

First Presbyterian Church
July 27, 2025

Welcome

?

**Stranger
Scriptures
Sermon Series**

“The Writing on the Wall”

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First Presbyterian Church of Conroe Welcomes You!



Visitors and Guests: We are excited you have chosen to worship with us today! As a small token of our appreciation, we invite you to stop by the Welcome Desk in the narthex to pick up a complimentary FPC Conroe bookmark and a church brochure. We hope to see you again soon!

If you are interested in learning more about our church, or wish to become active in our ministry teams and activities, please visit our website at fpcConroe.org. There you can fill out the visitor form online, or you can do so now by visiting our welcome desk. We appreciate you joining us for services today.

~ Good Things to Know ~

A special thanks to our guest organist, Donna Davis, who has graciously volunteered to provide beautiful music while Rolethial is on vacation. Thank you, Donna!

Today's Worship Leader

Karis Morton

Today's Flowers

There is no flower dedication today.

Last Week's Attendance, July 20

11:00 a.m. Worship Service - 134

Online Worship Attendance - 35

Total Attendance – 169

11:00 A.M. WORSHIP SERVICE

Preparing to Receive God's Word

Opening Music

Welcome and Announcements

Introit *I Worship You, Almighty God*

Call to Worship

The goodness of God has called us here!
We are recipients of God's gracious love.
Though we have not always done what is right in God's sight;
Yet God is merciful and forgiving.
Open your hearts and spirits to the refreshing love of God.
Help us, O Lord, to live joyfully and peacefully in your sight. Amen!

*Hymn #333

Seek Ye First

1. Seek ye first the kingdom of God
And His righteousness,
And all these things shall be added unto you.
Allelu, alleluia!
2. Ask and it shall be given unto you.
Seek and ye shall find,
Knock and the door shall be opened unto you.
Allelu, alleluia!

*Call to Confession

*Please stand if able.

*Prayer of Confession

Lord, you know our lives and how we live. You know our daily and weekly struggles to remain faithful and hopeful. You know the things that have happened for which we were not prepared. You know how, rather than responding to difficulties with love, we respond with impatience. You know how we have turned our backs on others in need, placing our comforts first. You know how we have been stressed, pulled, pushed, and tossed about.

Give us peace, gracious Lord. Help us to slow down so that we can receive your healing Word. Remind us that we stand in need of forgiveness, and then having received such love, we are to love and serve others. Teach us to pray for courage and patience; teach us how to be good disciples for you. Forgive and strengthen us, we pray,
in Christ's name. Amen.

*Silent Prayer of Confession

*Assurance of Pardon

Though our sins are many, God's mercy is more. Through the cross, Christ
has paid the price, and by his resurrection, we are given new life.

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:

Because of Christ's great love for us, we are forgiven!

*Gloria Patri

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

*Doxology

***Prayer of Dedication and The Lord's Prayer**

*Choral Response

The Word

Children's Time

Anthem

The Lord's Prayer
Soloist, Bonnie Hernandez

Deis

Scripture Reading

Luke 12:13-21

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

*Hymn #316

Breathe on Me, Breath of God

1. Breathe on me, Breath of God,
Fill me with life anew,
That I may love what Thou dost love,
And do what Thou wouldst do.
2. Breathe on me, Breath of God,
Until my heart is pure,
Until with Thee I will one will,
To do and to endure.
3. Breathe on me, Breath of God,
Till I am wholly Thine,
Until this earthly part of me,
Glows with Thy fire divine.
4. Breathe on me, Breath of God,
So shall I never die,
But live with Thee the perfect life
Of Thine eternity.

Scripture Reading

Daniel 5:1-6, 13-31

Sermon

"The Writing on the Wall"
Rev. Seth Saathoff

Responding to the Word

Affirmation of Faith

(The Apostles' 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 Pon-
tius 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 on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I be-
lieve 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.

Prayers of the People

*Hymn #495

We Know That Christ Is Raised

1. We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.
Embraced by death He broke its fearful hold;
And our despair He turned to blazing joy.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen.
2. We share by water in His saving death.
Reborn we share with Him an Easter life
As living members of a living Christ.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen.
3. **The Father's splendor clothes the Son with life.**
The Spirit's power shakes the church of God.
Baptized we live with God the Three in One.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen.
4. A new creation comes to life and grows
As Christ's new body takes on flesh and blood.
The universe, restored and whole, will sing;
Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen.

*Charge and Benediction

*Choral Response

Where He Leads Me

3. I'll go with Him through the judgment,
I'll go with Him through the judgment,
I'll go with Him through the judgment,
I'll go with Him, with Him all the way.

Refrain:

Where He leads me I will follow,
Where He leads me I will follow,
Where He leads me, I will follow,
I'll go with Him, with Him all the way.

*Postlude

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"We Know That Christ Is Raised"

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"Seek Ye First" by Karen Lafferty

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"The Lord's Prayer" Arr. by Carl Deis

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This Week's Scripture Readings

Luke 12:13-21

¹³ Someone in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me." ¹⁴ But he said to him, "Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?" ¹⁵ And he said to them, "Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions." ¹⁶ Then he told them a parable: "The land of a rich man produced abundantly. ¹⁷ And he thought to himself, 'What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?' ¹⁸ Then he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. ¹⁹ And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.' ²⁰ But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' ²¹ So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God."

Daniel 5:1-6, 13-31

¹ King Belshazzar made a great feast for a thousand of his lords, and he was drinking wine in the presence of the thousand.

² Under the influence of the wine, Belshazzar commanded that they bring in the vessels of gold and silver that his father Nebuchadnezzar had taken out of the temple in Jerusalem, so that the king and his lords, his wives, and his concubines might drink from them. ³ So they brought in the vessels of gold that had been taken out of the temple, the house of God in Jerusalem, and the king and his lords, his wives, and his concubines drank from them. ⁴ They drank the wine and praised the gods of gold and silver, bronze, iron, wood, and stone.

⁵ Immediately the fingers of a human hand appeared and began writing on the plaster of the wall of the royal palace, next to the lampstand. The king was watching the hand as it wrote. ⁶ **Then the king's face turned pale,** and his thoughts terrified him. His limbs gave way, and his knees knocked together.

¹³ Then Daniel was brought in before the king. The king said to Daniel, **"So you are Daniel, one of the exiles of Judah, whom my father the king brought from Judah?"** ¹⁴ I have heard of you that a spirit of the gods is in you and that enlightenment, understanding, and excellent wisdom are found in you.

¹⁵ Now the wise men, the enchanters, have been brought in before me to read this writing and tell me its interpretation, but they were not able to reveal the interpretation of the matter. ¹⁶ But I have heard that you can give interpretations and solve problems. Now if you are able to read the writing and tell me its interpretation, you shall be clothed in purple, have a chain of **gold around your neck, and rank third in the kingdom.**" ¹⁷ Then Daniel answered in the presence of the king, **"Let your gifts be for yourself, or give** your rewards to someone else! Nevertheless I will read the writing to the king and let him know the interpretation. ¹⁸ As for you, O king, the Most High God gave your father Nebuchadnezzar kingship, greatness, glory, and majesty. ¹⁹ And because of the greatness that he gave him, all peoples, nations, and languages trembled and feared before him. He killed those he wanted to kill, kept alive those he wanted to keep alive, honored those he wanted to honor, and degraded those he wanted to degrade. ²⁰ But when his heart was lifted up and his spirit was hardened so that he acted proudly, he was deposed from his kingly throne, and his glory was stripped from him. ²¹ He was driven from human society, and his mind was made like that of an animal. His dwelling was with the wild asses, he was fed grass like oxen, and his body was bathed with the dew of heaven, until he learned that the Most High God has sovereignty over the kingdom of mortals and sets over it whomever he will. ²² And you, Belshazzar his son, have not humbled your heart, even though you knew all this! ²³ You have exalted yourself against the Lord of heaven! The vessels of his temple have been brought in before you, and you and your lords, your wives, and your concubines have been drinking wine from them. You have praised the gods of silver and gold, of bronze, iron, wood, and stone, which do not see or hear or know, but the God in whose power is your very breath and to whom belong all your ways, you have not honored.

²⁴ **"So from his presence the hand was sent and this writing was inscribed.** ²⁵ And this is the writing that was inscribed: mene, tekem, and parsin. ²⁶ This is the interpretation of the matter: mene: God has numbered the days of your kingdom and brought it to an end; ²⁷ tekem: you have been weighed on the scales and found wanting; ²⁸ peres: your kingdom is **divided and given to the Medes and Persians."**

²⁹ Then Belshazzar gave the command, and Daniel was clothed in purple, a chain of gold was put around his neck, and a proclamation was made concerning him that he should rank third in the kingdom.

³⁰ That very night Belshazzar, the Chaldean king, was killed. ³¹ And Darius the Mede received the kingdom, being about sixty-two years old.

Notes



CPR Class August 15

As Presbyterian Day School prepares for another wonderful school year, teachers and staff will take part in a CPR Class the morning of August 15 here at FPC. If you are interested in getting your certification, please contact the PDS office at (936) 756-3990. There is online pre-work involved, prior to the actual class, so be sure to give yourself the time needed to participate.



Members of Armed Services Photos

The Worship Committee is requesting photos of your loved ones that have **served, or who are presently serving, in our nation's armed services.** Please send your photos to Randy Blanton at randyblanton@yahoo.com in .jpeg format, and include the name, branch of service, rank, and years of service. We plan to stream the photos of the men and women who have served, and are still with us, prior to the 11:00 a.m. worship service on November 9, 2025. The photos of the men and women who have served, and have passed, will be streamed on May 24, 2026.

Young Adult Retreat at Mo Ranch March 20-22, 2026

Reignite your purpose and strengthen your spirit. Join us for a transformative retreat designed for those navigating the post-college years. Connect with a supportive community, explore life planning, vocational discernment, and creative budgeting, all while deepening your faith through worship, prayer, and **interactive workshops.** Together, let's build a future of meaning, purpose, and connection. Details regarding this retreat can be found at:

<https://www.moranch.org/attend-a-conference/adult-conferences/young-adult-retreat/>



Dear FPC Family,

I recently spoke with Kathy Lee-Cornell, Director of the **Synod of the Sun's Partnership for Disaster Recovery**, regarding the flooding in Hunt, Texas, and ways our congregation can support recovery efforts.

Kathy shared that the response is still in the search and rescue phase. At this time, local organizations are overwhelmed with donations of goods and volunteers. What is most needed now are:

Our prayers

Monetary support for long-term rebuilding

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance has created a dedicated fund to support this effort. You can donate online using this link:

<https://pcusa.org/disaster-assistance/active-responses/national-disaster/texas-hill-country-flooding>

Be sure to use reference code DR000191.

If you prefer to donate by check, you may make it payable to FPC Conroe with **“flood relief”** in the memo line, and we will forward your gift to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.

Regardless of whether you give financially, I invite everyone to pray for the town of Hunt, Kerr County, the summer camps, and all those involved in the search and rescue operations.

Thank you for your faithful compassion.

In Christ,
Seth Saathoff

Prayer List

Members: Sylvia Dopp, friends and family of Jay Slaymaker, Gordon Juhl, Roy Kessler, John Wright, Ruth Masters, Kyle Walker, Jeannene Wendt, Reed Watson, John Lancaster, Kari Elliott, Tildon Hebert, Ron Bailey, Alice Helms, Jean Ball, Mary Hudson, Paul Ivison, Jeanne Leverette, Virginia Olivier

Members' Relatives & Friends: David W. (Hart), Bret F. (Kasmiersky), Thad M. (West), Dorene D. and Dan S. (B. Hernandez), Siana F. and family (Watson), Jerry W., Lisa W. (Webb), Celia G. (Hernandez- Garcia), Wes K. (Yates), Alicia I., James I., and Ron S. (Bailey), Susie K. (Davis), Anna (Harshbarger), Stephanie R. & Brooke J., Danielle S. & kids (Riggs-Harpur), Blade B., Judy N. (Dukes), Bonnie L., Michael R. (Dwyer), Tom J. & family, Bill M. (Browder), Tony N. (Spinks), Aimee L. (Amoneno), Buddy H. (Hayter), Amanda N. (Bosse), Brenda H. (Cannon), Scott P. (Peterson), Linda S., Larry B., Janie M. (Harrison), Lindsey W. (Walker), Shannon L. (Diamond), Rick J. (Juhl), Joe T. Sr., Harry S., Jr. and family (Havens), Steve T., Lonnie H. and Vivian M. (Hammonds), John R. (Hethershaw), James M., Patty M., Enrique E. (Moore), Jeffrey H. & Leah H. (Heasley), Wendy S. (Adamson), Sherry M. (Garrison), Lee H. (Helms), Caleb & Michaela W. (Henderson), Gerald H. (Roberts)

Calendar of Weekly Events

<p><i>Sunday</i> <i>July 27</i></p>	<p>9:30 a.m. Bereans Sunday School Class with Bob Shepherd (Rm. 105) Paul's letter to the church at Ephesus.</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Fellowship Class (Rm. 204) Studying "More Parables from the Back Side" by J. Ellsworth Kalas, taught by Deborah Geddes, Glenna Lang and Glenn Elms.</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Exploring Our Faith with Susan Buckley (Rm. 206)</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Seekers' Bible Study with Randy Blanton (Library) Paul's Letter to the Romans on Sunday (Contact Randy Blanton to join by Zoom).</p> <p>10:30 a.m. Fellowship (Narthex)</p> <p>10:40 a.m. Praise band (Sanctuary)</p> <p>11:00 a.m. Worship Service (Sanctuary and Facebook Live www.com/fpcConroe or YouTube.com/fpcConroe)</p> <p>5:00 p.m. "A Year Through the Bible" Study (Rm. 105)</p> <p>5:00-7:00 p.m. The Spark (Gym)</p>
<p><i>Monday</i> <i>July 28</i></p>	<p>1:30 p.m. Monday Bible Study (Parlor) NO STUDY FOR THE MONTH OF JULY.</p>
<p><i>Wednesday</i> <i>July 30</i></p>	<p>9:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Mission Sewing (Rm. 105)</p> <p>5:45 p.m. Handbells Practice (Sanctuary)</p> <p>7:00-8:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Practice (Choir Room)</p>

<p><i>Sunday August 3</i></p>	<p>9:30 a.m. Bereans Sunday School Class with Bob Shepherd (Rm. 105) Paul's letter to the church at Ephesus.</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Fellowship Class (Rm. 204) Studying "More Parables from the Back Side" by J. Ellsworth Kalas, taught by Deborah Geddes, Glenna Lang and Glenn Elms.</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Exploring Our Faith with Susan Buckley (Rm. 206)</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Seekers' Bible Study with Randy Blanton (Library)</p> <p>Paul's Letter to the Romans on Sunday (Contact Randy Blanton to join by Zoom).</p> <p>10:30 a.m. Fellowship (Narthex)</p> <p>10:40 a.m. Praise band (Sanctuary)</p> <p>11:00 a.m. Worship Service (Sanctuary and Facebook Live www.com/fpcConroe or YouTube.com/fpcConroe)</p> <p>12:00 p.m. Committee Meetings</p> <p>5:00 p.m. "A Year Through the Bible" Study (Rm. 105)</p> <p>5:00-7:00 p.m. The Spark (Pool party)</p>
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Save the Date

August 15	CPR Class (see page 10 for details)
August 24	Rally Sunday
September 1	Labor Day (Church office closed)
September 7	Return to regular service schedule (8:30 & 11:00 a.m.)
September 19	Life Line Screening
September 24	See You at the Pole
September 27	Serve Our Neighbor Day

Staff and Church Information

Staff

Rev. Seth Saathoff, Senior Pastor
Dena Sowden, Director of Christian Education
Sharon VanSchuyver, Director of Communications
Yvonne Rose, Office Manager
Bonnie Hernandez, Music Director
Rolethial McKelvey, Accompanist
Jackye Cannon and Jane Corbit, Bookkeeping
Shirley Dukes, Parish Nurse



First Presbyterian Church

Physical Address:

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Church Office (936) 756-8884 Fax (936) 756-8842
Website: www.fpcConroe.org

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Mailing Address:

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