



**First Presbyterian Church
El Campo, Texas
April 21, 2024**

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**

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

April 21, 2024

11:00 am

Fourth Sunday of Easter

All Are Welcome to Worship at First Presbyterian Church!

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

PRELUDE

Psalm 23

Gordon Young, 1964; arr. Douglas E Wagner, 2019

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Our Good Shepherd has led us to this place.

All: He leads us beside still waters; he restores our soul.

One: Even though we walk through dark valleys
even though we are fearful and in need of comfort.

**All: Our cup overflows with God's goodness and mercy:
we shall dwell in the house of the Lord our whole lives
long.**

*HYMN #327 *From All That Dwell Below the Skies*

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Holy One, we confess to you and to one another
that we have not always followed Christ's example.**

**We see ourselves as blameless,
but pass judgment on others.**

We have sinned, and we are lost.

We have gone astray.

**God of Mercy, lead us back into your fold
and guard our souls.**

This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

**Please stand in body or spirit.*

Gordon Young (1919–1998) was a prolific American composer of choral and organ music familiar to several generations of church musicians. A superb organist and choral director, he served churches in Pennsylvania and Oklahoma before becoming the Organist/Choir-master at First Presbyterian Church, Detroit, Michigan, where he served for many years. He published more than 800 organ and choral compositions. One of his choral works for unaccompanied SATB choir, *"The Lord's My Shepherd"* (1964), has been adapted & arranged by Douglas Wagner as an organ solo. This arrangement – with Wagner's title of *"Psalm 23"* – is this morning's prelude.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: The psalmist assures us
that God's goodness and mercy will follow us,
even pursue us, all the days of our life.
As God's forgiven people,
receive this goodness and mercy,
and live a new life in the grace of Jesus Christ.
Believe the good news: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

All: Thanks be to God!

*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.**

HEARING OF THE WORD OF GOD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

John 10:11-16

“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd.”

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

The Lord Will Be My Shepherd

music by Don Besig, words by Don Besig and Nancy Price

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 23 (KJV)

The LORD is my shepherd;
I shall not want.
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:
he leadeth me beside the still waters.
He restoreth my soul:
he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil:
for thou art with me;
thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.
Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies:
thou anointest my head with oil;
my cup runneth over.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life:
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

SERMON

A Song of Confidence

Rev. Jim DeMent

RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD

*HYMN #187 *Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us* (stanzas 1, 3, 4)

PRAYER CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be 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.

SERVICE OF INSTALLATION

A LITANY OF GIFTS

One: There are varieties of gifts,
but it is the same Spirit who gives them.

**All: There are different ways of serving God,
but it is the same Lord who is served.**

One: God works through each person in a unique way,
but it is God's purpose that is accomplished.

**All: To each is given a gift of the Spirit
to be used for the common good.**

One: Together we are the body of Christ,
and individually members of it.

STATEMENT ON ORDINATION

THE ELDER TO BE INSTALLED COMES FORWARD

Class of 2026 - Donnie Kainer

*PROFESSION OF FAITH BY THE CHURCH

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was
conceived by the**

**Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was
crucified, died, and was buried; he**

**descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he
ascended into heaven,**

**he is seated at the right hand of the
Father, and he will come to judge the
living and the dead.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,**

**the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS FOR RULING ELDERS

CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS FOR CONGREGATION

*PRAYER OF ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION

*For the Laying on of the Hands,
all Ruling Elders come forward and stand behind the
candidate who is to be ordained.*

DECLARATION OF INSTALLATION

WELCOME

CALL TO GIVE

OFFERTORY *My Shepherd Will Supply My Need*
Early American Melody; arr. Gina Sprunger, 2019

*THE DOXOLOGY

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise Him all creatures here below.
Praise Him above ye heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN #610 *O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing* (stanzas 1, 3, 5)

*CHARGE

*BENEDICTION

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

**God be with you till we meet again;
by His counsels guide, uphold you,
with His sheep securely fold you;
God be with you till we meet again.**

**Till we meet, till we meet,
till we meet at Jesus' feet.
Till we meet, till we meet,
God be with you till we meet again.**

POSTLUDE *Praise Him! Praise Him!* Chester G. Allen, 1869

One License A-736067; CCLI #11514120 & 2046772

WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. James DeMent, Interim Pastor

Dr. Karl Paoletti, Choir Director

Ted Lashley, Music Director

Jeff & Mindi Snyder and Colby, Shelby & Matthew Smith, Ushers

This morning's offertory is a setting of the hymn, "*My Shepherd Will Supply My Need*," #803 in the *Glory to God* hymnal. The tune accompanying this hymn is RESIGNATION, an anonymous American folk melody that first appeared in *Beauties of Harmony*, 1828, and later in *Southern Harmony*, 1835. It was in the 1835 hymnal that the tune was first paired with a paraphrase of Psalm 23 by Isaac Watts (from *The Psalms of David, Imitated*, 1719). Psalm 23 remains the most well-loved and often recited psalm, and Watts' powerful paraphrase, coupled with the peaceful yet strong American folk tune, make this hymn a moving rendition of that psalm.

SANCTUARY FLOWERS: Given by L.G. and Linda Raun in Honor of San Jacinto Day and the Aggie Muster held each year to remember the lives of alumni who have died.

THIS WEEK AT FPC:

Monday, April 22

6:15 pm – Session Meeting

Sunday, April 28

10:00 am – Choir Rehearsal

11:00 am - Worship

PRAYER LIST

Steve Porter

Esther Bender

Adryalle Watson

Niesha Brown

MONTREAT YOUTH CONFERENCE, June 2024

June 9th - 15th, 5 youths and 2 adults will be travelling to North Carolina. Once again, therefore, our youth will be offering "shares" to those who want to underwrite the costs of their trip. Please note on your check "Montreat." You may leave your check in the offering plate, mail it to the Church, or give it to Diane in the Church office.



CHURCH OFFICERS

Class of 2024

Suzanne Hauser
Dick Ramsey

Mary Johnson, Clerk
Lynn Reed

Class of 2025

Jessica Erwin
Kim Mickelson

Lance Lurker
Steve Porter

Class of 2026

Jimmy Barger
Ava Fernandez
Mindi Snyder

Donnie Clapp
Donnie Kainer

CHURCH STAFF

Interim Pastor – Rev. James DeMent

Choir Director – Dr. Karl Paoletti

Adult Music Director – Ted Lashley

Financial and Administrative Assistant – Diane Barger

Communications Assistant – Leigh Ann Neel

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