



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

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

October 18, 2020

20th Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome to Worship!

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD OF GOD

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

PRELUDE *Meditation on "Tryggare Kan Ingen Varas"*

Swedish Folk Hymn

*CALL TO WORSHIP

(From Isaiah 49:13)

One: Sing for joy, O heavens, and exult, O earth;

All: Break forth, O mountains, into singing!

One: The Lord has comforted his people,

All: God will have compassion on his suffering ones.

One: Let us worship God.

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, we have fallen short. We have lived without you. We have done wrong. Forgive us. Be our guide, our judge, our joy. Show us the way of your living so that we may live a renewed commitment to what is just and good in your eyes. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen. (Silent Confession)

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: God's love and mercy have been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

All: Thanks be to God.

*GLORIA PATRI (Instrumental)

Albert Junos Holden

This morning's prelude is based on a Swedish hymn known in English as *Children of the Heavenly Father*. Dating from the time of the Swedish migration to America in the 1850s, the hymn is one of comfort. "More secure is no one ever, than the loved ones of the Savior; for His love and deep compassion comforts them in tribulation."

THE HEARING OF THE WORD OF GOD

CHILDREN'S SERMON

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 131

O Lord, my heart is not lifted up, my eyes are not raised too high; I do not occupy myself with things too great and too marvelous for me. But I have calmed and quieted my soul, like a weaned child with its mother; my soul is like the weaned child that is with me. O Israel, hope in the Lord from this time on and forevermore.

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 6: 25-34 NRSV

“Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? Therefore, do not worry, saying, ‘What will we eat?’ or ‘What will we drink?’ or ‘What will we wear?’ For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed, your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. “So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today’s trouble is enough for today.

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 131 is one of the shortest chapters in the Book of Psalms, being one of three psalms with only three verses. (The others are Psalms 133 and 134). Psalm 131 is classified among the psalms of confidence or trust.

SERMON *Worry*

RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: (from A Brief Statement of Faith)
In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve. We trust in Jesus Christ, Fully human, fully God. We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

OFFERTORY *This Is My Father's World* Franklin Sheppard,
arr. James Koerts

*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.

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *I Sing the Mighty Power of God* Tune: ELLACOMBE

Sanctuary flowers placed today in celebration of the youth of our church by Linda C. and L. G. Raun.

The faith we confess unites us with the one, universal church. The most important beliefs of Presbyterians are those we share with other Christians and especially with other Christians who look to the Protestant Reformation as a renewal of the gospel of Jesus Christ.