# First Presbyterian Church December 28, 2025



11:00 Worship Service	Page	( )
The Connection	Page	(
Prayer List	Page	
Calendar of Events	Page	8

## 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

Matthew Laletas

#### Today's Flowers

Today's flowers are given to the glory of God by Fred and Ann Kate, in celebration of their 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

#### Last Week's Attendance, December 21

8:30 a.m. Worship Service - 13

11:00 a.m. Worship Service - 153

Online Worship Attendance - 32

Total Attendance - 198

#### 11:00 A.M. WORSHIP SERVICE

## Preparing to Receive God's Word

#### Prelude

#### Welcome and Announcements

#### Call to Worship

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light.

On those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned.

For unto us a child is born.

Unto us a child is given.

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us.

We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

#### \*Call to Confession

## \*Prayer of Confession

God of grace and truth, in Jesus Christ, you came among us as light shining in darkness. We confess that we have not welcomed the light or trusted good news to be good. We have closed our eyes to glory in our midst, expecting little, hoping for less. Forgive our doubts and renew our hope, that we may receive the fullness of your grace, and live in the truth of Christ the Lord.

## \*Silent Prayer of Confession

#### \*Assurance of Pardon

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:

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

#### \*Gloria Patri

\*Please stand if able.

## Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

\*Doxology

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

#### A Service of Lessons and Carols

First Lesson: Isaiah 9:2,6-7

Hymn No. 44 O Little Town of Bethlehem (1-4)

Second Lesson: Luke 1:26-33

Mary, Did You Know?

Third Lesson: Matthew 1:18-24

Hymn No. 9 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (1-3)

Fourth Lesson: Luke 2:1-7

Hymn No. 53 What Child Is This (1-3)

Fifth Lesson: Luke 2:8-15

Hymn No. 56 The First Nowell(1-4)

Sixth Lesson: Matthew 2:1-11

Hymn No. 66 We Three Kings of Orient Are (1-5)

Seventh Lesson: John 1:1-14

Hymn No. 60 Silent Night, Holy Night (1-4)

Prayers of the People

\*Charge and Benediction

\*Postlude



#### Stock Donation to FPC

REMINDER! For those of you who are considering donating stock to the church, or making a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) directly from your IRA to the church for the calendar year 2025, this memo is to remind you that the transaction must be completed by 12/31/2025 if you want the contribution to be a tax deduction for 2025. However, please try to complete transactions before the last week in December to avoid a last minute "glitch" that may keep you from being eligible for a 2025 tax deduction. Yvonne Rose has paperwork in the church office that facilitates the stock donation process, so please feel free to contact Yvonne if you wish to donate stock.

Also, for those who intend to pre-pay their pledge for 2026 in the calendar year 2025, please note that this should be completed before the last week in December as mentioned above.

## Stewardship Campaign Update

The Stewardship Campaign for 2026 pledges is progressing well. To date, we have received 78 pledges for approximately \$550,780. This puts us almost 85% of the way towards our goal. There are still 26 individuals who pledged in 2025 that have not, as of yet, committed to pledging for 2026. If you have already pledged to give for the 2026 Budget, thank you for your very generous support. If you plan to pledge, but just haven't gotten around to it yet, PLEASE do so in the near future. Either put your completed card in the collection plate this Sunday or drop it by the church office at your earliest convenience. If we are to balance the budget in 2026, we need everyone's financial support. Remember that no pledge is too small. If we all pull together, we can achieve our goal.

#### Children's Church Volunteers Needed

We need Children's Church volunteers for January through May. Please use the Google docs link to find a Sunday that works for you. We would appreciate your help. <a href="https://docs.google.com/document/d/1xoFy67DqrB1Z58XiSOknjjtL41HEL-LZXYpA7iaqlUc/edit?usp=sharing">https://docs.google.com/document/d/1xoFy67DqrB1Z58XiSOknjjtL41HEL-LZXYpA7iaqlUc/edit?usp=sharing</a>



Each year during the Advent and Christmas season, we lift up past, present, and future leaders of the church. God has blessed the church with incredible leadership in every time and place, but those leaders often need to be supported by their communities as well. This Offering provides support for Presbyterian church workers and their families in their time of need and leadership development and education for communities of color at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color.

Your gifts to the Christmas Joy Offering combine with gifts from thousands of congregations throughout our denomination to do our part to repair the world and to ensure our siblings have the tools they need to flourish. Your gifts prepare the way for the God we know in Jesus Christ, the child whose birth we celebrate. Thank you!

Sunday December 28	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) 4:00 p.m. "A Year Through the Bible" Study (Rm. 105) WILL NOT MEET TODAY 5:00-7:00 p.m. The Spark (Gym) WILL NOT MEET TODAY
Monday December 29	1:30 p.m. Monday Bible Study (Parlor) WILL NOT MEET AGAIN UNTIL 1/12/26
Wednesday December 31	9:30 a.m2:00 p.m. Mission Sewing (Rm. 105) WILL NOT MEET AGAIN UNTIL 1/07/26 4:00 p.m. Small Group Study (Rm. 206) WILL NOT MEET AGAIN UNTIL 1/07/26
Thursday January 1	HAPPY NEW YEAR! The church office is closed today.

	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
Sunday	join by Zoom).
January 4	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)
	12:00 p.m. Committee Meetings
	4:00 p.m. "A Year Through the Bible" Study (Rm. 105)
	5:00-7:00 p.m. The Spark (Gym)

# **Save the Date**

January 1	New Year's Day (church office will be closed)
January 7	Wednesday Night Live Kickoff - Trivia Night
February 28	15 <sup>th</sup> Annual Sew-a-Thon

## **Prayer List**

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

Members' Relatives & Friends: Connor, Caroline and baby M. (Saathoffs), 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), 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), 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)





#### **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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Mailing Address:

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