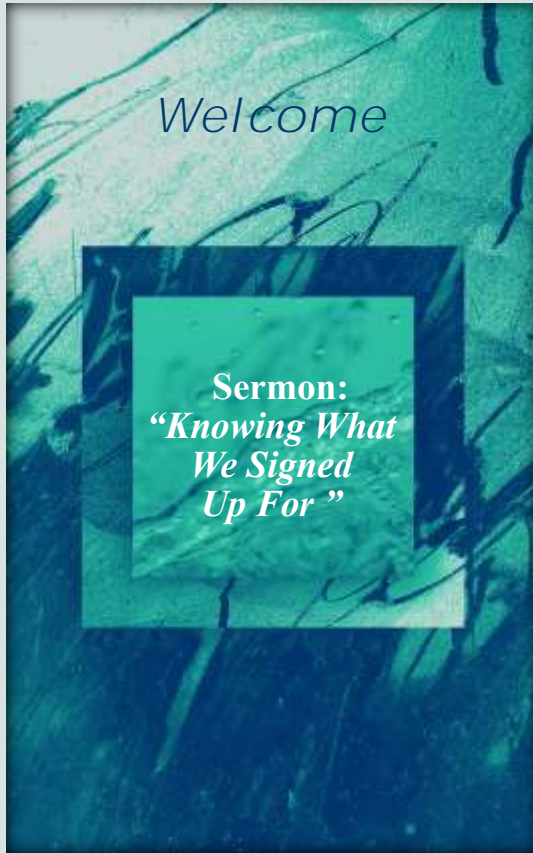


First Presbyterian Church

January 12, 2025



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Baptism of the Lord Sunday

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. 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

Elizabeth Laletas

Today's Flowers

Today's flowers are given to the glory of God by Chuck and Janet Pohla, in celebration of their 16th anniversary.

Last Week's Attendance, January 5

8:30 a.m. Worship Service - 16

11:00 a.m. Worship Service - 132

Online Worship Attendance - 37

Total Attendance – 185

8:30 A.M. WORSHIP WITH COMMUNION

Preparing to Receive God's Word

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

Come, all you whose souls thirst for the living God.
We come in search of help and hope.
Come, you who are acquainted with grief.
We come bearing our doubts, our wounds, and our fears.
Come, you who are in need of good news.
We come in search of joy, truth, and light.
Come and find refuge in God your rock.
Let us again praise our rock and redeemer.

*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.

*Please stand if able.

*Call to Confession

*Silent Prayer of Confession

*Assurance of Pardon

We expect the fire of judgment, but we are greeted with grace. We expect God to yell at us, but we are called gently by name. We expect God to be angry forever, but we are embraced in love.

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

Isaiah 43:1-7; Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"Knowing What We Signed Up For"

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 #309

Of the Father's Love Begotten

1. Of the Father's Love begotten,
Ere the worlds began to be,
He is Alpha and Omega,
He the source, the ending He,
Of the things that are, that have been,
And that future years shall see,
Evermore and evermore!

3. Christ, to Thee with God the Father,
And, O Holy Ghost, to Thee,
Hymn and chant and high thanksgiving
And unwearied praises be:
Honor, glory, and dominion,
And eternal victory,
Evermore and evermore! Amen.

*Charge and Benediction

*Postlude

Copyright Information

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"Arise, Your Light Is Come!"

by Ruth Duck and William H. Walter

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CCL # 2714264

"You Are Mine"

arr. by Mark Hayes

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11:00 A.M. WORSHIP SERVICE

Preparing to Receive God's Word

Opening Music

Welcome and Announcements

Introit (Hymn #411) *Arise, Your Light Is Come!*

Call to Worship

Come, all you whose souls thirst for the living God.
We come in search of help and hope.
Come, you who are acquainted with grief.
We come bearing our doubts, our wounds, and our fears.
Come, you who are in need of good news.
We come in search of joy, truth, and light.
Come and find refuge in God your rock.
Let us again praise our rock and redeemer.

*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.

*Please stand if able.

4. Breathe on me, Breath of God,
So shall I never die,
But live with Thee the perfect life
Of Thine eternity.

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession

Almighty and everlasting God, in the waters of baptism you anointed your Son to offer your life in service to all. In the same waters you unite us to Christ and make us new creatures in Him. We, the frail creatures of a passing day, come once more into your presence to seek your forgiveness and renewal, unworthy though we are.

We confess that we cannot live without your presence, and when we try the results are disastrous. Life is too hard and the duty too large. We try to worship, but how soon our minds wander. Too often we are neglectful of your kindness and scornful of your power. So often in the hymns we call you the fount of every blessing and yet how rebellious we are. So easily we call you our Lord and yet we are so disobedient. We remember especially those sins that are the present burden of our minds.

Touch us once more with your grace. Speak to us again of your forgiveness, that we go out in joy and sing songs of praises. Wash our hearts clean of sin, that we may become a new creation in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

*Silent Prayer of Confession

*Assurance of Pardon

We expect the fire of judgment, but we are greeted with grace. We expect God to yell at us, but we are called gently by name. We expect God to be angry forever, but we are embraced in love.

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

You Are Mine

Hayes

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 43:1-7

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*Hymn #485

To God Be the Glory

1. To God be the glory, great things He hath done!
So loved He the world that He gave us His Son,
Who yielded His life an atonement for sin,
And opened the life-gate that all may go in.

Refrain:

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
Let the earth hear His voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
Let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,
And give Him the glory: great things He hath done!

2. Great things He hath taught us, great things He hath done,
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
But purer, and higher, and greater will be
Our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see. (Refrain)

Scripture Reading

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

Sermon

"Knowing What We Signed Up For"

Rev. Seth Saathoff

Responding to the Word

Prayers of the People

*Hymn #309

Of the Father's Love Begotten

1. Of the Father's Love begotten,
Ere the worlds began to be,
He is Alpha and Omega,
He the source, the ending He,
Of the things that are, that have been,
And that future years shall see,
Evermore and evermore!
3. Christ, to Thee with God the Father,
And, O Holy Ghost, to Thee,
Hymn and chant and high thanksgiving
And unwearied praises be:
Honor, glory, and dominion,
And eternal victory,
Evermore and evermore! Amen.

*Charge and Benediction

*Choral Response

Shine, Jesus, Shine

1. Lord, the light of Your love is shining,
In the midst of the darkness shining;
Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us,
Set us free by the truth You now bring us;
Shine on me, Shine on me.

Refrain:

Shine, Jesus, shine, fill this land with the Father's glory.
Blaze, Spirit blaze, set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy.
Send forth Your word, Lord, and let there be light.

*Postlude

This Week's Scripture Readings

Isaiah 43:1-7

¹ But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name; you are mine. ² When you pass through the waters, I will be with you, and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. ³ For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Cush and Seba in exchange for you. ⁴ Because you are precious in my sight and honored and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life. ⁵ Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; ⁶ **I will say to the north, "Give them up," and to the south, "Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth -** ⁷ everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

¹⁵ As the people were filled with expectation and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶ **John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water, but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the strap of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷ His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."**

²¹ Now when all the people were baptized and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, ²² and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, **"You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."**

Notes



Reception for Rev. Callie Candee Today

Today, following the 11:00 service, please plan to attend a reception for Rev. **Callie Candee**. During FPC's pastoral transition, Rev. Candee was able and willing to step up and help out where needed. Most notably, she has handled Pastoral Care for our congregation since May 2023. Callie has prayed with members and their families before surgery, been there by phone or in person to talk with those in need, and coordinate care with the Care & Prayer team and Stephen ministry. She has led Wednesday Night Live classes and been a spiritual guide. Rev. Candee was also available to preach on Sundays, and when needed, officiate funeral services. We wish to thank her for her role in seeing us through some of our most challenging times. God has indeed blessed FPC-Conroe with Callie's loving service to our church.

Called Congregational Meeting January 19

The session has approved calling a congregational meeting for Sunday, January 19, 2025 during the 11:00 a.m. service. This is for the purpose of the 2024 Officer Nominating Committee presenting a candidate for the position of Trustee for the Class of 2027.

Wednesday Night Live Resumes in January

Beginning January 15 we will have eight weeks of studies, ending with our **pancake supper on Ash Wednesday, March 5**. If you're interested in leading a bible study, small group or other event during that time, please contact Dena Sowden DSowden@FPCConroe.org.

20s, 30s, and 40s Get Together

Friday, January 17, 6:00-9:00 p.m.
511 Blue Threadfin Ct. Willis, TX

Join us for food, games, and fellowship!
Childcare will be offered at the church.
Contact Katy Saathoff (806) 239-7029 for details.

Fellowship Sunday School Class

Fellowship Sunday School class plans to remain together and would welcome new members. Debra Geddes, Glenna Lang and Glenn Elms plan to take turns teaching. We meet at 9:30 a.m. on Sundays, in Room 204. Over the next **couple of weeks, we'll be looking for ideas for the upcoming studies. Please join us** if you would like to help decide our path. This is a great opportunity to get plugged in and participate in our Sunday morning classes. Please contact Glenn Elms at geatelms80@consolidated.net. Hope to see you soon!

Sunday Greeters Needed

FPC Conroe is in need of more greeters, so we are asking Sunday school classes to provide 2+ greeters one Sunday a month. The schedule is as follows:

1st Sunday – Seekers Bible Study

3rd Sunday – Bereans Class

2nd Sunday – Fellowship Class

4th Sunday – Exploring Our Faith

If you do not attend a Sunday school class, but would like to volunteer, please contact Judy Weinburger at (713) 202-8458, or by email at garyjudyweinburger@gmail.com. Thanks to everyone who has volunteered to welcome all people to our church. May the Lord be with each of you.

Fourteenth Annual Sew-a-thon

Sew Much Love, the 14th Annual Sew-a-thon, will be held 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 22, 2025, in the Family Life Center of First Presbyterian Church of Conroe. At this all-day event, participants will make children's quilts for Bags of Love. The bags are given to children in Montgomery County who are removed from their homes by Child Protective Services. These bags contain a quilt, stuffed animal, age/gender-appropriate books, games and toiletry items. Don't sew? No problem, we have a special place for you, such as ironing or tying quilts.

A delicious lunch, prepared by Shirley Dukes and her team, will be served at 12:30 to all volunteers.

Registration for this event will begin on February 2nd
and end on February 16th.

Youth Chili Cook-Off

Sunday, February 2, 2025

5-7 pm

Family Life Center

BRING THE HEAT!

Think you make the best chili this side of the Pecos??

Then bring your best chili recipe and fixins

and let us decide!

Trophies for 1st-3rd Place

&

People's Choice Best Table

Not a chef but like to eat??

Bring your appetite and plenty of \$\$ for voting ~ Each vote is \$1

Vote early and vote often!

(Padding your friend's voting bucket is highly encouraged!)

For more information visit FPCCConroe.Org

Proceeds support our FPC Youth Missions and Activities

First Presbyterian Church of Conroe

Dena Sowden

Director of Christian Education

Cell 979-255-2096

DSowden@FPCCConroe.Org



WNL Class: Theology 101

Led by Rev. Seth Saathoff

Justification. Sanctification. Incarnation. Atonement. Christology. Pneumatology. Ecclesiology. Eschatology. Hypostatic union.

Whether you're new to the faith or a lifelong Christian, you may have trouble articulating what any of these terms mean. Perhaps you've heard them in church before, maybe you vaguely remember your middle school Sunday School teacher talking about them, or perhaps your sweet Baptist next-door neighbor mentioned one of these words in passing and you still have no idea what they were talking about. Whatever the case, this is the class for you.

During this Wednesday Night Live class, Rev. Saathoff will offer a broad overview of key theological ideas and terms. This class will be taught with the assumption that you are encountering these concepts for the very first time, so it **is perfect for beginners, those who haven't been to church in a while, or those who could use a refresher course.**

Need Your Help Closing Doors

With the colder weather setting in, some of the church's exterior doors are not coming to a complete close on their own. We ask that as you leave the building, regardless of which doors you're exiting from, that you make sure the door(s) close completely behind you before walking away. This simple safety measure would make sure our campus is secure for those entering after you. Thank you for helping out in this way.

Directory Changes

The Membership Committee is working on an updated listing/supplement for the recently printed Member Directory. If your information (address, phone #, email, etc.) was incorrect or needs to be updated, please send your information to Steve Scheffler at scscheffler@sbcglobal.net BY NO LATER THAN JANUARY 31. We will print an updated page or pages that will be made available to all church members.

Calendar of Weekly Events

<p><i>Sunday</i> <i>January 12</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 letter to the church at Ephesus. 9:30 a.m. Fellowship Class (Rm. 204) Study of Moses, taught by Debra 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) Study of the Apostle Paul's letter to the Philippians 9:30 a.m. FPC Kid's 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. Reception for Rev. Callie Candee (Narthex) 5:00-7:00 p.m. The Spark (Gym)</p>
<p><i>Monday</i> <i>January 13</i></p>	<p>1:30 p.m. Monday Bible Study (Parlor)</p>
<p><i>Tuesday</i> <i>January 14</i></p>	<p>10:00 a.m. Ruth Circle (Parlor) 5:00 p.m. Lydia Circle (Youth area)</p>
<p><i>Wednesday</i> <i>January 15</i></p>	<p>9:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Mission Sewing (Rm. 105) 4:00 p.m. Small Group Study with Gordon Juhl. Studying Timothy Keller's devotional "God's Wisdom for Navigating Life". 5:30 p.m. Wednesday Night Live Meal (FLC) 5:45 p.m. Handbells Practice (Sanctuary) 6:00 p.m. Bible Study with Rev. Saathoff (Rm. 105) "Jesus and Me" for Youth (Youth Commons area) 7:00-8:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Practice (Choir Room)</p>

<p><i>Sunday January 19</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) Study of Moses, taught by Debra 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>Study of the Apostle Paul's letter to the Philippians</p> <p>9:30 a.m. FPC Kid's 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>12:30 p.m. Session Meeting</p> <p>5:00-7:00 p.m. The Spark (Gym)</p>
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Save the Date

January 19	Called Congregational Meeting
January 20	PDS/CISD Holiday (Martin Luther King Jr. Day)
February 2	Annual Chili Cookoff
February 17	PDS/CISD Holiday (President's Day)
February 22	14 th Annual Sew-a-thon
	Go Texan Parade
February 23	Gospel Music Sunday

Prayer List

Members: The family of Don Myers, Roy Kessler, Judy Weinburger, Ruth Masters, Paula Shepherd, Kyle Walker, Glenna Lang, Joe Clark, Jeannene Wendt, Reed Watson, John Lancaster, Nedra Murphy, Kari Elliott, Tildon Hebert, David Green, Ron Bailey, Joanne Deaver, Alice Helms, Polly Miller, Jean Ball, Mary Hudson, Paul Ivison, Virginia Tamborello, Jeanne Leverette, Virginia Olivier

Members' Relatives & Friends: Jerry W., Lisa W. (Webb), Celia G. (Hernandez-Garcia), Richard R. (Rose), George G., Karl W. (Watt), Ted M. (Rose), Wes K. (Yates), Alicia I., James I., and Ron S. (Bailey), Susie K. (Davis), Anna and Wendy C. (Harshbarger), Brooke J., Danielle S. & kids, Kelly D., Stephanie R. (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), Lisa J. (Miller), Shannon L. (Diamond), Rick J., Sydney H. and Martha K. (Juhl), Joe T. Sr and caregivers, Harry S., Jr. and family (Havens), Steve T., Lonnie H. and Vivian M. (Hammonds), Kim H. (Ganek), John R. (Hethershaw), James M., Patty M., Enrique E. (Moore), William W. (Weinburger), Jeffrey H. & Leah H. (Heasley), Katie B. (Pohla), Wendy S. (Adamson), Sherry M. (Garrison), Lee H. (Helms), Caleb & Michaela W. (Henderson), Gerald H. (Roberts), Tucker H. (Hudson)



*Thank You
for
Joining Us*

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