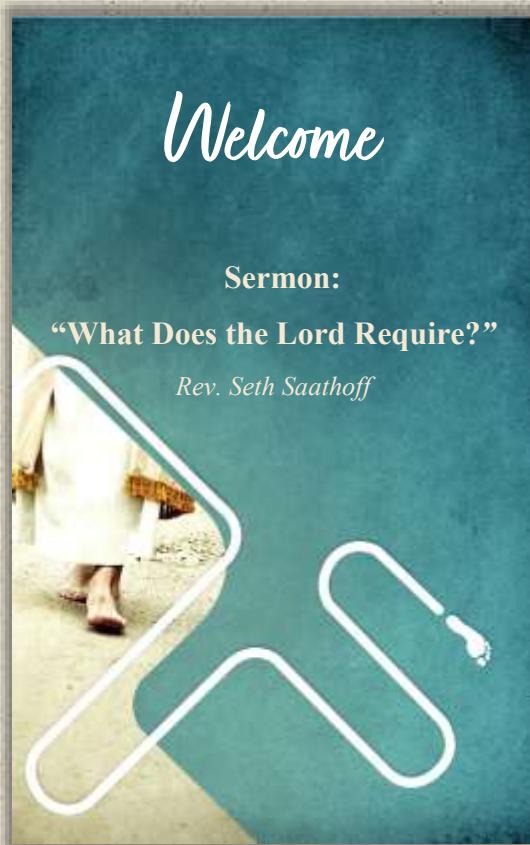


First Presbyterian Church

February 1, 2026



8:30 Worship with Communion	Page 3
11:00 Worship Service	Page 6
Scripture Readings	Page 11
The Connection	Page 13
Prayer List	Page 16
Calendar of Events	Page 18

Communion Sunday

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

Flower Dedications from Last Sunday

Today's flowers are given to the glory of God by Annetta and Soren Rose, in celebration of their 65th wedding anniversary, and by Bill and Linda Harshbarger, in celebration of 55th wedding anniversary.

Last Week's Attendance, January 25

8:30 a.m. Worship Service - Inclement

11:00 a.m. Worship Service - Weather Day

Online Worship Attendance - 57

Total Attendance - 57

8:30 A.M. WORSHIP WITH COMMUNION

Preparing to Receive God's Word

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

Wonderful is our God, who gathers the poor of the earth.
Glorious is our God, who fills the hungry with good things.
Wonderful is God, who shows mercy to the merciful.
Glorious is our God, who gives vision to the pure in heart.
Wonderful is our God, who adopts the peacemakers.
Glorious is our God, who calls us his children.

*Hymn

Taste and See

Refrain:
Taste and see,
taste and see
the goodness of the Lord.
O taste and see,
taste and see
the goodness of the Lord,
of the Lord.

1. I will bless the Lord at all times,
Praise shall always be on my lips;
my soul shall glory in the Lord
for God has been so good to me. (Refrain)

2. Glorify the Lord with me,
Together let us all praise God's name.
I called the Lord who answered me;
from all my troubles I was set free. (Refrain)

3. Worship the Lord, all you people.
You'll want for nothing if you ask.
Taste and see that the Lord is good;
In God we need put all our trust. (Refrain)

*Call to Confession

*Silent Prayer of Confession

*Assurance of Pardon

In Jesus Christ, mercy meets us, peace is spoken over us, and grace is stronger than our failures.

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

Matthew 5:1-12; Micah 6:1-8

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Sermon

“What Does the Lord Require?”

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

- 1. We are called to be God's people,**
Showing by our lives His grace,
One in heart and one in spirit,
Sign of hope for all the race.
Let us show how He has changed us
And remade us as His own;
Let us share our life together
As we shall around His throne.
- 2. We are called to be God's servants,**
Working in His world today;
Taking His own task upon us,
All His sacred words obey.
Let us rise, then, to His summons,
Dedicate to Hime our all,
That we may be faithful servants,
Quick to answer now His call.
- 3. We are called to be God's prophets,**
Speaking for the truth and right;
Standing firm for godly justice,
Bringing evil into light.
Let us seek the courage needed,
Our high calling to fulfill,
That we all may know the blessing
Of the doing of God's will.

*Charge and Benediction

*Postlude

11:00 A.M. WORSHIP SERVICE

Preparing to Receive God's Word

Opening Music

Welcome and Announcements

Introit *Lord of Light, Your Name Outshining*

Call to Worship

Wonderful is our God, who gathers the poor of the earth.
Glorious is our God, who fills the hungry with good things.
Wonderful is God, who shows mercy to the merciful.
Glorious is our God, who gives vision to the pure in heart.
Wonderful is our God, who adopts the peacemakers.
Glorious is our God, who calls us his children.

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O taste and see,
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of the Lord.

1. I will bless the Lord at all times,
Praise shall always be on my lips;
my soul shall glory in the Lord
for God has been so good to me. (Refrain)

2. Glorify the Lord with me,
Together let us all praise God's name.
I called the Lord who answered me;
from all my troubles I was set free. (Refrain)

*Please stand if able.

3. Worship the Lord, all you people.
You'll want for nothing if you ask.
Taste and see that the Lord is good;
In God we need put all our trust. (Refrain)

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, Jesus calls blessed those the world overlooks, but we confess that we chase comfort more than compassion.

We trust our own strength instead of admitting our need for you. We **avoid mourning when it would open our hearts to others' pain. We** prize being right over being meek, and seek control rather than your kingdom.

We confess that we hunger for success more than righteousness, withhold mercy when forgiveness costs us, and settle for shallow peace instead of true reconciliation.

We shrink back when faith brings risk, and remain silent when truth demands courage.

Forgive us, O God. Make us poor in spirit, gentle in strength, hungry for justice, rich in mercy, and faithful even when the path is hard. By your grace, shape us into people of the kingdom Jesus proclaims. Amen.

*Silent Prayer of Confession

*Assurance of Pardon

In Jesus Christ, mercy meets us, peace is spoken over us, and grace is stronger than our failures.

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

We Are One in Christ

Chepponis

*Doxology

*Prayer of Dedication

*Choral Response

The Word

Scripture Readings

Matthew 5:1-12; Micah 6:1-8

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

“What Does the Lord Require?”

Rev. Seth Saathoff

Responding to God's Word

Affirmation of Faith

(The Nicene Creed)

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated on the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Sacrament of Communion

Invitation to the Table

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

Words of Institution

Distribution of the Elements

Communion Anthem

Prayer of Thanksgiving

*Hymn

We Are Called to Be God's People

1. We are called to be God's people,

Showing by our lives His grace,
One in heart and one in spirit,
Sign of hope for all the race.
Let us show how He has changed us
And remade us as His own;
Let us share our life together
As we shall around His throne.

2. We are called to be God's servants,

Working in His world today;
Taking His own task upon us,
All His sacred words obey.
Let us rise, then, to His summons,
Dedicate to Hime our all,
That we may be faithful servants,
Quick to answer now His call.

3. We are called to be God's prophets,

Speaking for the truth and right;
Standing firm for godly justice,
Bringing evil into light.
Let us seek the courage needed,
Our high calling to fulfill,
That we all may know the blessing
Of the doing of God's will.

*Charge and Benediction

*Choral Response

This Little Light of Mine

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine
ev'ry day, ev'ry day, ev'ry day, ev'ry day,
I'm gonna let my little light shine.

*Postlude

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"We Are Called to Be God's People"

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"Lord of Light, Your Name Outshining"

Text: Copyright Union of Welsh Independents. Used by permission.
Music: Copyright © 1942, renewal 1970 by Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188.
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"This Little Light of Mine"

Arr. by Neil A. Johnson
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"We Are One in Christ"

By James Chepponis
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This Week's Scripture Readings

Matthew 5:1-12

¹ Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, ² and he began to teach them.

He said:

³ **“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**

⁴ Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

⁵ Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

⁶ Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

⁷ Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

⁸ Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

⁹ Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they will be called children of God.

¹⁰ Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹ **“Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me.** ¹² Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Micah 6:1-8

¹ Listen to what the Lord says:

“Stand up, plead my case before the mountains; let the hills hear what you have to say.

² **“Hear, you mountains, the Lord’s accusation; listen, you everlasting foundations of the earth. For the Lord has a case against his people; he is lodging a charge against Israel.**

³ **“My people, what have I done to you? How have I burdened you? Answer me.** ⁴ I brought you up out of Egypt and redeemed you from the land of slavery. I sent Moses to lead you, also Aaron and Miriam. ⁵ My people, remember what Balak king of Moab plotted and what Balaam son of Beor answered. Remember your journey from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the righteous acts of the Lord.”

⁶ With what shall I come before the Lord and bow down before the exalted God? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? ⁷ Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousand rivers of olive oil? Shall I offer my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul? ⁸ He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.

Notes



Annual Chili Cookoff is Today

Our 16th Annual Chili Cook-Off is today, from 5:00-7:00 p.m. Come out and be the judge to determine the best chili in the house! Entry and tastings are free, but be sure you bring lots of \$\$\$ to help your favorite team win. We'll have non-chili options, great times, live music and lots of good-hearted competition! Proceeds help offset the cost of Youth Mission Trips and activities.

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE FPC YOUTH GROUP!!



Wednesday Night Live Activities

WNL events will include a Women's Bible Study group with childcare provided, and children 4 and up can participate in "Jesus And Me" with Ms. Amber in Rm. 203, starting at 5:30 p.m. Also, Pastor Seth will be teaching a class in the library based on the book, "Being Presbyterian in the Bible Belt."

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.

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1xoFy67DqrB1Z58XiSOknjjtL41HEL-LZXYpA7iaglUc/edit?usp=sharing>

Crocheting Stuffed Animals



Interested in learning how to crochet, or do you love to crochet and want to gather with friends to help create stuffed animals that will be donated to help various children's organizations? If so, Kaleigh will have a kickoff class on Sunday, February 22, at 12:30 p.m. in Room 105. She will also have a crochet room during the Sew-A-Thon.

If you are interested in participating, contact Kaleigh Riggs-Harpur or Dena Sowden for details.

Quilt Raffle

The Mission Sewing Group will be holding a Quilt Raffle in conjunction with the upcoming Sew-a-Thon.

Tickets will be for sale at the Sew-a-Thon Registration Table, in the Narthex, before and after the 11:00 Service for the next four Sundays, and during the Sew-a-Thon on February 28. Tickets are \$ 5.00 donation for one ticket and \$20.00 donation for 5 tickets. The drawing will be at 2:00 p.m. on February 28.

The winner of the 2026 Quilt Raffle will choose either one quilt on display or one quilt from our "stash." Winner's choice!

Proceeds will go to the FPC Forever Fund.

*Registration for the Fifteenth Annual Sew-a-thon Begins
Today Through February 22nd*

Registration begins today for the 15th Annual Sew-a-thon, which will be held on February 28th, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., in the Family Life Center. Stop by the registration table, located in the Narthex, and sign up to participate. At this all day event, participants **will make children's quilts for Bags of Love and Project Linus**. The quilts, along with age/gender appropriate books, games, toys, and toiletry items, go in the Bags of Love which are given to children in Montgomery County who are removed from their homes by Children's Protective Services. The quilts donated to Project Linus, Montgomery County Chapter, are **given to children hospitalized in local hospitals**. If you don't sew, there are other ways you can participate, such as ironing and tying quilts. If you are unavailable on the 28th, you can still help by contributing some of the items that go in the Bags of Love. You will find a list of needed items below. You may also make a monetary contribution to the project by writing a check to FPC, with a notation Bags of Love. Items (new or gently used) are also needed for the Silent Auction. Proceeds from the Silent Auction fund the work of the Mission Sewing Group. If you have questions or want more information, call Liz Kessler (713) 818-1006 or Linda Harshbarger (281) 610-6162.

Items Needed for the Bags of Love

Stuffed animals	Coloring books	Crayons
Books – all ages	Toddler toys	Baby rattles
Boy toys – all ages	Baby teething rings	Baby 3-in-1
Kids toothbrush	Kids toothpaste	Notebooks
Calculators	Kids 3-in-1 (body wash, shampoo, conditioner)	

**Items should be small enough to fit in Bags of Love*

Looking for Mo Men!



Interested in a weekend filled with food, fun and fellowship - in the beautiful Texas Hill Country? The annual Men's Conference at Mo-Ranch takes place Friday, May 1, through Sunday, May 3. It is a chance to experience incredible sermons, engaging workshops on a variety of "manly" topics (learn how to cook a brisket or how to play pickleball), as well as various Bible-oriented classes), and enjoy the gorgeous scenery from throughout the facility. You can even test your bravery on the famous Mo-Ranch slide into the refreshing Guadalupe River. Last year, four men from our church "tested" the waters; this year, we're looking for more! We'll leave from the church on Friday morning and return by mid-afternoon on Sunday.

For more information, contact Steve Scheffler (scscheffler@sbcglobal.net or 281.851.1690). We will partner with The Woodlands Community Presbyterian Church

to reserve our spots by early March, so give it some thought and save the date! You can also visit <https://www.moranch.org/attend-a-conference/adult-conferences/mens-conference-2/> for more details.



Prayer List

Members: Ron Bailey, 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), 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)

Calendar of Weekly Events

<i>Sunday</i> February 1	<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 "The Promise of Heaven" STUDY guide (not the book), by Dr. David Jeremiah, 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>10:35 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. Committee Meetings</p> <p>3:00 p.m. "A Year Through the Bible" Study (Rm. 105)</p> <p>5:00-7:00 p.m. Annual Chili Cookoff (Gym)</p>
<i>Monday</i> February 2	1:30 p.m. Monday Bible Study (Parlor)
<i>Tuesday</i> February 3	10:00 a.m. Rebecca Circle (Parlor)
<i>Wednesday</i> February 4	9:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Mission Sewing (Rm. 105) 4:00 p.m. Small Group Study (Rm. 206) 5:00 p.m. Wednesday Night Live Meal (Gym) 5:45 p.m. Handbells Practice (Sanctuary) 6:00 p.m. Bible Studies/Activities 7:00-8:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Practice (Choir Room)

*Sunday
February 8*

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 “The Promise of Heaven” STUDY guide (not the book),** by Dr. David Jeremiah, 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)
10:35 a.m. Praise band (Sanctuary)
11:00 a.m. Worship Service (Sanctuary and Facebook Live www.com/fpcConroe or [YouTube.com/fpcConroe](https://www.youtube.com/fpcConroe))
4:00 p.m. “A Year Through the Bible” Study (Rm. 105)
5:00-7:00 p.m. The Spark (Gym)

Save the Date

February 16 **President’s Day (PDS/CISD holiday)**

February 18 Ash Wednesday Service (End of WNL)

February 21 Go Texan Parade
New Member Dinner

February 28 15th Annual Sew-a-Thon

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

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