



**First Presbyterian Church
El Campo, Texas
June 9, 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

June 9, 2024

11:00 am

Third Sunday after Pentecost

All Are Welcome to Worship at First Presbyterian Church!

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

PRELUDE *Variations to the SICILIAN HYMN*
Benjamin Carr (1769-1831)

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Out of the depths, I cry to you, O Lord.

All: Holy One, hear my voice.

One: I wait for the Lord, my soul waits.

All: In God's word I hope.

One: My soul waits for the Lord,
more than those who watch for the morning.

**All: For with the Lord there is steadfast love
and great power to redeem.**

*HYMN #475 *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of perfect love,
you continually bring forth life,
transforming sadness to joy,
and despair to hope.**

We are weak, but you are strong.

Our ways are flawed, but your ways are true.

We are seldom right, but you are never wrong.

Forgive us, redeem us, transform us.

**Take away the sin that burdens us,
and restore us to the people you would have us be,
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

The "Sicilian Hymn," the subject of early American composer Benjamin Carr's variations for organ (undated), is known by several other names including SICILIAN MARINERS, O DU FRÖHLICHE, O SANCTISSIMA, and PARTING HYMN. The tune most likely originated in Italy, made its way to Germany, and finally to England where it was published in London in 1792. Due to the tune's popularity, it has been used for at least 139 different hymn texts, including "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing," "O Thou Joyful, O Thou Wonderful,"

**Please stand in body or spirit.*

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON/DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

One: Sisters and brothers,
do not lose heart.
We are being renewed day by day
through God's grace and mercy.
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

Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD.

Lord, hear my voice!

Let your ears be attentive
to the voice of my supplications!

If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities,
Lord, who could stand?

But there is forgiveness with you,
so that you may be revered.

I wait for the LORD, my soul waits,
and in his word I hope;
my soul waits for the Lord
more than those who watch for the morning,
more than those who watch for the morning.

O Israel, hope in the LORD!
For with the LORD there is steadfast love,
and with him is great power to redeem.

It is he who will redeem Israel
from all its iniquities.

Psalm 130

In 1752, young Robert Robinson attended an evangelical meeting to heckle the believers but was captivated by preacher George Whitefield's words. Three years later, he embraced Christianity. Then, in 1755, at the age of 20, Robinson penned the beloved hymn "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing," Using imagery of Christ as the giver of living water and the shepherd gathering his sheep back into the fold, this hymn reminds us that, like Robinson, we, too, are "prone to wander" -- and yet, God continues to bring us back from our wandering, until, songs of praise on our lips, we dance forever before the mount of His redeeming love.

One: The Word of the Lord.
All: **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM *Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring* with *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*
Johann Sebastian Bach, 1723; arr. Tom Fettke, 2002

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 3:20-35

Then he went home; and the crowd came together again, so that they could not even eat. When his family heard it, they went out to restrain him, for people were saying, "He has gone out of his mind." And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem said, "He has Beelzebul, and by the ruler of the demons he casts out demons." And he called them to him, and spoke to them in parables, "How can Satan cast out Satan? If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but his end has come. But no one can enter a strong man's house and plunder his property without first tying up the strong man; then indeed the house can be plundered.

"Truly I tell you, people will be forgiven for their sins and whatever blasphemies they utter; but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit can never have forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin"— for they had said, "He has an unclean spirit."

Then his mother and his brothers came; and standing outside, they sent to him and called him. A crowd was sitting around him; and they said to him, "Your mother and your brothers and sisters are outside, asking for you." And he replied, "Who are my mother and my brothers?" And looking at those who sat around him, he said, "Here are my mother and my brothers! Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother."

SERMON

Jesus' Family

Rev. Jim DeMent

*HYMN #370

This Is My Father's World

Tom Fettke (b. 1941) is an American composer, arranger and producer of music and recordings for church and school. His published works and recordings number close to a thousand. His classic choral work, *THE MAJESTY AND GLORY OF YOUR NAME*, is sung by choirs around the world; it has sold over 3 million copies to date. His piano arrangements of hymns are in high demand, with each one demonstrating his unique skills as a music craftsman. This morning's anthem is a case in point: Fettke effortlessly weaves together Bach's *"Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring"* with the hymn *"Come, Thou Long-expected Jesus"* (HYFRYDOL). Musical magic!

RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD

CALL TO GIVE

OFFERTORY *The Solid Rock* arr. James Koerts, 2020

*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

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *The Apostles' Creed*

I BELIEVE in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. **Amen.**

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.

Written in 1930, "*God of Grace and God of Glory*" has since appeared in more than 160 hymnals. The hymn is a prayer for God's help for the church to live in God's power and love with generosity and progress toward social justice. Each stanza concludes with a two-line petition for wisdom and courage for the facing of the world's problems. The tune to which this hymn is sung, CWM RHONDDA, was composed in 1905 and named for the Rhondda river that flows through a coal-mining district of the composer's home country of Wales, UK.

*HYMN #307 *God of Grace and God of Glory* (stanzas 1, 3, 4)

*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 *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!*
Oliver Holden, 1793

One License A-736067; CCLI #11514120 & 2046772

WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. James DeMent, Interim Pastor

Dr. Karl Paoletti, Choir Director

Ted Lashley, Music Director

Tommy and Barbara Hitzfeld, Ushers

SANCTUARY FLOWERS: Placed by Steve and Nancy Porter in thankfulness for the wonderful friendships in our church and the continued prayers for Steve as he goes through treatments for his Lymphoma at MD Anderson. We feel the prayers and covet your prayers for complete healing for Steve's eyes.

THIS WEEK AT FPC:

Sunday, June 16

11:00 Worship – guest preacher – Wayne Clement

Prayer List

Steve Porter

Esther Bender

Adraylle Watson

Ben Frazier

Danny Stephens

FOLLOWING THE 11:00 A.M. WORSHIP SERVICE TODAY

Pursuant to a call by the Session, notice is hereby given of a Congregational Meeting of the members of First Presbyterian Church of El Campo to be held at the conclusion of the 11:00 a.m. worship service today.

The purposes of the meeting will be (a) to consider a report from the Congregational Nominating Committee (CNC) regarding nominations of persons to serve on a Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) and (b) to elect, in accordance with the will of a majority of the Congregation present, persons to serve on the PNC. The task of the PNC thus elected will be, in accordance with the Constitution and polity of the Presbyterian Church (USA), to search for the person whom God is calling to become the next installed minister of First Presbyterian Church of El Campo.

In accordance with the Book of Order, the floor will be opened for additional nominations, if there be any, of persons to serve on the PNC. If you chose to nominate a church member to serve on the PNC, however, please obtain their consent in advance for you to do so.

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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