



First Presbyterian Church El Campo, Texas

November 1, 2026

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 1, 2026

11:00 a.m. 23rd Sunday after Pentecost, All Saint's Day

All Are Welcome to Worship at First Presbyterian Church!

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE *The Lord's My Shepherd* Brother James' Air, 1915

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

One: As we gather, we remember that we are not alone!

**All: We gather with the saints, who live in the presence of God,
singing praises to the God of our salvation.**

One: From every nation, race, clan and culture, God's people gather to worship.

**All: To God and to the Lamb, all honor, glory, wisdom,
thanksgiving, strength and power.**

One: Blessed be God, now and forever!

All: Amen!

OPENING PRAYER

OPENING HYMN #326 *For All the Saints

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)**

Loving God, it is with shame in our hearts that we confess how often we are so wrapped up in ourselves and our own needs that we completely ignore the needs of others and are not even aware of the pain they bear. Forgive us our thoughtless ways. Show us how to understand those near to us, to reach out to them and stand with them in their need; in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, please forgive us and heal us. Amen.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

***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.**

The Lord's My Shepherd – Born into a devout Christian home in Scotland, James Leith Macbeth Bain was a healer, mystic, and poet known simply as Brother James. He composed the tune known as BROTHER JAMES' AIR in 1915; its gentle, flowing lines beautifully reflects the psalm's assurance of God's guidance and care.

For All the Saints – Written by English composer Ralph Vaughan Williams for *The English Hymnal* (1906), SINE NOMINE has become one of the church's most beloved All Saints hymns. Its majestic melody celebrates the communion of saints and the enduring victory of faith across generations.

CONVERSATIONS WITH OUR CHILDREN

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 23 A psalm of David

The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing. He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, he refreshes my soul. He guides me along the right paths for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM

Glory, Hallelujah, the Saints Go Marchin' In

arr. Greg Gilpin, 2020

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Thessalonians 4:13-18

But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

God always blesses the reading and hearing of Holy Scripture.

Thanks be to God!

SERMON

LITURGY OF REMEMBRANCE

Glory, Hallelujah, the Saints Go Marchin' In
– Arranger Greg Gilpin combines two beloved American songs, *Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory* and *When the Saints Go Marching In*, into an energetic celebration of faith. The anthem captures the joyful spirit of All Saints Day, joining themes of triumph, testimony, and the great procession of believers through the ages.

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE *(The Christ Candle is lit.)*

One: We light the Christ Candle, remembering that Jesus Christ is the Light of the World. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. Christ is our hope in life and in death.

All: Thanks be to God for the light of Christ.

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES OF REMEMBRANCE *(Each candle is lit from the Christ Candle.)*

One: We light this first candle in thanksgiving for ***the saints of this congregation***—those who worshiped here, prayed here, served here, and helped build the community of faith we have inherited. *(The first candle is lit.)*

All: We give thanks to God for their lives.

One: We light this second candle for ***those we have loved***—our family members, friends, teachers, mentors, and companions along life's journey. We remember the laughter we shared, the lessons they taught us, and the love that remains with us. *(The second candle is lit.)*

All: We give thanks to God for their lives.

One: We light this third candle for ***those whose loss we still carry***. We remember those whose deaths are recent and those who have been gone for many years. We remember losses that brought peace and losses that left questions unanswered. *(The third candle is lit.)*

All: God of compassion, comfort all who grieve.

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLE OF HOPE

One: And finally, we light this candle as a ***candle of hope***.

We light it because our remembering does not end in grief.

Paul tells us that we do not grieve as those who have no hope.

Our hope rests in Jesus Christ, who died and rose again, and in the promise that we will be with the Lord forever. The Shepherd who walks with us beside still waters also walks with us through the darkest valley—and leads us home.

(The Candle of Hope is lit.)

In life and in death, we belong to God.

All: Thanks be to God for the hope we have in Jesus Christ.

*O for a Closer
Walk with God –
CAITHNESS*
offers a quiet,
introspective
moment within the
service, its
simplicity
mirroring Isaiah's
call to return to
faithfulness. The
hymn's yearning
for renewed
closeness with God
provides a gentle
counterpoint to the
more expansive
selections around
it.

SILENT REMEMBRANCE

Let us now keep silence before God.

In this silence, you are invited to remember the names and faces of those you carry in your heart today. Give thanks for their lives, remember the love you shared, and entrust them to the everlasting love of God. *(A period of silence is kept.)*

PRAYER OF REMEMBRANCE

HYMN #834 *Precious Lord, Take My Hand*

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY *I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry*
John Ylvisaker, 1985

DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

OFFERING PRAYER OF DEDICATION (in unison)

We set our hope in you, God of all ages, and seek to serve you through our offerings and our efforts to encourage and equip one another for ministry. Help us decide daily to live according to your will, preparing ourselves for the opportunities and challenges you give us. May your love shape our lives in ways that bring hope, healing, and comfort to those in our hurting world. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER (in unison)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by they 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.

Precious Lord, Take My Hand – Thomas A. Dorsey composed this gospel classic in 1932 during a season of profound personal loss. Its simple prayer for God's guidance and comfort has brought hope to countless worshipers facing grief, uncertainty, and life's changing seasons.

I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry – In 1985, John Ylvisaker (1937–2017) wrote both words and music for this hymn, the text of which, in part, is based on Psalm 23:6. The spirit of *Borning Cry* is one of a God who loved us from the beginning of time and continues to love us throughout the seasons of our life. [see #488 in *GiG*]

THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

GREAT THANKSGIVING

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

One: It is truly right and our greatest joy...who forever sing to the glory of your name:

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.

One: You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed....Great is the mystery of faith.

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

COMMUNION PRAYER

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AFTER COMMUNION (in unison)

God of Grace, you renew us at your table with the bread of life.

May this food strengthen us in love and help us to serve you in each other. We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord. Amen.

CLOSING PRAYER

CLOSING HYMN #375 *Shall we Gather at the River*

BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE #839 Verse 1

Blessed Assurance, Jesus is Mine!

POSTLUDE *When We All Get to Heaven* Emily Wilson, 1898

Shall We Gather at the River –

American hymn writer Robert Lowry penned this enduring text in 1864.

Looking toward the "river that flows by the throne of God," the hymn expresses the Christian hope of reunion and eternal fellowship in God's presence.

When We All Get to Heaven – First

published in 1898, this gospel hymn pairs Emily D. Wilson's hopeful text with a bright, memorable tune by Eliza E. Hewitt. Its joyful message of anticipation makes it a fitting musical sending forth on All Saints Sunday.

One License A-736067; CCLI #11514120 & 2046772

WORSHIP LEADERS

Pastor Kristine Shultis

Ronda Paoletti, Choir Director

Ted Lashley, Music Director

Donnie Kainer, Usher

Ester Latapie, John Kalina, Debra Hamman, Arlette Pustejovsky, Communion Servers

THIS WEEK AT FPC:

Wednesday, Nov. 4th

6:00 p.m.- MOSAIC Dinner

6:00 p.m. – Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, Nov. 8th

11:00 a.m. – Worship Service

UPCOMING – Mark your Calendars

Sunday, Nov. 15th

Congregational Meeting immediately after Worship

AND – Fellowship Dinner

Sunday, Nov. 22nd

Bring College Care Packages to church

Join us for Christ the King Sunday! Please stay after worship to help decorate the sanctuary for the Christmas Season.

Sunday, Dec. 6th

Christmas Cantata

Sunday, Dec. 13th

Youth Christmas Program and Cookie Walk

Thursday, Dec. 24th

Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship, 4p.m.

Prayer List

Esther Bender

Colby Hauser

Jimmy Barger

Scott Mollnar

Avely Miller

Greg Montello

Suzanne Hauser

John Minkert

Ruth McCauley

Gerald Grogan

Ruben Sabrsula

Kayleigh Newman

CHURCH OFFICERS

Class of 2026

Jimmy Barger

Donnie Kainer

Youth Elder: Porter Beechwood

Donnie Clapp

Mindi Snyder

Class of 2027

Ester Latapie

Arlette Pustejovsky

Elizabeth Rasmussen

Class of 2028

Shawn Beechwood

Melba Clapp

Debra Hamman

B.J. Swenson

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor – Kristine Shultis

Choir Director – Ronda Paoletti

Adult Music Director – Ted Lashley

Financial and Administrative Assistant – Diane Barger

Communications Assistant – Leigh Ann Neel

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