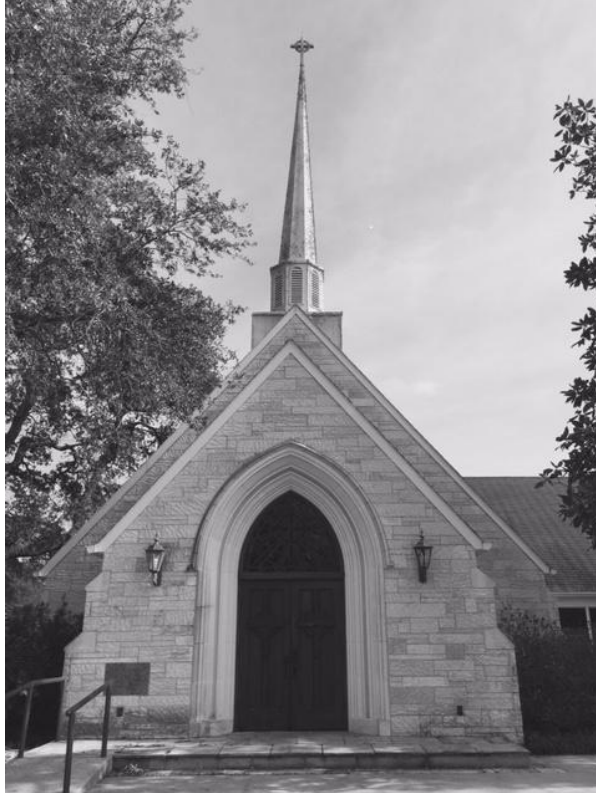




First Presbyterian Church El Campo, Texas

August 2, 2026

First Presbyterian Church seeks to provide a spiritual home that proclaims God's presence and love to all people by creating a welcoming environment for Christian spiritual growth through worship, fellowship, and education, joyfully celebrating God's love as disciples serving the community and the world.

203 W. Calhoun El Campo, Texas 979-543-3658

www.firstpresbyterianelcampo.org Facebook: [firstpresbyterianelcampo](https://www.facebook.com/firstpresbyterianelcampo)

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

August 2, 2026

11:00 a.m.

10th Sunday after Pentecost

Sermon Series The Songs of Summer: Listening to the Heartbeat of God

All Are Welcome to Worship at First Presbyterian Church!

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

PRELUDE *Praise the Lord Who Reigns Above* arr. Dan Forrest, 2015

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: God's greatness is wondrous to behold.

All: Everywhere we look, we can see the imprint of God.

One: From the loftiest mountains to the crashing waters of the sea,

All: There God's greatness stands majestically.

One: God's greatness can be within the human heart.

All: Let us honor and praise God with acts of loving kindness and compassion.

OPENING PRAYER

OPENING HYMN # 2 *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (responsive)

One: O God of Grace, may we not have received you in vain.

When we pray because we desire others' good opinion,

All: Forgive us, Lord.

One: When we give our gifts for others' approval,

All: Forgive us, O God.

One: When we deny ourselves to get others' admiration,

All: Forgive us, Merciful One.

One: When we fail to do unto others as we would like them to do unto us,

All: Forgive us, Spirit of Love.

One: When we put our privileged selves first,

before the poor and needy and disadvantaged of this world,

*Praise the Lord
Who Reigns
Above – Dan
Forrest's setting of
AMSTERDAM
opens the service
with confident
praise, echoing
Psalm 27's
declaration that
"The Lord is my
light and my
salvation." Its
bright harmonies
and rhythmic
vitality steady the
congregation
before entering the
more shadowed
Gospel reading.
The music lifts our
hearts toward
God's sovereignty,
preparing us to
hear both trust and
tension in today's
scriptures.*

All: Forgive us, Creator of Truth.

One: When we keep for ourselves more than what we need,

All: Forgive us, Give-Away God.

One: Forgive us our sins and trespasses and debts.

All: Only then can our souls be washed clean and spotless.

Only then can we be your true servants.

Only then will we reach the pure heart of the matter.

A moment of silence for personal reflection.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

***GLORIA PATRI**

Glory be to the Father,

And to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be:

World without end. Amen. Amen.

A TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 27 1-3, 7-14 Of David

The LORD is my light and my salvation—whom shall I fear?

The LORD is the stronghold of my life—of whom shall I be afraid?

When the wicked advance against me to devour me, it is my enemies and my foes who will stumble and fall. Though an army besiege me, my heart will not fear; though war break out against me, even then I will be confident. Hear my voice when I call, LORD; be merciful to me and answer me. My heart says of you, “Seek his face!” Your face, LORD, I will seek. Do not hide your face from me, do not turn your servant away in anger; you have been my helper. Do not reject me or forsake me, God my Savior. Though my father and mother forsake me, the LORD will receive me. Teach me your way, LORD; lead me in a straight path because of my oppressors. Do not turn me over to the desire of my foes, for false witnesses rise up against me, spouting malicious accusations. I remain confident of this: I will see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living. Wait for the LORD; be strong and take heart and wait for the LORD.

ANTHEM *I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say* arr. Todd Beaney, 2023

*Immortal, Invisible,
God Only Wise –
Rooted in
1 Timothy 1:17,
this hymn praises
the eternal God
whose wisdom
outlasts every fear.
Its Welsh tune ST.
DENIO carries a
bright, confident
energy that echoes
Psalm 27’s trust in
God’s light. On this
Communion
Sunday, it reminds
us that divine
steadiness holds us
even when human
stories turn
uncertain.*

*I Heard the Voice
of Jesus Say – This
reflective
arrangement of
KINGSFOLD
offers the gentle
invitation of Christ:
rest, living water,
and renewed
strength. Beaney’s
harmonies deepen
the tune’s pastoral
warmth, creating a
moment of quiet
listening before
Communion. In a
service where
betrayal is named,
this piece reminds
us of the voice that
still calls us to
come and be
restored.*

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

John 13:23-30

One of them, the disciple whom Jesus loved, was reclining next to him. Simon Peter motioned to this disciple and said, “Ask him which one he means.” Leaning back against Jesus, he asked him, “Lord, who is it?” Jesus answered, “It is the one to whom I will give this piece of bread when I have dipped it in the dish.” Then, dipping the piece of bread, he gave it to Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot. As soon as Judas took the bread, Satan entered into him. So Jesus told him, “What you are about to do, do quickly.” But no one at the meal understood why Jesus said this to him. Since Judas had charge of the money, some thought Jesus was telling him to buy what was needed for the festival, or to give something to the poor. As soon as Judas had taken the bread, he went out. And it was night.

SERMON

Listening to the Heartbeat of God

HYMN OF RESPONSE # 306 *Blest Be the Tie that Binds*

PRAYER/AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(adapted from Jan L Richardson) Responsive

One: To receive God’s blessing, all you must do is let your heart break. Let it crack open. Let it fall apart so that you can see its secret chambers, the hidden spaces where you have hesitated to go.

All: Your entire life is here, inscribed whole upon your heart’s walls: every path taken or left behind, every face you turned toward or turned away, every word spoken in love or in rage, every line of your life you would prefer to leave in shadow, every story that shimmers with treasures known and those you have yet to find.

One: It will take you days to wander these rooms. During this summer season, during this time when we are more relaxed, enjoying the sunshine, it can be a season for wandering, for gently exploring, for trusting the breaking of your heart, and its repairing.

All: There is One who waits and watches. There is One who works within. There is One who makes your heart whole.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Blest Be the Tie that Binds –
Written in 1782 for a small church community, this hymn celebrates the deep fellowship believers share in Christ. The gentle tune DENNIS mirrors the tenderness of John 13, where friendship and betrayal sit side by side. As we gather at the table, it affirms that Christ’s love binds us even through our most fragile moments.

Recessionale –
Gerald Peterson’s 2012 composition sends us out with bright, pulsing energy and trumpet-like brilliance. Its rhythmic drive and shifting melodic layers create a sense of forward momentum that echoes Psalm 27’s call to “take heart.” The final flourish lifts us into the week with confidence.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (in unison)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven, Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

My Eternal Desire

Matt Schinske, 2017

DOXOLOGY

PRAYER OF BLESSING FOR OUR OFFERING

Receive our best, gracious God, as we offer ourselves along with these tokens of thanks. Send us where you need us most. Use our gifts to reduce alienation and to build community. Be to us a watchful Parent and teach us to live as siblings who find you in one another and respond in love to each other's needs. Amen.

THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

One: We celebrate the Spirit of God, who hovered over creation and brought order out of formlessness.

All: We praise You, Spirit of God.

One: We celebrate the Spirit of God, who filled Jesus with power and wisdom and, through Him, made the life of God available to all.

All: We praise You, Spirit of God.

One: We celebrate the Spirit of God, who has been poured out on all people, and leads us into the Kingdom of God.

All: We praise You, Spirit of God.

One: And so, as we gather at the Lord's table, we recognize the Spirit's Presence among us, and we open our hearts to the Spirit's influence.

Silence

One: Lord, we come knowing that we depend on You for life and truth and love. We come knowing that You welcome us with open and accepting arms. We come ready to meet with You, and be changed by the encounter.

My Eternal

Desire –

Schinske's original composition moves with a sense of longing and devotion, its melodic lines reaching upward like prayer. The music bridges the Gospel's tension with the hope of Communion, expressing the heart's desire to remain close to Christ. It invites the congregation into a posture of offering – not only gifts, but trust.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

One: It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks...

All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

One: You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ...

All: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

One: Loving God, you send out your Holy Spirit to touch the hearts...

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

HYMN DURING THE SERVING OF THE BREAD *#516 For the Bread Which You Have Broken – verses 1 & 2*

HYMN DURING THE SERVING OF THE WINE *#516 For the Bread Which You Have Broken – verses 3 & 4*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (in unison)

Gracious God, may we who have received this sacrament live in the unity of your Holy Spirit, that we may show forth your gifts to all the world. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

CLOSING PRAYER (responsive)

One: Live with hope, for God is with us every day. Live in peace, for God turns us from hostility.

All: We are one in Christ, who died for us. We are one in Spirit who creates community.

One: Renew your covenant vows with God and people. Celebrate the oneness of humanity in Christ.

All: We have daily access to God our Parent. We are citizens with the saints in God's family.

We Are One in the Spirit – Born out of 1960s urban ministry, this hymn proclaims unity as the Spirit's work among us. Set to the flowing tune ST. BRENDAN'S, it carries a hopeful simplicity that speaks into fractured places. Today it becomes our Communion prayer: that Christ's love may be seen in how we live with one another.

One: There are people everywhere awaiting good news. Go to people you know who need your healing presence.

All: We seek to recognize the needs around us. We commit ourselves to help as God gives us strength. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN # **300** *We Are One in the Spirit*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Recessionale

Gerald Peterson, 2012

One License A-736067; CCLI #11514120 & 2046772

WORSHIP LEADERS

Pastor Kristine Shultis

Ronda Paoletti, Choir Director

Ted Lashley, Music Director

Bill Bender, John Bender & David Sabrsula, Ushers

Liz Rasmussen, Diane Barger, Mindi Snyder, Arlette Pustejovsky, Communion Servers

THIS WEEK AT FPC:

Thursday, August 6th FPC+EC Golf Tourney – EC Country Club
(call Gerry Couey 541-6926, Blake Barger 332-9663, Derek Treybig 332-2484)

Sunday, August 9th 11:00 a.m. – Worship Service

Prayer List

Esther Bender

Colby Hauser

Jimmy Barger

Scott Mollner

Avely Miller

Linda dale Raun

Suzanne Hauser

John Minkert

Carole Halamicek

Gerald Grogan

Willie Bender

Betty Harfst

Clay & Taylor Fuechec Kresta and their newborn son Colter. Colter was born at 37 weeks and is in TEXAS children's.

CHURCH OFFICERS

Class of 2026

Jimmy Barger

Donnie Kainer

Youth Elder: Porter Beechwood

Donnie Clapp

Mindi Snyder

Class of 2027

John Kalina

Arlette Pustejovsky

Ester Latapie

Elizabeth Rasmussen

Class of 2028

Shawn Beechwood

Melba Clapp

Debra Hamman

B.J. Swenson

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor – Kristine Shultis

Choir Director – Karl Paoletti

Adult Music Director – Ted Lashley

Financial and Administrative Assistant – Diane Barger

Communications Assistant – Leigh Ann Neel

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