



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 and to joyfully celebrate 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

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, in your presence we confess our sinfulness, our shortcoming, and our offenses again you. You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from your ways, in wasting your gifts, in forgetting your love. Have mercy on us, O Lord. Forgive our sins, and help us to abide in your love and walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name. Amen. (Silent Confession.)

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun. Know you are forgiven and be at peace.

All: Thanks be to God.

*GLORIA PATRI (Hymn #581)

RECOGNITION AND BLESSING OF HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

Kayleigh and Harris, may you have wisdom in heart and mind; success in every challenge; courage to seek God's purposes; belief in yourself; and strength to do your best and endure. Wherever you go, whatever you do remember that our prayers and God's love will always be with you. Amen.

THE HEARING OF THE WORD OF GOD

CHILDREN'S SERMON

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

John 15:1-8 CEB

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vineyard keeper. He removes any of my branches that don't produce fruit, and he trims any branch that produces fruit so that it will produce even more fruit. You are already trimmed because of the word I have spoken to you. Abide in me, and I will abide in you. A branch can't produce fruit by itself, but must remain in the vine. Likewise, you can't produce fruit unless you remain in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, then you will produce much fruit. Without me, you can't do anything.

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Kayleigh Gardner, daughter of Jim and Jill Gardner and Brenda and Kirk Socha, will be attending Texas Lutheran University.

Harris Mickelson, son of Scott and Kim Mickelson, will be attending WCJC.

SCRIPTURE READING

1 John 4:7-15 NRSV

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God.

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Abiding in Love

RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *Apostle's Creed* (Hymnal, page 17)

*HYMN #450 *Be Thou My Vision*

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart; naught be all else to me, save that thou art; thou my best thought, by day or by night, waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be though my wisdom, and thou my true Word; I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord; thou my soul's shelter and though my high tower; raise thou me heavenward, O Power of my power.

Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise; thou mine inheritance, now and always; thou and thou only, first in my heart, High King of Heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of Heaven, my victory won, may I reach heaven's joy, O bright heaven's Sun! Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

The stanzas of *Be Thou My Vision* come from a 20th-century English poetic version of an Irish monastic prayer dating to the 10th century or before. -- GTG

OFFERTORY *Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love* arr. J. Carter

*THE DOXOLOGY (Hymn #606)

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

PRAYER OF GREAT THANKSGIVING & THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.**

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 AND HOLY COMMUNION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*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 *Blessed Be the Name* arr. J. Mansfield

Tom Colvin (1925--2000) first worked as an engineer in Asia, but after three years felt called to the ministry. Ordained by the Church of Scotland in 1954, he served as a missionary in Africa for 20 years. During that time he collected songs of African Christians and included them in three published collections; the last one included the tune named CHEREPONI from Ghana, for the Hymn Jesus, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love (see GTG #203)