



First Presbyterian Church El Campo, Texas

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
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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
September 25, 2022 **Ordinary Time**

Welcome to Worship at First Presbyterian Church!

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

PRELUDE *God of Grace and God of Glory*
CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: In supplication and prayer, with intercessions and with thanksgiving,

All: we come to worship God.

One: In hope and in humility, with joy and with concerns,

All: we come to worship God.

One: In faith and in uncertainty, with questions and with conviction,

All: let us worship God.

*HYMN #792 *There is a Balm in Gilead*

Refrain:

There is a balm in Gilead
to make the wounded whole;
there is a balm in Gilead
to heal the sin-sick soul.

1 Sometimes I feel discouraged,
and think my work's in vain,
but then the Holy Spirit
revives my soul again. [Refrain]

2 Don't ever feel discouraged,
for Jesus is your friend,

"We gather to worship God on the Lord's Day (Sunday) because the Gospels testify that Jesus rose from the dead early on the first day of the week. The Lord's Day is also called the "eighth day" of creation, a sign of the new creation that has begun with Christ's resurrection. While we may worship God on any day and at any time, the Sunday service in particular is a celebration of Christ's resurrection and an anticipation of the fullness of God's coming reign"
- BCW

and if you lack for knowledge,
he'll not refuse to lend. [Refrain]

3 If you cannot preach like Peter,
if you cannot pray like Paul,
you can tell the love of Jesus
and say, "He died for all." [Refrain]

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God, you lift the lowly and fill the empty; yet we adore the high and the mighty. You reach out to the poor; yet we ceaselessly pursue wealth. You talk about treasure in heaven; yet we want dollars in our accounts right now. Correct our misguided ways. Forgive our lack of generosity. Free us from striving for more and more. Change our hearts so that we can tend to things that matter and find our life in Jesus Christ. Amen. (Silent Confession.)

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Without regard for the cost, the love of God is poured out 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

CHILDREN'S SERMON

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Amos 6:1a, 4-7, NRSV

Alas for those who are at ease in Zion, and for those who feel secure on Mount Samaria, the notables of the first of the nations, to whom the house of Israel resorts! ⁴Alas for those who lie on beds of ivory, and

The Trinitarian doxology of the Gloria Patri addresses all three divine persons of the Trinity. They are joined by the word "and" (καί), as in the form of baptism in Matthew 28:19. This exemplifies the Trinitarian belief of one God, in three persons. This theology was established in the Christian church with Nicene Creed which was approved as the official faith of the Church with the Edict of Thessalonica in 380 AD.

lounge on their couches, and eat lambs from the flock, and calves from the stall; who sing idle songs to the sound of the harp, and like David improvise on instruments of music; who drink wine from bowls, and anoint themselves with the finest oils, but are not grieved over the ruin of Joseph! Therefore they shall now be the first to go into exile, and the revelry of the loungers shall pass away.

One: The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

ANTHEM *How Can I Keep from Singing* arr. Tom Fettke

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 16:19-31, NRSVUE

“There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man’s table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. In Hades, where he was being tormented, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. He called out, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in agony in these flames.’ But Abraham said, ‘Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things and Lazarus in like manner evil things, but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.’ He said, ‘Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father’s house—for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.’ Abraham replied, ‘They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.’ He said, ‘No, father Abraham, but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.’ He said to him, ‘If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.’ ”

One: The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

SERMON

C. Wayne Clement

“As we learn to give thanks for all of life and death, for all of this given world of ours, we find a deep joy. It is the joy of trust, the joy of faith in the faithfulness at the heart of all things. It is the joy of gratefulness in touch with the fullness of life.”

— David Steindl-Rast, *Gratefulness, The Heart Of Prayer: An Approach To Life In Fullness*

RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Apostle's 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 at 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.

CALL TO GIVE

OFFERTORY

The Love of God

Frederick M. Lehman; arr. C. E. Walz

***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 #331 *God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand*

1 God of the ages, whose almighty hand
Leads forth in beauty all the starry band
Of shining worlds in splendor through the skies,
Our grateful songs before thy throne arise.

2 Thy love divine hath led us in the past.
In this free land by thee our lot is cast.
Be thou our ruler, guardian, guide, and stay:
Thy word our law, thy paths our chosen way.

3 From war's alarms, from deadly pestilence,
Be thy strong arm our ever sure defense.
Thy true religion in our hearts increase.
Thy bounteous goodness nourish us in peace.

4 Refresh thy people on their toilsome way.
Lead us from night to never-ending day.
Fill all our lives with love and grace divine,
And glory, laud, and praise be ever thine.

*BENEDICTION

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Seek Ye First

**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

O God, Our Help in Ages Past
ST. ANNE, William Croft; arr. Joseph Edward Newell

WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. C. Wayne Clement, Preaching, Pastor of Christ Lutheran Church

Ted Lashley, Music Director

Jana and Ava Fernandez, Ushers

Liturgist, Taylor Martin

SANCTUARY FLOWERS: Placed by Mary Ann & Donnie Kainer honoring the Presbyterian Pre-School 50th Anniversary.

Prayer List

Blair Couey

Slade Harfst

Alexander Stillman

Bill & Deida Bourne

Haley Kann

Steven "Bubba" Whitehead

Family of Doyle Smidt

THIS WEEK AT FPC:

Wednesday, September 28

5:15 – 6:00 pm – POW Preschool & Elementary

6:00 – 6:30 pm – POW CHOW Dinner

6:30 – 7:30 pm – POW Middle & High School

6:30 pm – Choir

Sunday, October 2

11:00 am – Worship, Communion

Sherri and Erin will be out of the office this week. Leigh Ann returns on Tuesday.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

October 12 - Congregation-Wide Bingo Night, hosted by POW

ELDER NOMINATIONS CONCLUDE OCTOBER 1

Our nominating committee (Christi Beechwood, Linda Dale Raun, Katie Treybig,

Thomas Williamson) is receiving your nominations for the elders of the class of 2025.

Elders serve on Session and each has responsibility for an area within our church's

ministry. Please prayerfully consider who you would like to nominate for this important

leadership role in our congregation. Nominations may be given to Erin or members of the

nominating committee or by submitting the 1/2 sheet page available in the narthex or

church office. The deadline is October 1.

ADULT BOOK STUDY BEGINS ON TUESDAY, OCT. 4, NOON, FAMILY CTR

Erin is about to restart the midweek, lunchtime book study. This Fall's book is *The*

Difficult Words of Jesus: A Beginner's Guide to His Most Perplexing Teachings by

scholar Amy-Jill Levine. Church members and friends are invited to join in person and

on zoom. If you are interested in receiving the zoom link, please contact Erin in the

Church office.



50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2022
DURING 11:00 AM WORSHIP
RECEPTION TO FOLLOW
*ALL STUDENTS (FORMER AND CURRENT) AND
FAMILIES INVITED*

CHURCH OFFICERS

Class of 2022

Gerry Couey, Treasurer
Jana Fernandez
Linda dale Raun

Hal Erwin
Tommy Hitzfeld

Class of 2023

Elizabeth Clapp
Taylor Martin

Vicki Ekstrom
Derek Treybig

Class of 2024

Diane Barger
Dick Ramsey

Mary Johnson, Clerk
Lynn Reed

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor - Rev. Dr. Erin McGee
Adult Music Director – Ted Lashley
Secretary – Sherri Ziegenhals
Communications Assistant – Leigh Ann Neel

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