



First Presbyterian Church
El Campo, Texas
August 4, 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.

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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

August 4, 2024

11:00 a.m.

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

All Are Welcome to Worship at First Presbyterian Church!

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

PRELUDE

We Are One in the Spirit

Peter Scholtes, 1966; arr. Lyndell Leatherman, 2013

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We do not live by bread alone,

**All: but by the Word who became flesh
and dwells among us.**

One: Christ is the true bread of heaven,
the manna of freedom.

All: Come, let us worship and give thanks.

*HYMN #263

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Gracious God, you have called us to live lives
worthy of the calling
to which we have been called.**

**But we confess to you and each other
that we have not always spoken the truth in love;
we have not always made every effort
to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.
Forgive us and, by your grace,
help us to grow in every way
into him who is our head, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Peter Scholtes (1938–2009) was a Catholic priest known for his hymn "*They'll Know We Are Christians*" (also known as "*We Are One in the Spirit*"). While serving as a parish priest and leading a youth choir at St. Brendan's on the South Side of Chicago in the 1960s, he wrote the hymn and composed the melody in a single day. It became popular worldwide for its message of unity and love. He named the tune ST. BRENDAN'S. See #300 in *GtG*.

*Please stand in body or spirit.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON/DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

One: The bread of life God sends
is the offering of his only begotten Son.
Whoever comes to Jesus Christ
shall never be hungry;
whoever believes in him
shall never thirst.
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

Psalm 78:23-29

Yet he commanded the skies above,
and opened the doors of heaven;
he rained down on them manna to eat,
and gave them the grain of heaven.
Mortals ate of the bread of angels;
he sent them food in abundance.
He caused the east wind to blow in the heavens,
and by his power he led out the south wind;
he rained flesh upon them like dust,
winged birds like the sand of the seas;
he let them fall within their camp,
all around their dwellings.
And they ate and were well filled,
for he gave them what they craved.

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM *El Shaddai* Michael Card & John Thompson, 1991
arr. Hugh S. Livingston, Jr., 2014

Michael Card (b. 1957) is an American Christian singer-songwriter, musician, and author from Franklin, TN. He is best known for his contributions in contemporary Christian music, which couple folk-style melodies and instrumentation with lyrics that stem from intensive study of the Bible. Since his debut in 1981, he has sold more than 4 million albums and has written 19 No. 1 singles. He has also authored several books, including Gold Medallion Book Award winner, *A Sacred Sorrow*. Card's most famous song is "*El Shaddai*," which was co-written with John Thompson (b. 1950) and recorded by Amy Grant and by Card himself.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

John 6:24-35

So when the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for Jesus.

When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, "Rabbi, when did you come here?" Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal." Then they said to him, "What must we do to perform the works of God?" Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent." So they said to him, "What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing? Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'" Then Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. ³³ For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." They said to him, "Sir, give us this bread always."

Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.

SERMON

The Bread of Life

Rev. Jim DeMent

John 6:32: "... it is my Father who gives you the true bread of life."

*HYMN #460

Break Thou the Bread of Life

RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD

CALL TO GIVE

OFFERTORY

You Are My All in All

Dennis Jernigan, 1991; arr. Mark Hayes, 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.

Dennis Jernigan (b. 1959) may not be recognized by name or face, but rather through by music -- songs like *"Bread of Life, Pure Living Water," "We Will Worship the Lamb of Glory," "Thank You," "Great is the Lord Almighty," "Who Can Satisfy My Soul (There is a Fountain),"* and *"You Are My All in All"* have been sung widely by the body of Christ since the early 1990s. Jernigan has written hundreds of songs, yet he does not see himself as a song writer but, rather, a song "receiver." He has been married to his wife Melinda for 41 years, and together they have nine children. See #519 in *GtG*.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

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.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

One: God of tears,
you are the giver of joy.
Hear us as we pray for the sick.

**All: We pray for those with chronic illness,
for those who have life-threatening conditions,
and for those with inadequate medical care.
Bring the healing we need.**

One: Hear us as we pray for all who are hungry.

**All: We pray for those who live in regions of drought
and famine,
for those who cannot afford nutritious food,
and for the vulnerable who are not adequately fed.
Give us the food we need.**

Dr. Charles Demorest (1881–1950) was a church organist, composer, and professional concert organist. In Chicago, he served as organist at both the Forty-First Street Presbyterian Church and Saint Paul Episcopal Church. For more than 11 years he was organist at the First Church of Christ Scientist in Evanston, IL, and for 20 years he was head of the organ department of the Chicago Musical College.

One: Hear us as we pray for those who grieve.
All: We pray for those who mourn a loved one,
for those whose communities are no more,
and for those who cannot imagine a joyful future.
Give us comfort to restore hope.

One: Hear us as we pray for the world's victims.
All: We pray for those who are caught in violence,
for those who are trapped in others' self-seeking,
and for those who suffer from neglect.
Grant us freedom from all evil.

One: God of the poor and the poor in spirit,
we pray for your help against all that oppresses,
as we look forward to the kingdom you have promised
and are bringing even now through Jesus Christ,
All: Amen

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

*HYMN #52 *Let Us Break Bread Together* (stanzas 1 and 2)

THE INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

SANCTUS

One: And so, with all your people,
with angels, archangels,
and with all the company of heaven
we praise and magnify your glorious name,
joining our voices in the eternal hymn:

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.

THE MYSTERY OF FAITH

One: Remembering the grace of your Son Jesus Christ,
we take from your creation this bread and this wine,
and joyfully celebrate his dying and rising,
as we await the day of his coming,
proclaiming the mystery of faith:

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

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.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

HOLY COMMUNION

The elements used in the Lord's Supper are wine (red) or juice (golden) and bread or gluten-free crackers (in the small dish). When passing the bread to your neighbor, say, "This is the Bread of Life." When passing the wine or juice to your neighbor, say, "This is the Cup of Salvation." You may partake of the elements as you receive them.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

One: Holy and astounding God,
At this table, in this meal,
we have been met by Christ—
the reflection of your glory,
the imprint of your being.

**All: As we go from this place
may our lives be a joyful song,
proclaiming the good news
of your righteousness and peace
for all the world. Amen**

*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!**

POSTLUDE *Grand Chorus in A-minor* Charles Demorest, 1947

One License A-736067; CCLI #11514120 & 2046772

WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. James DeMent, Interim Pastor
Ted Lashley, Music Director
Dr. Karl Paoletti, Choir Director
Bill and John Bender, David Sabrsula, Ushers

THIS WEEK AT FPC:

Thursday, August 8 5:30 pm – Golf Tournament
Sunday, August 11 11:00 am - Worship

Prayer List

Steve Porter Danny Stephens

Mark Your Calendar:

Thursday, August 8th at 5:30 pm FPC Golf Outing – 9 Hole Scramble. Entry fee is \$60.00 and includes fajita dinner and 2 tickets for Yeti cooler raffle. There will be a live auction and raffle tickets. Contact by phone or text to Derek Treybig 979-332-2484, Gerry Couey 979-541-6926, or Blake Barger 979-332-9663.

Sat., Aug. 17th, Presbyterian Women Fall Gathering, FPC of Victoria.