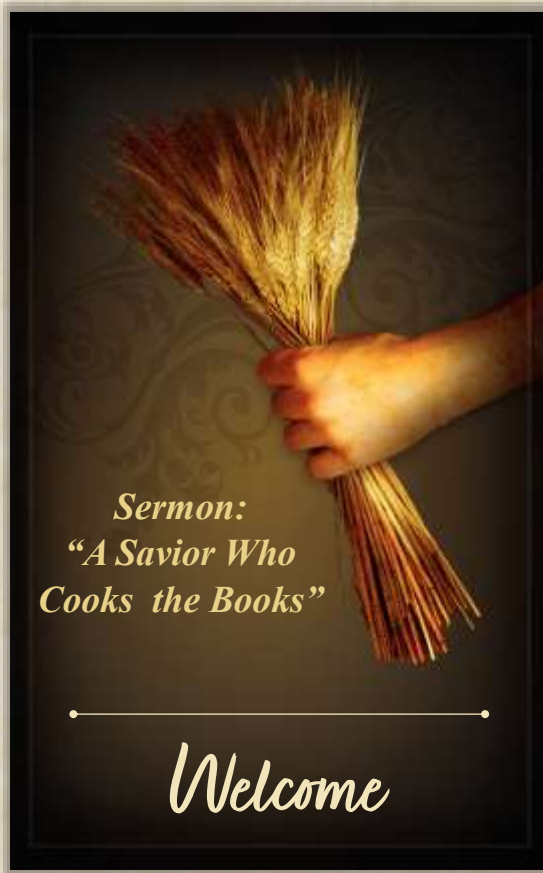


First Presbyterian Church

September 21, 2025



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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 ~

Today's Worship Leader

Carly Hart

Today's Flowers

*Today's flowers are given to the glory of God
by David and Vivian McDonald.*

Last Week's Attendance, September 14

8:30 a.m. Worship Service - 19

11:00 a.m. Worship Service - 149

Online Worship Attendance - 25

Total Attendance – 193

8:30 A.M. WORSHIP WITH COMMUNION

Preparing to Receive God's Word

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

Blessed be the name of the Lord, from this time on and forevermore.

From sunrise to sunset, may the name of the Lord be praised.

God raises the poor from the dust and lifts up the needy.

To make them sit with kings and princes at the table of grace.

Praise the Lord, you people! Praise the Lord with heart, mind, soul, and voice!

Praise the name of the Lord, from this time on and forevermore.

*Hymn #478

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

1. Praise, my soul, the King of Heaven;
To His feet thy tribute bring;
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
Evermore His praises sing:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise the everlasting King.

2. Praise Him for His grace and favor
To His people in distress;
Praise Him still the same as ever,
Slow to chide, and swift to bless:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Glorious in His faithfulness.

3. Fatherlike He tends and spares us;
Well our feeble frame He knows;
In His hands He gently bears us,
Rescues us from all our foes.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Widely yet His mercy flows.

*Please stand if able.

*Call to Confession

*Silent Prayer of Confession

*Assurance of Pardon

The Lord our God is exalted over all the nations, yet He stoops down to raise the poor from the dust and the needy from the ashes.

In Jesus Christ, God has stooped down to forgive us, renew us, and set us free.

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:

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

*Gloria Patri

Minute for Mission

The Word

Scripture Readings

Psalm 113; Luke 16:1-13

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"A Savior Who Cooks the Books"

Rev. Seth Saathoff

Responding to the Word

The Sacrament of Communion

Invitation to the Table

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

Words of Institution

Communion of the People

Prayer of Thanksgiving

*Hymn #476

O Worship the King, All Glorious Above!

1. O worship the King, all glorious above!
O gratefully sing God's power and God's love;
Our shield and defender, the Ancient of Days,
Pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise.
2. O tell of God's might, O sing of God's grace,
Whose robe is the light, whose canopy space.
The chariots of heaven the deep thunderclouds form,
And bright is God's path on the wings of the storm.
4. Thy bountiful care what tongue can recite?
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light;
It streams from the hills, it descends to the plain,
And sweetly distills in the dew and the rain.

*Charge and Benediction

*Postlude

11:00 A.M. WORSHIP SERVICE

Preparing to Receive God's Word

Opening Music

Welcome and Announcements

Introit

We Will Glorify

Paris

Call to Worship

Blessed be the name of the Lord, from this time on and forevermore.

From sunrise to sunset, may the name of the Lord be praised.

God raises the poor from the dust and lifts up the needy.

To make them sit with kings and princes at the table of grace.

Praise the Lord, you people! Praise the Lord with heart, mind, soul, and voice!

Praise the name of the Lord, from this time on and forevermore.

*Hymn #478

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

1. Praise, my soul, the King of Heaven;
To His feet thy tribute bring;
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
Evermore His praises sing:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise the everlasting King.

2. Praise Him for His grace and favor
To His people in distress;
Praise Him still the same as ever,
Slow to chide, and swift to bless:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Glorious in His faithfulness.

*Please stand if able.

3. Fatherlike He tends and spares us;
Well our feeble frame He knows;
In His hands He gently bears us,
Rescues us from all our foes.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Widely yet His mercy flows.

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession

O Lord our God, your love is without limit; you gave your very life for us. Forgive us, Lord, when we are hesitant to share even the smallest of our gifts with others.

In Jesus Christ you model a life of service, always attentive to the ones in need. Forgive us, Lord, when we ignore the needs of our neighbors.

You call us into community, joining the church in proclaiming one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God and Father of us all. **Forgive us, Lord, when we fail to live into our calling as Christ's disciples.**

Forgive us, renew us, and remake us into your faithful people. We know that you can and pray that you will. Through Jesus Christ our Lord we pray, amen.

*Silent Prayer of Confession

*Assurance of Pardon

The Lord our God is exalted over all the nations, yet He stoops down to raise the poor from the dust and the needy from the ashes.

In Jesus Christ, God has stooped down to forgive us, renew us, and set us free.

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:

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

*Gloria Patri

Minute for Mission

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

*Doxology

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

*Choral Response

The Word

Children's Time

Anthem

Trust (Medley)

Kirkland

Scripture Reading

Psalm 113

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*Hymn #394

There Is a Balm in Gilead

Refrain:

There is a balm in Gilead
to make the wounded whole.

There is a balm in Gilead
to heal the sin-sick soul.

1. Sometimes I feel discouraged,

And think my work's in vain,

But then the Holy Spirit

Revives my soul again.

(Refrain)

2. **Don't ever feel discouraged,**

For Jesus is your friend,

And if you lack for knowledge

He'll not refuse to lend.

(Refrain)

Scripture Reading

Luke 16:1-13

Sermon

"A Savior Who Cooks the Books"

Rev. Seth Saathoff

Responding to God's 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 Pontius 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 believe 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 #476

O Worship the King, All Glorious Above!

1. O worship the King, all glorious above!
O gratefully sing God's power and God's love;
Our shield and defender, the Ancient of Days,
Pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise.
2. O tell of God's might, O sing of God's grace,
Whose robe is the light, whose canopy space.
The chariots of heaven the deep thunderclouds form,
And bright is God's path on the wings of the storm.
4. Thy bountiful care what tongue can recite?
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light;
It streams from the hills, it descends to the plain,
And sweetly distills in the dew and the rain.

*Charge and Benediction

*Choral Response

Trust (Medley)

(Standing on the Promises)

Standing on the promises of Christ, my King!

Through eternal ages let His praises ring.

"Glory in the highest!" I will shout and sing,

Standing on the promises of God.

Standing, standing,

Standing on the promises of God, my Savior;

Standing, standing,

I'm standing on the promises of God.

*Postlude

Copyright Information

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"There Is a Balm in Gilead"

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"We Will Glorify" by Twila Paris

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"Trust (Medley)"

Arranged by Camp Kirkland

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CCL # 2714264

This Week's Scripture Readings

Psalm 113

¹ Praise the Lord! Praise, O servants of the Lord; praise the name of the Lord.

² Blessed be the name of the Lord from this time on and forevermore. ³ From the rising of the sun to its setting, the name of the Lord is to be praised. ⁴ The Lord is high above all nations and his glory above the heavens.

⁵ Who is like the Lord our God, who is seated on high, ⁶ who looks far down on the heavens and the earth? ⁷ He raises the poor from the dust and lifts the needy from the ash heap, ⁸ to make them sit with princes, with the princes of his people. ⁹ He gives the barren woman a home, making her the joyous mother of children. Praise the Lord!

Luke 16:1-13

¹ Then Jesus **said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. ² So he summoned him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management because you cannot be my manager any longer.'** ³ Then the manager **said to himself, 'What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. ⁴ I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.'** ⁵ So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' ⁶ He answered, 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.' ⁷ Then he asked another, 'And how much do you owe?' He replied, 'A hundred containers of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill and make it eighty.' ⁸ And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly, for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. ⁹ And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

¹⁰ “Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much, and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. ¹¹ If, then, you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? ¹² And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? ¹³ No slave can serve two masters, for a slave will either hate the one and love the other or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.”

Notes



Called Meeting of the Congregation Next Sunday

There will be a called meeting of the congregation on September 28, 2025 in order to elect an Officer Nominating Committee. Please plan to join us for this meeting after the 11:00 worship service.

CLAP Group Meeting This Week

The Christ-Loving-Adult-Presbyterians group (C.L.A.P.) will meet for dinner on Friday, September 26, at 6:00 p.m., at Pacific Yard House (101 Metcalf St. Conroe).

Childcare will be available at the church. Please contact Dena Sowden for details.

Office Volunteer Needed for Wednesday Morning

The church office is in need of a Wednesday morning volunteer to cover the phones and welcome guests during the weekly staff meeting. If you can give a few hours of your time, please contact Yvonne Rose at (936) 756-8884.

**It is with great sadness that we
make you aware of two upcoming
funeral services.**

September 26 at 11:00 AM

Service of Remembrance for Vicki Wilson,
sister of Dena Sowden.

September 27 at 2:00 PM

Service of Remembrance for Kyle Walker.

Serve Our Neighbor Day September 27



A Churchwide Day of Service

Our 3rd annual Serve Our Neighbor Day will be **taking place on Saturday, September 27**. We'll gather together at the church for a light breakfast at 8:30 a.m. and then disperse to several different local mission sites after a prayer send-off.

More details about the specific projects will be available this month, and sign-ups in the narthex begin today. Please make plans to participate in **this year's churchwide day of service!**

Fall Festival and Ways You Can Help

PDS will be collecting candy, stickers, small toys, etc. that can be given as game prizes for the festival. There is a box in the narthex for your convenience. Also, if anyone would like to donate to the festival or be a sponsor, paperwork is available in the church office. We are most grateful for your help!

Wednesday Night Live Kickoff

Join us October 1 for Dinner and Bingo!

Dinner Served 5:00-5:45 pm

\$5/person (Under 12 & 90+ eat FREE)

Bingo from 6 - 7 pm



Christmas Boxes for the International Seafarers' Center, Port of Houston

For many years Presbyterian Women of our church, with the help of our entire congregation, have packed 100 shoe boxes a year with non-perishable items (such as hygiene supplies, socks, caps, and Texas souvenirs) and delivered them to the Port of Houston for distribution to ships that come in from mid-November through December.



This is a Christmas project for faith communities in the Houston area, and thousands of seafarers are reached in this way. It is an important opportunity to offer a gesture of "hospitality" to some of those who serve us all year long.

If you would like to help with monetary support for this project, please make a **donation through the church, marked clearly for the "Seafarer's boxes."** Our shopping is now in progress and will continue during through October, in order to meet a November 6 packing date. Our boxes will be dedicated in Worship **November 9 and delivered to the Seafarers' Center the following week.** If you have questions or need more information about this opportunity, please call the church office (936) 756- 8884 or Liz Kessler (713) 818-1006.

Thanks to the generosity of the Friday Men's Breakfast Group, boxes will be purchased this year, so no donated shoe boxes are needed.



All Saints Day Service November 2, 2025

If you want to include the remembrance of your loved one who passed from November 2024 through October 2025 in this special service, then please provide the information to Yvonne Rose, Office Manager, by October 23, 2025, at yrose@fpccnrore.org, or by calling the Church Office at: **(936) 756-8884**

Calendar of Weekly Events

<p><i>Sunday</i> <i>September 21</i></p>	<p>8:30 a.m. Worship with Communion (Sanctuary) 9:30 a.m. Bereans Sunday School Class with Bob Shepherd (Rm. 105) Paul's uplifting letter to the church at Philippi. 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. 9:30 a.m. Exploring Our Faith with Susan Buckley (Rm. 206) 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). 9:30 a.m. FPC Kids' Sunday School (Rm. 203) 10:30 a.m. Fellowship (Narthex) 10:40 a.m. Praise Band (Sanctuary) 11:00 a.m. Worship Service (Sanctuary and Facebook Live www.com/fpcConroe or YouTube.com/fpcConroe) 12:30 p.m. Session Meeting 5:00 p.m. "A Year Through the Bible" Study (Rm. 105) 5:00-7:00 p.m. The Spark (Gym)</p>
<p><i>Monday</i> <i>September 22</i></p>	<p>1:30 p.m. Monday Bible Study (Parlor)</p>
<p><i>Wednesday</i> <i>September 24</i></p>	<p>8:45 a.m. See You at the Pole (Parking lot) 9:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Mission Sewing (Rm. 105) 5:45 p.m. Handbells Practice (Sanctuary) 7:00-8:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Practice (Choir Room)</p>

<p><i>Sunday September 28</i></p>	<p>8:30 a.m. Worship with Communion (Sanctuary)</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Bereans Sunday School Class with Bob Shepherd (Rm. 105) Paul's uplifting letter to the church at Philippi.</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>9:30 a.m. FPC Kids' Sunday School (Rm. 203)</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. Called Meeting of the Congregation (Sanctuary)</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>
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Save the Date

September 24	See You at the Pole
September 27	Serve Our Neighbor Day
September 28	Called Meeting of the Congregation
October 1	Wednesday Night Live Kickoff
October 10	Pumpkin Delivery
October 25	Fall Festival
October 11-31	Pumpkin Patch

Prayer List

Members: Dena Sowden and family, the family and friends of Kyle Walker, Fred Kate, Penny Bell, Sylvia Dopp, Gordon Juhl, Roy Kessler, John Wright, Ruth Masters, 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: Noah G. (Simon), 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), 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)

Ministry Leaders

Administration	Cheryl Nichols (2025, Chair) Stephan Tibbetts (2025)
Building & Grounds	Bill Harshbarger (2026, Chair)
Care-Prayer	TBA (2027, Chair)
Discipleship	Mark Sowden (2025, Chair) Dena Sowden (2025) Masen Stuntz (2025) Sean Morton (2027)
Fellowship	Debbie Morse (2027, Chair)
Membership	Steve Scheffler (2025)
Missions	Catherine Scheffler (2025, Chair) TBD (2027)
PDS	Pat Hudson (2025)
Worship	Randy Blanton and Mike Wisda (2026, Co-chairs)
Trustees	Charline Muller (2025) David Nichols (2026) Fred Kate (2027)

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:

2727 N Loop 336 W, Conroe, TX 77304
Church Office (936) 756-8884 Fax (936) 756-8842
Website: www.fpcConroe.org

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

Mailing Address:

2257 N Loop 336 W
Suite 140, # 349, Conroe, TX 77304