



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.

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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
May 15, 2022 **5th Sunday of Easter**

Welcome to Worship at First Presbyterian Church!

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

PRELUDE *Variations on HENDON*
Henri A. C. Malan; arr. Rachel Sawyer "Take My Life" (#697 in *GtG*)

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP Porter Beechwood

One: Praise the Lord, all the earth!
All: Praise the Lord from the heavens and in the heights.
One: The Lord's glory shall be praised,
All: For people near and people far,
One: For people present and people to come,
All: For the young and for those wise with age.
One: Come, let us praise the Lord;
All: Come, let us worship God.

*HYMN #475 *Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing*
Come, thou Fount of every blessing; tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above;
praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of God's unchanging love!

Here I raise my Ebenezer; hither by thy help I'm come;
and I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God;
He, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be!
Let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;
here's my heart; O take and seal it; seal it for thy courts above.

Frances Havergal (1836–1879) was an English poet and hymnwriter. *Take My Life* is her best known hymn, and has been published in at least 1,118 hymnals. The lyrics emphasize our dedication of our whole selves to God; it has been called "one of the finest consecration hymns in the world." The tune HENDON was composed in 1827 by Henri Malan (1787–1864) specifically for Havergal's text. The hymn was included in his hymnal *Chants de Sion* (1841), the most important French Protestant hymnal of its time. Malan was a Swiss Protestant minister and hymn-writer; he wrote the texts and tunes of over 1,000 hymns.

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, you command us to love one another, yet we hold grudges and refuse to work for peace. You command us to care for all of creation, yet we neglect the earth and abuse nature through carelessness. You command us to walk in the ways of Jesus, yet we too often walk our own way. Forgive us, O God. Guide us as we work toward a new heaven here on earth. Lead us to reconciliation and a vision for your beloved community, as we share your love with your people everywhere. Amen. (Silent Confession.)

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Believe the good news: Jesus loves us, forgives us, and sets us free.

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

Nick Fernandez

SCRIPTUREREADING

Psalms 148, NSRVUE, Mayson Bridges

Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise him in the heights! Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his host! Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars! Praise him, you highest heavens and you waters above the heavens! Let them praise the name of the LORD, for he commanded and they were created. He established them forever and ever; he fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed. Praise the LORD from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps, fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy wind fulfilling his command! Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars! Wild animals and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds! Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth! Young men and

Helping to lead
worship today are
our four
Confirmation
Students: Porter
Beechwood,
Mayson Bridges,
Nick Fernandez,
and Andy Russell.
We thank God for
them and their
commitment to
living out their
beliefs.

women alike, old and young together! Let them praise the name of the LORD, for his name alone is exalted; his glory is above earth and heaven. He has raised up a horn for his people, praise for all his faithful, for the people of Israel who are close to him. Praise the LORD!

One: The Word of the Lord

All: **Thanks be to God**

ANTHEM

Teach Me Your Way

Timothy Shaw

1. Teach me your way, teach me your way,
teach me your way, O Lord;
And I will walk, walk in your truth.
Teach me your way, O Lord.

2. I will thank you,
O Lord, my God, with all my heart;
thank and praise you.
Your mercy abounds, O Lord.

3. [both melodies & stanzas together]

SCRIPTURE READING

John 13:31-35, NRSVUE, Andy Russell

When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me, and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

One: The Word of the Lord

All: **Thanks be to God**

SERMON

Love One Another

RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD

BAPTISM AND PROFESSION OF FAITH (CONFIRMATION)

PRESENTATION

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Baptism is the sign and seal of our incorporation into Jesus Christ. For those baptized as infants, professing their faith and claiming it as their own is a rite of initiation into being an adult follower of Jesus Christ. We call this rite Confirmation.

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

I believe in God, the Father, the almighty, our creator. I feel closest to God when I pray silently and during songs at church. I trust in God's love by believing that He saved us even when we did not deserve it.

I believe that Jesus is the son of God, my leader and my guidance. Jesus sacrificed himself, died on the cross, and rose again to save us from sin. He forgives me and loves me. He also protects and takes care of me. No one can be as perfect as Jesus, but it is good to try to be better.

I believe in the Holy Spirit. God is our redeemer, sustainer, creator and is sovereign. The Lord tells me what is right and wrong and helps me make my decisions.

Being a Christian is more than just being a kind person; being a Christian means to try to follow God's word in every aspect of life and to share God's love with people and not just have them like me. I believe the more love people give you or you give, the more God is around.

I am so thankful for the Lord and all the great things He's given me and done for me. I trust that God has a plan for me and I'm ready to accept that. Amen.

PRAYER

BAPTISM

LAYING ON OF HANDS

***BLESSING OF THE CONGREGATION**

Ever-living God, guard these your servants with your protecting hand. Let your Holy Spirit be with them and let them hear your voice. Lead them to know and obey your Word, and stay close to you, that they may serve you in this life and dwell with you forever, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The laying on of hands is not a sacrament but an act of diverse meanings as witnessed in Scripture and the Reformed tradition. It is affirmed by the Book of Order/Directory for Worship as an act which is appropriate to various situations in the worship of life of Presbyterians, including Confirmation. It is an act which conveys the "gracious action of God and communicates our grateful response." (W1.0303, W-2.0202, W-3.0407, W-4.0401-.0403, W-5.0204)

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 King of Love My Shepherd Is*
ST. COLUMBA, Irish Melody; arr. Lloyd Larson

*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 #69 *Here I Am Lord*

I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save. I, who
made the stars at nights, I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

Refrain

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you
calling in the night. I will go, Lord, if you
lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them. They turn away. I will
break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?

Refrain

Prayer List

Yvonne Nilson

Diana Whitley

Blair Couey

David Urbis

Alexander Stillman

Amy Grady

Ramona Cudd Griffith

We will keep members and friends on our prayer list for one month. After that, please email the church communications assistant to add that person to the list again.

Gathering for Parents of Elementary, Middle, and High School Students

Parents, mark your calendars for these 3 Wednesdays - May 25, June 1, and June 8. We will gather at the church (with childcare provided by RSVP) at 6:30 pm for dinner and discussion. Come join the conversation! Questions? Contact Erin!

CHURCH OFFICERS

Class of 2022

Gerry Couey
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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