



First Presbyterian Church
El Campo, Texas
November 10, 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](https://www.facebook.com/firstpresbyterianelcampo)

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

November 10, 2024

11:00 am

Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost

All Are Welcome to Worship at First Presbyterian Church!

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

PRELUDE

As the Deer

Martin Nystrom, 1984; arr. Douglas E. Wagner, 2001

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Praise the Lord! The Lord will never leave us alone.

All: **Let the name of the Lord be renowned
throughout the earth, now and forever.**

*HYMN #35 *Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty*

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Forgive us, Lord, when we think too highly of ourselves
and clamor after privilege and honor.**

**Forgive us, Lord, when we cannot lift our gaze
because we do not believe we have anything to give.**

**You have given us the best gift of all:
freedom from all that harms us
and the way to abundant life.**

**Have mercy on our foolishness
and heal our sick hearts,
that we may live faithfully for you.
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON/DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

One: Christ, who is our high priest,
made himself a sacrifice once and for all
for the forgiveness of sins.

Therefore, be reconciled to God, sin no more,

"As the Deer," published in 1984, is one of the most popular songs in the contemporary Christian musical genre. Inspired by Psalm 42, the song's title is taken from verse 1: *"As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, my God."* The song was written and composed by Martin Nystrom (b. 1956), an American songwriter and worship leader. Its lyrics express the longing and yearning of the soul for God, even in times of troubles and uncertainty; the melody is gentle and soothing. See #626 in *GtG*.

and do all things for the glory of God.
Believe in God, friends!
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

Unless the LORD builds the house,
those who build it labor in vain.

Unless the LORD guards the city,
the guard keeps watch in vain.

It is in vain that you rise up early
and go late to rest,
eating the bread of anxious toil;
for he gives sleep to his beloved.

Sons are indeed a heritage from the LORD,
the fruit of the womb a reward.

Like arrows in the hand of a warrior
are the sons of one's youth.

Happy is the man who has
his quiver full of them.

He shall not be put to shame
when he speaks with his enemies in the gate.

One: The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM *Glory, Hallelujah, the Saints Go Marchin' In*
Traditional American Tunes; arr. Greg Gilpin, 2020

"Glory, Hallelujah, When the Saints Go Marchin' In" is an innovative patriotic arrangement of selected sections from two traditional American songs. The *"Battle Hymn of the Republic"* is an American patriotic song written by the abolitionist writer Julia Ward Howe during the American Civil War. It was published on the front page of *The Atlantic Monthly* in 1862 after the magazine bought it from Howe for \$4.00. *"When the Saints Go Marching In"* is a traditional black spiritual that apparently evolved in the early 1900s from a number of similarly titled gospel songs. It was Louis Armstrong's famous 1938 recording that helped make *"The Saints"* into a jazz standard.

Psalms 127

**Please stand in body or spirit.*

SECOND SCRIPTURE

Mark 12:38-44

As he taught, he said, "Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, and to have the best seats in the synagogues and places of honor at banquets! They devour widows' houses and for the sake of appearance say long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation."

He sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. Then he called his disciples and said to them, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on."

One: God always blessings the reading
and hearing of Holy Scripture.

All: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

The Widow's Mite

Rev. Jim DeMent

Mark 12:42: A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny.

*HYMN #697

Take My Life (stanzas 1-4)

RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD

CALL TO GIVE

OFFERTORY *Songs of the Armed Forces* arr. Mary K. Sallee, 2015

*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.

The United States Armed Forces were originally divided into five branches: the Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, and Coast Guard (the Space Force is a very recent addition). Mary K. Sallee's "Songs of the Armed Forces" combines the official songs of these original branches into a single medley: "*The Caissons Go Rolling Along*" - "*The Marines' Hymn*" - "*Anchors Aweigh*" - "*The Wild Blue Yonder*" - "*Semper Paratus*" (Latin for "always ready"). To all our veterans, thank you for your service!

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*Excerpt from the
Brief Statement of Faith*

**In life and in death we belong to God.
Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit,
we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel,
whom alone we worship and serve.**

**We trust in Jesus Christ,
fully human, fully God.**

**We trust in God the Holy Spirit,
everywhere the giver and renewer of life.
The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith,
sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor,
and binds us together with all believers
in the one body of Christ, the Church.**

**With believers in every time and place,
we rejoice that nothing in life or in death
can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

PRAYER CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

One: Christ our Savior, remember us
when you come into your kingdom.
Hear our intercessions.
For your church around the world,

All: we ask new life.

One: For all who carry out ministries in your church,

All: we ask grace and wisdom.

One: For people who have accepted spiritual disciplines,

All: we ask inspired discipleship.

One: For Christians of every land,

All: we ask new unity in your name.

One: For Jews and Muslims, people of other faiths,
and all our neighbors on your planet,

All: we ask your divine blessing.

One: For those who cannot believe,
All: we ask your faithful love.
One: For governors, rulers, judges, decision-makers
in every land,
All: we ask your guidance.
One: For people who suffer and sorrow,
All: we ask your healing peace.
One: For the silent prayers each of us now lifts up to you,
All: we ask your comfort, mercy, and compassion.

Silent prayers

One: Holy God,
Your Word, Jesus Christ, spoke peace to a sinful world
and brought humanity the gift of reconciliation
by the suffering and death he endured.
Teach those who bear his name
to follow the example he gave us.
May our faith, hope, and charity
turn hatred to love, conflict to peace,
and death to eternal life:
All: Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

*HYMN #634 *To God Be the Glory*

*CHARGE

*BENEDICTION

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

**Seek ye first the kingdom of God,
And his righteousness,
And all these things
shall be added unto you,
Allelu, alleluia!**

**Ask and it shall be given unto you.
Seek and ye shall find.
Knock and the door
shall be opened unto you.
Allelu, alleluia!**

William Owen
(1813–1893) was
a Welsh composer
and choral
conductor who
composed his first
hymn tune when
he was 18 years
old. Owen's first
collection of
hymns and
anthems, *The
Musical Pearl*,
was published in
1852. It was the
hymn tune called
BRYN
CALFARIA
which made the
composer famous.
The tune has been
so popular that it
has supported at
least 25 different
hymn texts -- of
which "*God, You
Rule with Royal
Bearing*" is one
example. This
hymn is #272
in *GtG*.

POSTLUDE *God, You Rule with Royal Bearing*
Tune: BRYN CALFARIA; William Owen, 1834

One License A-736067; CCLI #11514120 & 2046772

WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. James DeMent, Interim Pastor
Dr. Karl Paoletti, Choir Director
Ted Lashley, Music Director
Ed and Melissa Erwin, Ushers

THIS WEEK AT FPC:

Wednesday, Nov. 13

No POW

5:30 p.m. – Circle IV

Sunday, Nov. 17

11:00 a.m. – Worship – Dedication Sunday

Prayer List

Steve Porter
Esther Bender
Cadie Volkmer

Pres Holcomb
Stephen Gaines
Gayle Shelley

Fellowship Dinner After Worship Today!

We will be honoring our Veterans.

CHURCH OFFICERS

Class of 2024

Suzanne Hauser
Dick Ramsey

Mary Johnson, Clerk
Lynn Reed

Class of 2025

Jessica Erwin
Kim Mickelson

Lance Lurker
Layton Raun

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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