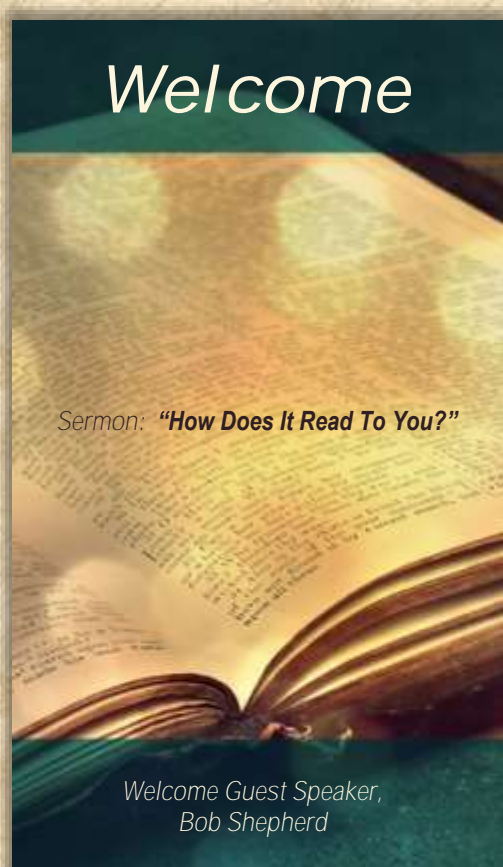


# First Presbyterian Church

February 12, 2023



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## **8:30 A.M. PRAYER AND COMMUNION**

### Preparation

Prelude

### Adoration

Call to Worship

\*Hymn #487

When Morning Gilds the Skies

1. When morning gilds the skies,  
My heart awaking cries:  
May Jesus Christ be praised!  
Alike at work and prayer  
To Jesus I repair:  
May Jesus Christ be praised!
3. Let earth's wide circle round  
In joyful notes resound:  
May Jesus Christ be praised!  
Let air and sea and sky  
From depth to height reply:  
May Jesus Christ be praised!
4. Be this, while life is mine,  
My canticle divine:  
May Jesus Christ be praised!  
Be this the eternal song  
Through all the ages long:  
May Jesus Christ be praised!

### Confession

\*Call to Confession

\*Silent Prayer of Confession

\*Assurance of Pardon

Friends, believe in the Good News.  
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

\*Gloria Patri

Welcome and Announcements

Minute for Mission

Proclamation

Scripture Reading

Matthew 22:23-33, Luke 18:31-34

Sermon

“How Does It Read To You?”

*Bob Shepherd*

Dedication

The Sacrament of Communion

Invitation to the Table

Prayers of the People

Words of Institution

Distribution of the Elements

Prayer of Thanksgiving

\*Hymn #288

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

1. I sing the mighty power of God  
That made the mountains rise;  
That spread the flowing seas abroad  
And built the lofty skies.  
I sing the wisdom that ordained  
The sun to rule the day;  
The moon shines full at God's command,  
And all the stars obey.

2. I sing the goodness of the Lord  
That filled the earth with food;  
God formed the creatures with a word  
And then pronounced them good.  
Lord, how Thy wonders are displayed,  
Where'er I turn my eyes;  
If I survey the ground I tread,  
Or gaze upon the skies!

3. There's not a plant or flower below  
But makes Thy glories known;  
And clouds arise, and tempests blow,  
By order from Thy throne;  
While all that borrows life from Thee  
Is ever in Thy care,  
And everywhere that we can be,  
Thou, God, art present there.

\*Charge and Benediction

\*Postlude

\*Please stand if able.



### *Visitors, Welcome to FPC*

First Presbyterian Church of Conroe welcomes you. 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](http://fpcConroe.org). There you can fill out the Visitor form online, or you can do so now, on page 17 of this bulletin. We appreciate you joining us for services today, whether online or in person.

# WELCOME

### *Copyright Information*

The Scripture quotations are from the New American Standard Version.  
Used by permission.

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

### Preparation

Opening Music

### Adoration

Introit

*In the Stillness of the Morning*

*Folts*

Call to Worship

\*Hymn #487

When Morning Gilds the Skies

1. When morning gilds the skies,  
My heart awaking cries:  
May Jesus Christ be praised!  
Alike at work and prayer  
To Jesus I repair:  
May Jesus Christ be praised!

3. Let earth's wide circle round  
In joyful notes resound:  
May Jesus Christ be praised!  
Let air and sea and sky  
From depth to height reply:  
May Jesus Christ be praised!

4. Be this, while life is mine,  
My canticle divine:  
May Jesus Christ be praised!  
Be this the eternal song  
Through all the ages long:  
May Jesus Christ be praised!

### Confession

\*Call to Confession

\*Prayer of Confession

Almighty God, you love us, but we do not love you fully. Too often we condone evil, hatred, and greed. God of grace, help us to admit our sin, turn to you, and receive forgiveness through Jesus Christ our Redeemer.

\*Silent Prayer of Confession

\*Assurance of Pardon

Friends, believe in the Good News.  
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

\*Gloria Patri

Welcome and Announcements

Minute for Mission

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

\*Doxology

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

\*Choral Response

Anthem

*Prelude and Fugue in G Major*

*Bach*

*Proclamation*

Scripture Readings

Luke 18:31-34

The Word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

## **Children's Time**

\*Hymn #253

I'll Praise My Maker

1. **I'll praise my Maker while I've breath;**

And when my voice is lost in death,  
Praise shall employ my nobler powers,

**My days of praise shall ne'er be past**

While life and thought and being last,  
Or immortality endures.

2. How happy they whose hopes rely

**On Israel's God, who made the sky**

And earth and seas with all their train;

Whose truth forever stands secure,

Who saves the oppressed and feeds the poor,

**And none shall find God's promise vain.**

Scripture Reading

Matthew 22:23-33.

Sermon

“How Does It Read To You?”  
*Bob Shepherd*

*Dedication*

\*Prayers of the People

\*Hymn #288

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

1. I sing the mighty power of God  
That made the mountains rise;  
That spread the flowing seas abroad  
And built the lofty skies.  
I sing the wisdom that ordained  
The sun to rule the day;  
The moon shines full at God's command,  
And all the stars obey.
2. I sing the goodness of the Lord  
That filled the earth with food;  
God formed the creatures with a word  
And then pronounced them good.  
Lord, how Thy wonders are displayed,  
Where'er I turn my eyes;  
If I survey the ground I tread,  
Or gaze upon the skies!

\*Charge and Benediction

\*Closing Response

3. There's not a plant or flower below  
But makes Thy glories known;  
And clouds arise, and tempests blow,  
By order from Thy throne;  
While all that borrows life from Thee  
Is ever in Thy care,  
And everywhere that we can be,  
Thou, God, art present there.

\*Postlude

\*Please stand if able.



## ***This Week's Scripture Readings***

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Scripture Reading:

Matthew 22:23-33

<sup>23</sup> On that day some Sadducees (who say there is no resurrection) came to Jesus and questioned Him, <sup>24</sup> **saying, "Teacher, Moses said, 'If a man dies having no children, his brother as next of kin shall marry his wife, and raise up **children for his brother.**'** <sup>25</sup> Now there were seven brothers among us; and the first married and died, and having no children, he left his wife to his brother. <sup>26</sup> It was the same also with the second brother, and the third, down to the seventh. <sup>27</sup> Last of all, the woman died. <sup>28</sup> In the resurrection, therefore, whose wife of the seven will she be? For they all had her **in marriage.**"

<sup>29</sup> But Jesus answered and said to them, **"You are mistaken,** since you do not understand the Scriptures nor the power of God. <sup>30</sup> For in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels in heaven. <sup>31</sup> But regarding the resurrection of the dead, have you not read what was spoken to you by God: <sup>32</sup> **'I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob'? He is not the God of the dead, but of the living.**" <sup>33</sup> When the crowds heard this, they were astonished at His teaching.

Scripture Reading:

Luke 18:31-34

<sup>31</sup> Now He took the twelve aside and said to them, **"Behold,** we are going up to Jerusalem, and all the things that have been written through the prophets about the Son of Man will be accomplished. <sup>32</sup> For He will be handed over to the Gentiles, and will be ridiculed, and abused, and spit upon, <sup>33</sup> and after they have flogged Him, they will kill Him; and on the third **day He will rise.**" <sup>34</sup> The disciples understood none of these things, and the meaning of this statement was hidden from them, and they did not comprehend the things that were said.

# *Notes*



### *Go Texan Parade*

Do you love a parade? FPC Conroe is participating in the annual Go Texan Parade, in downtown Conroe, on Saturday, February 18, at 1:00 p.m. Please consider joining the FPC youth and Presbyterian Day School as we promote our church and celebrate the start of the Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo. We have spots for riders and walkers, so there's a place for everyone who would like to participate. Let's show the community just how great our church is! If you'd like to join the fun, please reach out to Dena Sowden at [dsowden@fpcconroe.org](mailto:dsowden@fpcconroe.org) or Steve Scheffler at [scscheffler@sbcglobal.net](mailto:scscheffler@sbcglobal.net).

### *Membership Committee*

Anyone interested in joining the Membership Committee is invited to attend our monthly meetings, which are typically the first Sunday of each month, right after the 11:00 a.m. service. Our mission is to initiate new approaches to bring people to First Presbyterian Church, tracking new member participation in worship, Sunday School, and group activities, as well as providing opportunities to volunteer for church activities. If you are interested in joining this effort, please reach out to the chair of the Membership Committee, Steve Scheffler, at [scscheffler@sbcglobal.net](mailto:scscheffler@sbcglobal.net) or contact the church office.



## *Attention: Online Giving*

This is a reminder that the church has now changed our on-line giving provider from Acceptiva to Subsplash. We did this for two reasons: (1) cost - individual transaction costs have been reduced by ~37% and (2) flexibility – you can now give using your smart electronic devices in addition to using the link on the web-site.

There is one difference with Subsplash that needs clarifying. Subsplash takes out their fee out prior to sending the money to the church, whereas Acceptiva sent the gross amount and then charged the church. Thus, whether you opt to pay the fee or not, the church receives the net amount of your gift after the fee is subtracted. For example, if you gifted the church \$100 and the fee was 2.5%, the church would receive \$97.50 if you opted not to pay the fee and \$100.00 if you did opt to fund the fee. While we very much appreciate all those who choose to pay the fee, it is entirely the choice of the donor. The important thing to remember is that you will get credit on your giving statement for every single penny that you donate. So the person who donated \$100 without paying the fee will get credit for \$100, and the person who opted to pay the fee will get credit for \$102.50.

Finally, there are still a few people who are giving on a recurring basis through Acceptiva. We plan to completely phase out Acceptiva by February 15, so we need those that are giving through Acceptiva to switch over to Subsplash as soon as possible. If you have questions or need help, please contact me by email [fhkate@yahoo.com](mailto:fhkate@yahoo.com) or telephone (936) 521-9428.

Fred Kate; Church Treasurer

## *Bible Studies for Wednesday Night Live*

**Don't forget that "To Go/Take Out" is available for WNL dinners.**

If you are interested in participating in a Bible Study during Wednesday Night Live this year, or in the fall, please arrange for curriculum and room assignment. We still have plenty of space available for small group meetings. We want to offer *Financial Peace University* in the fall, but at this time we need more interest. Please let Dena Sowden know if this is something you or a family member may be interested in. [DSowden@FPCConroe.org](mailto:DSowden@FPCConroe.org) or (979) 255-2096.



### *Our Quilters Return After Two-Year Hiatus*

The 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Sew-A-Thon at First Presbyterian Church, Conroe, is planned for Saturday, February 25, 2023, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., in the Family Life Center. Newcomers are welcome! For those unacquainted with this annual joy, here is a brief description:

**Volunteers will make as many children's quilts for Bags of Love as possible.**

The bags are given to children in Montgomery County who are removed from their homes due to neglect, child abuse or parental substance abuse. The bags contain a quilt, a stuffed animal, age/gender appropriate books, toys, games, and toiletry items. Sixty quilts were donated to Bags of Love and 20 quilts were donated to Central Texas Linus Project for Uvalde in 2022. Any quilts not finished at the Sew-a-Thon will be completed by the Mission Sewing Group at their regular meetings on Wednesdays from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

**Don't sew? No problem!** We have a special place for you. Many volunteers are needed for sewing, ironing, tying knots, cooking lunch, and donating to the silent auction. Cash and in-kind donations are welcomed. Lunch will be served at 12:30 to all volunteers.

To register, call Liz at (713) 818-1006 or Linda at (281) 610-6162.

### *Confirmation Kickoff*

Confirmation Kickoff will be Sunday, March 26<sup>th</sup>, from 12:30-3:00 p.m., with a light lunch and mission project in the Youth Commons. Classes will be held **Wednesday nights after The Spark, with Confirmation Sunday on Mother's Day, May 14<sup>th</sup>**. If your child is entering the 9<sup>th</sup> grade or higher this school year, please contact Dena Sowden to get them on the schedule for Confirmation.

## Calendar of Weekly Events

<p><i>Sunday</i> <i>February 12</i></p>	<p>8:30 a.m. Communion and Prayer (Sanctuary)</p> <p>9:00 a.m. Fellowship (Bistro)</p> <p>9:00 a.m. Praise band (Gym)</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Bereans Sunday School Class with Bob Shepherd <b>(Rm. 105): The Book of Jude, "Contending for the faith".</b></p> <p>9:30 a.m. Fellowship Class with Cara Wood (Rm.204). Currently studying Max Lucado's book <i>Life Lessons from Genesis-New Beginnings</i>.</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Exploring Our Faith with Susan Buckley (Rm. 206) – Studying <i>When Christians Were Jews: The First Generation</i>, by Paula Fredriksen.</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Wanderers (Parlor) - <i>Where Is God When It Hurts?</i>, by Philip Yancey.</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 (Facebook Live <a href="http://www.com/fpcConroe">www.com/fpcConroe</a>)</p>
<p><i>Monday</i> <i>February 13</i></p>	<p>1:30 p.m. Monday Bible Study (Parlor)</p>
<p><i>Wednesday</i> <i>February 15</i></p>	<p>9:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Mission Sewing (Rm. 105)</p> <p>5:00 p.m. WNL Meal (Gym)</p> <p>5:45 p.m. The Spark (Gym)</p> <p>5:45 p.m. Handbells Practice (Sanctuary)</p> <p>6:00 p.m. GriefShare (Rm. 207)</p> <p>6:00 p.m. Small Bible Study Group (Room. 206)</p> <p>7:00-8:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Practice (Sanctuary)</p>

<p><i>Sunday February 19</i></p>	<p>8:30 a.m. Communion and Prayer (Sanctuary)</p> <p>9:00 a.m. Fellowship (Bistro)</p> <p>9:00 a.m. Praise band (Gym)</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Bereans Sunday School Class with Bob Shepherd <b>(Rm. 105): The Book of Jude, "Contending for the faith".</b></p> <p>9:30 a.m. Fellowship Class with Cara Wood (Rm.204). Currently studying Max Lucado's book <i>Life Lessons from Genesis- New Beginnings</i>.</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Exploring Our Faith with Susan Buckley (Rm. 206) – Studying <i>When Christians Were Jews: The First Generation</i>, by Paula Fredriksen.</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Wanderers (<i>Parlor</i>) - <i>Soul Detox</i>, by Craig Groesche.</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 (Facebook Live <a href="http://www.com/fpcConroe">www.com/fpcConroe</a> or YouTube.com/fpcConroe)</p>
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## Save the Date

February 18	Go Texan Parade
February 19	Gospel Music Sunday
February 22	Ash Wednesday
February 25	Sew-a-Thon
March 5	Annual Meeting of the Congregation
March 26	Confirmation Kickoff

## Prayer List

Members: John Gutekunst, Rev. David Green, the family of Ben Hughes, Dick Shack, Audrey Christie, Ron Bailey, Alice Helms, Polly Miller, Cindy Watson, Joanne Deaver, Karen Baughman, Jean Ball, Roy Kessler, Mary Hudson, George Shackelford, Kim Phillip, Flem Keathley, Carolyn Hebert, Paul Ivison, Don Myer, Margaret Carson, Fay Harrison, Clyde Cruikshank, Virginia Tamborello, Jeanne Leverette, Virginia Olivier, Tom Braaten

Members' Relatives & Friends: The family of Ralph B. (FPC friends), Jean M. (Haller), Sasha, the family of George L., Eddie S. & Harry S., Jr. (Havens), Cherlyn R., Carrie U., Gloria S. (Ganek), Ethan H. (Lowery), John R. (Hethershaw), Mitch B. (Blott), James M., Patty M., Enrique E. (Moore), Jack W. (Cannon), William W. (Weinburger), Sherry B. (Harrison), Jeffrey H. & Leah H. (Heasley), Deborah R. (Rose), Katie B. (Pohla), Wendy S. (Adamson), Krissy P. & family (Kasmiersky), Judy N. (Dukes), Sherry M. (Garrison), Lee H. (Helms), Caleb & Michaela W. (Henderson), Lena & her children (Webb), Gerald H. (Roberts), Tamara B. (Harrison), Sydney H. and Martha K. (Juhl), Tucker H. (Hudson), Nikkia (Wilmerly), Virginia R. (Smith), Dana K. (Shorts)

## Good Things to Know

### *Attendance*

Sunday, February 5<sup>th</sup>

8:30 a.m. Worship Service - 24

11:00 a.m. Worship Service - 126

Online Worship Attendance - 42

Total Attendance – 192

### ***Today's Worship Leader***

Mark Sowden/Youth



## Visitor Form

*Thank you for coming! We would love to get to know you.*

Please complete this form by tearing it off and dropping it in the offertory plate. Or, if you would prefer to complete this form online, please visit our website at [www.fpcConroe.org](http://www.fpcConroe.org).

### Contact Information

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Birth date (MM/DD/YYYY): \_\_\_\_\_

### Children's Information

Children's Names (Please indicate last name if different):

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Getting Involved in the Life of the Church

(Please check all that apply)

- ☐ I would like more information about membership.
- ☐ I would like information about baptism.
- ☐ I would like to be contacted by a Stephen Minister.
- ☐ Contact me about getting involved in the church.

### Please contact me regarding:

_____ Adult Sunday School	_____ Bible Studies
_____ Children & Nursery	_____ Men's groups
_____ Women's groups	_____ Greeters
_____ Handbells/Choir	_____ Youth choir

Other:

### How did you first hear about us? (Please circle one)

Facebook	Drive by	Website
Friend/Family	Other	

## Ministry Leaders

Administration	Cheryl Nichols (2025, Chair)
Building & Grounds	Stephan Tibbetts (2025, Chair)
Care-Prayer	Bob Shepherd (2023, Chair)
Discipleship	Mark Sowden (2024, Chair) Dena Sowden (2023) Jeselyn Graham (2024) Alex Williams (2024)
Fellowship	Audrey Christie (2024, Chair)
Membership	Steve Scheffler (2025)
Missions	Bobby Ezell (2024, Chair) Catherine Scheffler (2025)
PDS	Sharon Walker (2025, Chair)
Worship	Chuck and Janet Pohla (2023, Chairs)

## Staff and Church Information

### Staff

Rev. Dr. David H. Green, Senior Pastor  
Dena Sowden, Director of Christian Education  
Sharon VanSchuyver, Director of Publications  
Stephanie Cooke, Music Director  
Rolethial McKelvey, Accompanist  
Jackye Cannon and Jane Corbit, Bookkeeping  
Yvonne Rose, Office Manager  
Shirley Dukes, Parish Nurse



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