked turkey to stuff sandwiches with.

JBLF 5K and Carnival- November 22

Join the 10th annual race and carnival to support the Jennifer Bush-Lawson Foundation, a nonprofit founded by Emmanuel family the Lawsons that works to improve prenatal care and support for underprivileged mothers in our community. The event is from 9am-1pm in Arlington. Sign up on their website: <https://jb-lf.org/5k-and-family-carnival/>

Arlington Turkey Trot - Run or Volunteer - November 27

Emmanuel's partner Arlington Bridge Builders now oversees the annual Turkey Trot 5k. Consider signing up now for your chance to participate in the race, or sign up to volunteer at the race on behalf of Emmanuel. Sign up on <https://arlingtonvaturkeytrot.org>.

Welcome Baby Cecchi!

Leo, Monica, and big sister Gaia recently welcomed baby Charlie Cecchi. To take a meal to them, sign up here: <https://mealtrain.com/gz9ve3>

Support the Johnsons

Find ways to support Emmanuel members Evan and Mollie Johnson and their daughters. Volunteer to organize medical supplies, or be a mother's helper, babysit the younger two girls for Mollie to attend small group. Needs are posted regularly on their support registry: <https://www.supportnow.org/the-johnson-family>

Looking for Childcare Volunteers

We are seeking congregants to volunteer at least once a year to help care for our children during after-service fellowship opportunities so we can continue to gather and support families with childcare. Sign up on Church Center.