

First Presbyterian Church

November 9, 2025

Let the redeemed of the Lord tell their story

Psalm 107:2



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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

Mark Sowden

Today's Flowers

*Today's flowers are given to the glory of God by Patrick Hudson,
in honor of all who served and to the glory of God.*

Last Week's Attendance, November 2

8:30 a.m. Worship Service - 18

11:00 a.m. Worship Service - 122

Online Worship Attendance - 30

Total Attendance – 170

8:30 A.M. WORSHIP WITH COMMUNION

Preparing to Receive God's Word

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

We gather here to worship God, who made a covenant with Abraham.

Let the redeemed of the Lord tell their story.

We gather here to worship God, who brought his people out of slavery.

Let the redeemed of the Lord tell their story.

We gather here to worship God, who provided manna in the wilderness.

Let the redeemed of the Lord tell their story.

We gather here to worship God, who gives us everything we need.

Let the redeemed of the Lord tell their story.

*Hymn #561

My Country, 'Tis of Thee

1. My country, 'tis of thee,
Sweet land of liberty,
Of thee I sing;
Land where my fathers died,
Land of the pilgrims' pride,
From every mountainside
Let freedom ring.

3. Let music swell the breeze,
And ring from all the trees
Sweet freedom's song;
Let mortal tongues awake,
Let all that breathe partake,
Let rocks their silence break,
The sound prolong.

*Please stand if able.

4. Our fathers' God, to Thee,
Author of liberty,
To Thee we sing;
Long may our land be bright
With freedom's holy light;
Protect us by Thy might,
Great God, our King.

*Call to Confession

*Silent Prayer of Confession

*Assurance of Pardon

Our God is not stingy with mercy or slow to forgive. In Jesus Christ, grace overflows, meeting our need, mending our hearts, and transforming our lives.

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:

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

*Gloria Patri

The Word

Scripture Readings

Philippians 1:19-30; Exodus 16:1-15

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"Telling the Story: Holy Manna"

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

America the Beautiful

1. O beautiful for spacious skies,
for amber waves of grain;
for purple mountain majesties
above the fruited plain!
America! America!
God shed His grace on thee,
and crown thy good with brotherhood
from sea to shining sea.
2. O beautiful for heroes proved
in liberating strife,
who more than self their country loved,
and mercy more than life!
America! America!
May God thy gold refine,
Till all success be nobleness,
and every gain divine.
3. O beautiful for patriot dream
that sees beyond the years
thine alabaster cities gleam,
undimmed by human tears!
America! America!
God mend thine every flaw,
confirm thy soul in self-control,
thy liberty in law.

*Charge and Benediction

*Postlude

11:00 A.M. WORSHIP SERVICE

Preparing to Receive God's Word

Opening Music

Welcome and Announcements

Introit *The Star-Spangled Banner*

Call to Worship

We gather here to worship God, who made a covenant with Abraham.
Let the redeemed of the Lord tell their story.
We gather here to worship God, who brought his people out of slavery.
Let the redeemed of the Lord tell their story.
We gather here to worship God, who provided manna in the wilderness.
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*Please stand if able.

4. Our fathers' God, to Thee,
Author of liberty,
To Thee we sing;
Long may our land be bright
With freedom's holy light;
Protect us by Thy might,
Great God, our King.

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession

It seems we cannot make up our minds, O God. We say we will live to serve others, but end up meeting only our needs. We claim to live in a way that honors Christ, but often we do not take him outside these walls of the church. We believe that the gospel can transform lives, but we keep living as if nothing has changed. We believe You are a God of abundance, but we continue to harbor a scarcity mindset.

Forgive us, Holy One. Instead of grumblers, may we be ambassadors of grace. Instead of continual complaining, may we carry compassion to the hurting. Instead of whiners, may we be workers with Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, to reach out and bring the kingdom of **God to everyone we meet as we proclaim the abundance of God's** grace and love for all.

*Silent Prayer of Confession

*Assurance of Pardon

Our God is not stingy with mercy or slow to forgive. In Jesus Christ, grace overflows, meeting our need, mending our hearts, and transforming our lives.

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

*Choral Response

The Word

Children's Time

Anthem

Battle Hymn of the Republic

Wilhousky

Scripture Reading

Philippians 1:19-30

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*Hymn #344

Christ of the Upward Way

1. Christ of the upward way, My guide divine,
Where You have set Your feet May I place mine;
And move and march wherever You have trod,
Keeping face forward up the hill of God.
2. Give me the heart to hear Your voice and will,
That without fault or fear I may fulfill
Your purpose with a glad and holy zest,
Like one who would not bring less than the best.
3. Christ of the upward way, My guide divine,
Where you have set your feet May I place mine;
And when your last call comes serene and clear,
Calm may my answer be, "Lord, I am here."

Scripture Reading

Exodus 16:1-15

Sermon

"Telling the Story: Holy Manna"

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

America the Beautiful

1. O beautiful for spacious skies,
for amber waves of grain;
for purple mountain majesties
above the fruited plain!
America! America!
God shed His grace on thee,
and crown thy good with brotherhood
from sea to shining sea.
2. O beautiful for heroes proved
in liberating strife,
who more than self their country loved,
and mercy more than life!
America! America!
May God thy gold refine,
Till all success be nobleness,
and every gain divine.

3. O beautiful for patriot dream
that sees beyond the years
thine alabaster cities gleam,
undimmed by human tears!
America! America!
God mend thine every flaw,
confirm thy soul in self-control,
thy liberty in law.

*Charge and Benediction

*Choral Response

Battle Hymn of the Republic

Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!
Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!
Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!
His truth is marching on!
Amen! Amen!

*Postlude

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†

"Battle Hymn of the Republic"

arr. by Peter J. Wilhousky

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This Week's Scripture Readings

Philippians 1:19-30

¹⁹ for I know that through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ this will turn out for my salvation. ²⁰ It is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be put to shame in any way but that by my speaking with all boldness Christ will be exalted now as always in my body, whether by life or by death. ²¹ For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. ²² If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me, yet I cannot say which I will choose. ²³ I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better, ²⁴ but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. ²⁵ Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, ²⁶ so that, by my presence again with you, your boast might abound in Christ Jesus because of me.

²⁷ Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel ²⁸ and in no way frightened by those opposing you. For them, this is evidence of their destruction but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. ²⁹ For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ but of suffering for him as well, ³⁰ since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

Exodus 16:1-15

¹ The whole congregation of the Israelites set out from Elim and came to the wilderness of Sin, which is between Elim and Sinai, on the fifteenth day of the second month after they had departed from the land of Egypt. ² The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. ³ The Israelites said to them, "If only we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the pots of meat and ate our fill of bread, for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger."

⁴ Then the Lord said to Moses, “I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not.” ⁵ On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days.” ⁶ So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, “In the evening you shall know that it was the Lord who brought you out of the land of Egypt, ⁷ and in the morning you shall see the glory of the Lord, because he has heard your complaining against the Lord. For what are we, that you complain against us?” ⁸ And Moses said, “When the Lord gives you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning, because the Lord has heard the complaining that you utter against him—what are we? Your complaining is not against us but against the Lord.”

⁹ Then Moses said to Aaron, “Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites: ‘Draw near to the Lord, for he has heard your complaining.’” ¹⁰ And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud. ¹¹ The Lord spoke to Moses, ¹² “I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, ‘At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the Lord your God.’”

¹³ In the evening quails came up and covered the camp, and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. ¹⁴ When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. ¹⁵ When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, “What is it?” For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, “It is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat.

Notes



Veterans Day Breakfast



On November 11th, PDS will be hosting breakfast for FPC and PDS Veterans. If you would like to take part in this special morning, please plan to meet in the bistro area at 8:30 a.m. We hope you will join us!

CCLAP Group Meeting on November 14

C.L.A.P. (Christ Loving Adult Presbyterians) will be meeting at the Epiphany Lounge at Grand Pines FKA B.E. Winery (400 Bryant Rd, Conroe) on Friday, November 14th. Childcare will be provided at the church from 6:00-9:00 p.m.

The Children's Pageant: Help Needed

The Children's Christmas Pageant is scheduled for Sunday, December 14th, during the 11:00 worship service. We need lots of little angels, shepherds, sheep, and wise men to recreate the Holy Night for the congregation.

Practices will be held on November 16, 23, 30 and December 7 after the 11:00 a.m. service. This is an invitation for any elementary-aged student, who would like to participate in the pageant, to contact Dena Sowden at (979) 255-2096 or DSowden@fpcconroe.org.

Officer Nominating Committee Update

The 2025 Officer Nominating Committee is hard at work putting together their proposed slate of new elders to serve on session. If you have prayerfully considered nominating yourself or someone else (with their permission), please contact Catherine Scheffler at (713) 715-9766 or email her at scscheffler@sbcglobal.net.



Telling The Story This Stewardship Season

"Let the redeemed of the Lord tell their story." Psalm 107:2

Since its inception in 1939, FPC-Conroe has been telling the story of God's redeeming love in Jesus Christ. In their worship, witness, service, and offerings, the people of FPC-Conroe have shared the love of Christ with others.

This beautiful story of hope and redeeming love, offered through faith in Jesus, is ongoing. It is needed just as much today as when our church first opened its doors. We are called to continue to tell the story through our worship, our testimonies, our service, our prayers, and our giving. Through our participation, we can ensure that this church is the hands, feet, and voice of Christ to our congregation and our community.

Pledge cards for 2026 will be mailed out on November 10, along with our proposed operating budget for 2026 and letters from our Treasurer and Pastor Seth. November 23 will be set aside as Dedication Sunday, where we will join to bring our pledges to FPC-Conroe for 2026. Please prayerfully consider how you can contribute to the stewardship of this church, so that we can continue to tell the story of God's redeeming love. As a church, let us bring Christ's good news to our community and beyond.

Wednesday Night Live Thanksgiving Dinner November 19

Please keep in mind that our final WNL meal will be our much-anticipated Thanksgiving dinner, on November 19th. After the meal, we will have a 6:00 p.m. worship service in the Sanctuary. We look forward to seeing you all there.



Calendar of Weekly Events

<i>Sunday</i> <i>November 9</i>	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) 5:00 p.m. "A Year Through the Bible" Study (Rm. 105) 5:00-7:00 p.m. The Spark (Gym)
<i>Monday</i> <i>November 10</i>	1:30 p.m. Monday Bible Study (Parlor)
<i>Tuesday</i> <i>November 11</i>	10:00 a.m. Ruth Circle (Parlor) 5:15 p.m. Lydia Circle (Youth area)
<i>Wednesday</i> <i>November 12</i>	9:30 a.m. Martha Circle (Parlor) 4:00 p.m. Small Group Study (Rm. 206) 5:00 WNL Dinner (FLC) 5:45 p.m. Handbells Practice (Sanctuary) 6:00 p.m. Bible Study / Arts & Crafts 7:00-8:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Practice (Choir Room)

<i>Sunday</i> <i>November 16</i>	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)
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Save the Date

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|----------------|--|
| November 19 | WNL Thanksgiving Dinner
(final WNL for the fall season) |
| November 23 | Dedication Sunday |
| November 24-28 | Thanksgiving Holidays for PDS/CISD |
| November 27 | Thanksgiving Day (FPC Office Closed) |
| December 5 | Life Line Screenings at FPC |
| December 14 | Children's Pageant |

Prayer List

Members: Steve and Connie Tibbetts, Nedra Murphy, Jean Heasley, Fred Kate, Sylvia Dopp, Gordon Juhl, Roy Kessler, John Wright, Ruth Masters, Jeannene Wendt, Reed Watson, John Lancaster, Kari Elliott, Tildon Hebert, Alice Helms, Jean Ball, Mary Hudson, Paul Ivison, Jeanne Leverette, Virginia Olivier

Members' Relatives & Friends: Gabrielle T. (Tanner), 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), Kenneth H., 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