



EMMANUEL

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

WORSHIP SERVICE

SEPTEMBER 27, 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!



FOREVER

Give thanks to the Lord
Our God and King
His love endures forever
For He is good He is above all things
His love endures forever
Sing praise sing praise

With a mighty hand
And an outstretched arm
His love endures forever
For the life that's been reborn
His love endures forever
Sing praise sing praise

Sing praise sing praise

Chorus
Forever God is faithful
Forever God is strong
Forever God is with us
Forever forever

From the rising to the setting sun
His love endures forever
And by the grace of God
We will carry on
His love endures forever
Sing praise sing praise

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INVITATION TO WORSHIP

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

Leader: ⁴Sing to the Lord, you his faithful ones, and praise his holy name.

People: ⁵For his anger lasts only a moment, but his favor, a lifetime. Weeping may stay overnight, but there is joy in the morning.

Leader: ¹¹You turned my lament into dancing; you removed my sackcloth and clothed me with gladness,
¹²so that I can sing to you and not be silent.

People: Lord my God, I will praise you forever.
(Psalm 30:4-5, 11-12)

THANK YOU, LORD

I come before You today
And there's just one thing that I want to say
Thank You Lord thank You Lord
For all You've given to me
For all the blessings that I cannot see
Thank You Lord thank You Lord

With a grateful heart with a song of praise
With an outstretched arm I will bless Your name

Chorus
Thank You Lord
I just want to thank You Lord
Thank You Lord

I just want to thank You Lord
(Thank You Lord)

For all You've done in my life
You took my darkness and gave me Your light
Thank You Lord thank You Lord
You took my sin and my shame
You took my sickness and healed all my pain
Thank You Lord thank You Lord

Thank You Lord thank You Lord
Thank You Lord thank You Lord thank You Lord

Paul Baloché and Don Moen
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NEW TESTAMENT READING

Leader: ²³When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching and said, 'By what authority are you doing these things? Who gave you this authority?' ²⁴Jesus answered them, 'I will also ask you one question, and if you answer it for me, then I will tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵Did John's baptism come from heaven, or was it of human origin?' They discussed it among themselves, 'If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Then why didn't you believe him?' ²⁶But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we're afraid of the crowd, because everyone considers John to be a prophet.' ²⁷So they answered Jesus, 'We don't know.' And he said to them, 'Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁸What do you think? A man had two sons. He went to the first and said, 'My son, go work in the vineyard today.' ²⁹He answered, 'I don't want to,' but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰Then the man went to the other and said the same thing. 'I will, sir,' he answered, but he didn't go.

People: ³¹Which of the two did his father's will?' They said, 'The first.' Jesus said to them, 'Truly I tell you, tax collectors and prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God before you. ³²For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you didn't believe him. Tax collectors and prostitutes did believe him; but you, when you saw it, didn't even change your minds then and believe him."
(Matthew 21:23-32)

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

People: Thanks be to God.

BLESSING OF TEACHERS AND MENTORS AND CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

GREETING

Children up to 4th grade are invited to attend Children's Church. Parents, please drop off children under age four directly in their classrooms upstairs. Other children, meet your teachers in the lobby to walk upstairs together. Fifth graders stay in the service every fourth Sunday. First-time visitors, please visit the Children's Ministry Table for more information.

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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.

¹⁸And don't get drunk with wine, which leads to reckless living, but be filled by the Spirit: ¹⁹speaking to one another in psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs, singing and making music with your heart to the Lord, ²⁰giving thanks always for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹submitting to one another in the fear of Christ." (Ephesians 5:18-21)

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.

I Love You Lord, and I Lift My Voice

Rev. Young Lee

OFFERING

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

I LOVE YOU LORD / BE THOU MY VISION

I love You Lord
And I lift my voice
To worship You
O my soul rejoice
Take joy my King
In what You hear
May it be a sweet sweet sound
In Your ear

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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CONFESSION OF SIN

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

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love, according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin! For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you may be justified in your words and blameless in your judgment.
(Psalm 51:1-4)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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

"The Lord your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing." (Zephaniah 3:17)

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.)

SING FOR JOY

If we call to Him
He will answer us
If we run to Him
He will run to us
If we lift our hands
He will lift us up
Come now praise His name
All you saints of God

Chorus

O sing for joy to God our strength
O sing for joy to God our strength our strength

Draw near to Him
He is here with us
Give Him your love
He's in love with us
He will heal our hearts
He will cleanse our hands
If we rend our hearts
He will heal our land

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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)

CCLI #3184477

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Parenting Seminar - Today

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 speak, and other Emmanuel families will share their experience. All parents are welcome; lunch and childcare are provided.

Youth Group - Today

Students in grades 6-12, head upstairs to the gym immediately after the service for youth group. We'll eat lunch together, start our series for the year, and meet with discipleship groups until 1:30 PM.

Sparks - Today

Third through fifth graders, join us after service for our monthly Bible lesson with lunch, games, and crafts! Come to the conference room after service, and we'll finish at 1:30.

Adult Women's Bible Study

Emmanuel women are invited to join an ongoing 6-week Adult Sunday School on 2 Timothy at 9:00 AM. 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.

Men's Sexual Integrity Group - September 28

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

Fellowship Month Events

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](#).

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 is 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 our neighbors. Classes will be held at Rivendell on Sunday mornings from 9:00-10:15 and will run from Oct. 4 - Dec.13. Sign up on [Church Center](#).

High School Girl Discipleship Group Event - October 4

All high school girls, come and spend time getting to know your peers and mentors after service. Sign up on [Church Center](#) to account for numbers!

Children's Ministry- Serve at RILA - October 5

Emmanuel families are invited to provide and serve a meal to participants in RILA's legal clinic. Restoration Immigration Legal Aid supports immigrants in our community by providing excellent pro bono legal assistance to vulnerable neighbors. Each family should have at least one adult representative participating. Sign up on [Church Center](#).

Preschool Family Breakfast - October 11

Emmanuel's nursery and preschool families are invited to a breakfast from 9:30 to 10:30 AM. This is a great time to catch up with each other or meet someone new while the children play together over food! Please register on [Church Center](#) so we can plan for food.

Congregational Lunch - October 11

Everyone is invited to eat together after the service. Please bring a large side that can feed 10-12 people.