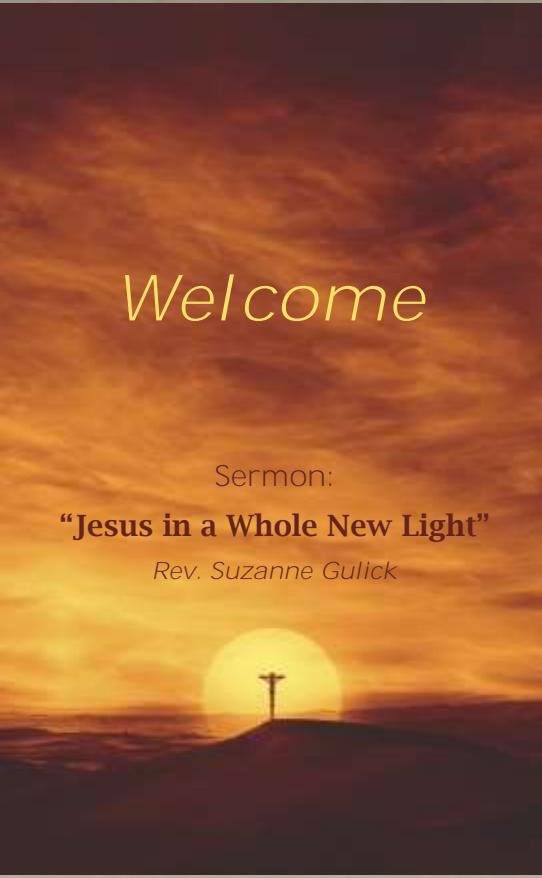


First Presbyterian Church

February 11, 2024



Welcome

Sermon:

“Jesus in a Whole New Light”

Rev. Suzanne Gulick

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11:00 Worship Service	Page 5
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8:30 A.M. WORSHIP WITH COMMUNION

Preparation

Prelude

Adoration

Call to Worship

Leader: God summons the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.

People: Every time we encounter beauty, God's perfection shines forth, calling to us.

Leader: God's revelation is a devouring fire, burning away our doubts.

People: The heavens declare God's righteousness, for God is the creator, the redeemer, and the judge.

*Hymn #345

Dear Lord and Father of Mankind

1. Dear Lord and Father of mankind,
 Forgive our foolish ways;
 Reclothe us in our rightful mind,
 In purer lives Thy service find,
 In deeper reverence, praise.

2. In simple trust like theirs who heard,
 Beside the Syrian sea,
 The gracious calling of the Lord,
 Let us, like them, without a word
 Rise up and follow Thee.

4. Drop Thy still dews of quietness,
 Till all our strivings cease;
 Take from our souls the strain and stress,
 And let our ordered lives confess
 The beauty of Thy peace.

Confession

*Call to Confession

*Silent Prayer of Confession

*Assurance of Pardon

Hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ, and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us.

Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun! Friends, believe in the gospel.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

*Gloria Patri

Welcome and Announcements

Prayer for illumination

Proclamation

Scripture Reading

2 Kings 2:1-12

2 Corinthians 4:3-6

Mark 9:2-9

Sermon

“Jesus in a Whole New Light”

Rev. Suzanne Gulick

Dedication

The Sacrament of Communion

Invitation to the Table

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

Words of Institution

Distribution of the Elements

Prayer of Thanksgiving

*Hymn #310

Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee

1. Jesus, the very thought of Thee
With sweetness fills my breast;
But sweeter far Thy face to see,
And in Thy presence rest.
3. O hope of every contrite heart,
O joy of all the meek,
To those who fall, how kind Thou art!
How good to those who seek!
5. Jesus, our only joy be Thou,
As Thou our prize wilt be;
Jesus, be Thou our glory now,
And through eternity.

*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. 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.

11:00 A.M. WORSHIP SERVICE

Preparation

Opening Music

Adoration

Introit *How Lovely, Lord*

Call to Worship

Leader: God summons the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.

People: Every time we encounter beauty, God's perfection shines forth, calling to us.

Leader: God's revelation is a devouring fire, burning away our doubts.

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4. Drop Thy still dews of quietness,
 Till all our strivings cease;
 Take from our souls the strain and stress,
 And let our ordered lives confess
 The beauty of Thy peace.

Confession

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession

Almighty God, when we encounter beauty and love and wonder in the world, so often we seek to control it, to contain it. Forgive us for all the ways we seek to pull things under our power, for the ways we fashion the world and put ourselves first. We are selfish, God. We push aside your command to love in order to seek comfort. Heavenly parent, we take this opportunity to acknowledge our lies and our denial, laying bare our hearts and minds before you now.

*Silent Prayer of Confession

*Assurance of Pardon

Hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ, and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us. Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun! Friends, believe in the gospel.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

*Gloria Patri

Welcome and Announcements

Minute for Mission

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

*Doxology

*Prayer of Dedication

*Choral Response

Anthem

Sunshine in My Soul

Coates

Proclamation

Scripture Reading

2 Kings 2:1-12
2 Corinthians 4:3-6

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Children's Time

*Hymn #76

My Song Is Love Unknown

1. **My song is love unknown, My Savior's love to me,**

Love to the loveless shown That they might lovely be.

O who am I That for my sake

My Lord should take Frail flesh, and die?

2. **Christ came from heaven's throne Salvation to bestow,**

But people scorned and none The longed-for Christ would know,

But O my Friend, My Friend indeed,

Who at my need His life did spend!

3. Sometimes they strew His way, And His sweet praises sing,

Resounding all the way Hosannas to their King.

Then "Crucify!" Is all their breath,

And for His death They thirst and cry.

Scripture Reading

Mark 9:2-9

Sermon

"Jesus in a Whole New Light"

Rev. Suzanne Gulick

Dedication

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

*Hymn #310

Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee

1. Jesus, the very thought of Thee

With sweetness fills my breast;

But sweeter far Thy face to see,

And in Thy presence rest.

3. O hope of every contrite heart,

O joy of all the meek,

To those who fall, how kind Thou art!

How good to those who seek!

5. Jesus, our only joy be Thou,

As Thou our prize wilt be;

Jesus, be Thou our glory now,

And through eternity.

*Charge and Benediction

*Closing Response

I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me

I'm gonna live so (live so) God can use me

Anywhere, Lord, any time! (any time!)

I'm gonna live so (live so) God can use me

Anywhere, Lord, any time! (any time!)

*Postlude

*Please stand if able.

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"Sunshine in My Soul"

Text by E.E. Hewitt; Music by John R. Sweeney; Arr by John Coates, Jr.

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CCL # 2714264

"I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me"

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This Week's Scripture Readings

2 Kings 2:1-12

¹ Now when the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. ² Elijah said to Elisha, 'Stay here; for the Lord has sent me as far as Bethel.' But Elisha said, 'As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So they went down to Bethel. ³ The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, 'Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?' And he said, 'Yes, I know; keep silent.'

⁴ Elijah said to him, 'Elisha, stay here; for the Lord has sent me to Jericho.' But he said, 'As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So they came to Jericho. ⁵ The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, 'Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?' And he answered, 'Yes, I know; be silent.'

⁶ Then Elijah said to him, 'Stay here; for the Lord has sent me to the Jordan.' But he said, 'As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So the two of them went on. ⁷ Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. ⁸ Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

⁹ When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, 'Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you.' Elisha said, 'Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit.' ¹⁰ He responded, 'You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not.' ¹¹ As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. ¹² Elisha kept watching and crying out, 'Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!' But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

2 Corinthians 4:3-6

³ And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. ⁴ In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. ⁵ For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. ⁶ For it is the God who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness', who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

Scripture Readings (Continued)

Mark 9:2-9

² Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, ³ and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. ⁴ And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. ⁵ **Then Peter said to Jesus, 'Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.'** ⁶ He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. ⁷ Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!' ⁸ Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus. ⁹ As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

Welcome Guest Speaker, Rev. Suzanne Brady Gulick

Rev. Suzanne Brady Gulick is a cradle Presbyterian and an ordained Minister of Word and Sacrament in the PC, USA. Suzanne is a native Houstonian and although she has lived several places, she is very happy to be back home in Texas. Suzanne spent 35 years treating traumatic brain injuries before going to seminary and getting ordained. **She followed seminary with a residency in clinical chaplaincy at St. Luke's Hospital** in the Medical Center and then serving as the Trauma Chaplain at Texas Childrens Hospital in the Medical Center. She just retired from the hospital December 31st.

Suzanne and Karl will celebrate their 41st anniversary in two months. (They met in Sunday school at Memorial Drive Presbyterian Church.) Suzanne and Karl have two daughters: Sarah, who lives in South Padre, has a degree in sports medicine, and works as a high school athletic trainer in Brownsville; and Emily who is a fourth-grade teacher in Klein ISD and she and her husband (Wesley) just had their first child (**Suzanne's first grandchild, Levi Christopher, on Christmas morning!**)

Suzanne enjoys providing pulpit supply services, teaching retreats and now being a new Grammie!



Ash Wednesday Meal and Worship

On February 14th, we will have our final Wednesday Night Live of the season. Dinner will be served at 5:00, followed by our 6:00 p.m. worship service in the sanctuary. We hope to see you there.

March 3 Volunteer Sunday

On March 3rd, FPC will host Volunteer Sunday, in the Family Life Center. This venue allows committees and groups of the church to provide information about their functions and goals, as they talk with potential volunteers that are interested. Snacks will be provided. More information will be available next week.

Annual Meeting of the Congregation March 17

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation will take place on March 17th at the **11:00 worship service**. **There we will learn of the church's projected budget, as well as going over highlights of the many committees at FPC.** Annual Reports will be provided at that time.

For Your Attention

Over the past couple of years, a significant number of our members, who mail their donation checks to the church, have had checks stolen. Giving online via credit card is one convenient way to avoid stolen checks. However, there is a small fee involved in this option. The church now has another option for avoiding stolen checks that has no fee associated with it. This option would be the **electronic fund transfer of money from your bank directly to the church's bank.** It can be set up on either a one-time or recurring basis. If you are interested in giving to the church via this method, please contact Fred Kate by email fkate@yahoo.com or telephone (936) 521-9428 for details.

Pastor Nominating Committee Update

The Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) has held its initial meeting following its commissioning this past Sunday. We are laying out a process and timeline that we trust will guide us toward finding a pastor that is the best fit for FPC Conroe. Our goal is to be both thorough and efficient as we proceed. As part of this process, we will engage the congregation with a brief survey in which all members and guests are invited to participate. The survey is available at the Welcome Desk, as well as electronically, to ensure maximum participation. This survey gives us important information as we develop a Ministry Discernment Profile (i.e., position description), which is part of the PCUSA call process. Please complete the survey as soon as possible.

Also, to streamline communication with the PNC, we are creating a dedicated email address for the PNC members. If you have any feedback, comments or ideas, this will be the best way to communicate with the PNC. This email address is pnc@fpcconroe.org. We welcome your input!

Finally, we ask for your prayers upon the PNC and this process, as well as our church, as we search for our next pastor.

Sincerely,

Your PNC: Dana Corbit, Shirley Dukes, Jay Hammonds, Pat Hudson, Roy Kessler, Charline Muller, Janet Pohla, Steve Scheffler, Mark Sowden



Wednesday Night Live Menu - February 14th

Pancake Supper with all the Trimmings

Registration for the 13th Annual Sew-a-thon February 4-18

Registration begins today for the 13th Annual Sew-a-thon, which will be held on



February 24th, 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. The purpose of the Sew-a-thon is to make as many children's quilts as possible in one day. The quilts are donated to the Bags of Love organization, which is sponsored by the Seventh Day Adventist Church.

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. If you don't sew, there are other ways you can participate, such as ironing and tying quilts. If you are unavailable on the 24th, 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	Boy toys – all ages
Baby rattles	Baby teething rings	Kids toothpaste
Kids toothbrush	Baby 3 in 1	Notebooks
Kids 3 in 1 (body wash, shampoo, conditioner)		Calculators

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

Calendar of Weekly Events

<i>Sunday February 11</i>	<p>8:30 a.m. Worship with Communion (Sanctuary) 9:00 a.m. Fellowship (Bistro) 9:00 a.m. Praise band (Gym) 9:30 a.m. Bereans Sunday School Class with Bob Shepherd (Rm. 105): "The Book of Habakkuk - A Very Different Prophet." 9:30 a.m. Fellowship Class with Cara Wood (Rm. 204) "Knowing the Bible – A Study of Romans", by Jared Wilson 9:30 a.m. Exploring Our Faith with Susan Buckley (Rm. 206) 9:30 a.m. Seekers' Bible Study with Randy Blanton (Rm. 207) "Micah: Social Injustice and the Covenant Community" 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) 5:00-7:00 p.m. The Spark (Gym) NOT MEETING TODAY</p>
<i>Monday February 12</i>	<p>1:30 p.m. Monday Bible Study (Parlor)</p>

Save the Date

February 14	Ash Wednesday Service
February 17	Go Texan Parade in Downtown Conroe
February 19	PDS & CISD Holiday (President's Day)
February 24	Sew-a-Thon
March 1	Life Line Screenings
March 3	Volunteer Sunday
March 17	Annual Meeting

<p>Tuesday February 13</p>	<p>10:00 a.m. Ruth Circle (Parlor) 5:15 p.m. Lydia Circle (Youth area)</p>
<p>Wednesday February 14</p>	<p>9:30 a.m. Martha Circle (Parlor) 9:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Mission Sewing (Rm. 105) 3:30 p.m. Bible Study with Gordon Juhl: <i>Pilgrimage into the Last Third of Life</i> (Rm. 206) 5:00 p.m. Wednesday Night Live Meal (Gym) 6:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Worship Service (Sanctuary) 7:00-8:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Practice (Choir Room)</p>
<p>Sunday February 18</p>	<p>8:30 a.m. Worship with Communion (Sanctuary) 9:00 a.m. Fellowship (Bistro) 9:00 a.m. Praise band (Gym) 9:30 a.m. Bereans Sunday School Class with Bob Shepherd (Rm. 105): “The Book of Habakkuk - A Very Different Prophet.” 9:30 a.m. Fellowship Class with Cara Wood (Rm. 204) <i>Knowing the Bible – A Study of Romans</i>, by Jared Wilson 9:30 a.m. Exploring Our Faith with Susan Buckley (Rm. 206) 9:30 a.m. Seekers’ Bible Study with Randy Blanton (Rm. 207) “Micah: Social Injustice and the Covenant Community” 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 5:00-7:00 p.m. The Spark (Gym)</p>

Prayer List

Members: Warren and Marty Taylor, Karen Hethershaw, Jo Miller, Reed Watson, John Lancaster, Nedra Murphy, Kari Elliott, Tildon Hebert, David Green, Ron Bailey, Joanne Deaver, Alice Helms, Polly Miller, Jean Ball, Roy Kessler, Mary Hudson, Flem Keathley, Paul Ivison, Don Myer, Virginia Tamborello, Jeanne Leverette, Virginia Olivier

Members' Relatives & Friends: Marie J. (Das), Tom J. & family, Bill M. (Browder), Lee family (Corbit), Byer family and Tony N. (Spinks), Gloria L. and Merri H. (Amoneno), Buddy H. (Hayter), Amanda N. (Bosse), Brenda H. (Cannon), Scott P. (Peterson), Mary T. (Nichols), Linda S., Larry B., Janie M. (Harrison), Genevieve W. (Morton), Lindsey W. (Walker), Karl W. (Watt), Lisa J. (Miller), Shannon L. (Diamond), Rick J., Sydney H. and Martha K. (Juhl), Michael R. (Dwyer), Harry S., Jr. and family (Havens), Joy D. (Rose), Beth D. (Davis), Lynn G. (Shepherd), Steve T., Lonnie H. and Vivian M. (Hammonds), Wendy C. (Harshbarger), Wendy C., Christy V. (Massey), Cherlyn R., Carrie U., Gloria S. (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), Judy N. (Dukes), Sherry M. (Garrison), Lee H. (Helms), Caleb & Michaela W. (Henderson), Gerald H. (Roberts), Tucker H. (Hudson)

Good Things to Know

Attendance

Sunday, February 4th

8:30 a.m. Worship Service - 21

11:00 a.m. Worship Service - 127

Online Worship Attendance - 26

Total Attendance - 174

Today's Worship Leader

Karen Clark

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.

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: _____

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

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	Bill Harshbarger (2026, Chair)
Care-Prayer	Bob Shepherd (2024, Chair)
Discipleship	Mark Sowden (2024, Chair)
	Dena Sowden (2024)
	Alex Williams (2024)
	Masen Stuntz (2025)
Fellowship	TBD
Membership	Steve Scheffler (2025)
Missions	Bobby Ezell (2024, Chair)
	Catherine Scheffler (2025)
PDS	Sharon Walker (2025, Chair)
Worship	Randy Blanton and Mike Wisda (2026, Co-chairs)

For Pastoral Care, Contact Rev. Callie Candee

Greetings from Reverend Callie Candee! I'm so grateful to have been asked to assist with pastoral care duties here at First Presbyterian Church-Conroe. I'll be available for phone and home visits. I'm carrying the church's emergency phone and can be contacted directly at (936) 290-4535.



Staff and Church Information

Staff

Rev. Callie Candee, Pastoral Care
Rev. Greg Han, Temporary Pulpit Pastor
Dena Sowden, Director of Christian Education
Sharon VanSchuyver, Director of Communications
Stephanie Cooke, Music Director
Rolethial McKelvey, Accompanist
Jackye Cannon and Jane Corbit, Bookkeeping
Yvonne Rose, Office Manager
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

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Mailing Address:

2257 N Loop 336 W
Suite 140, # 349, Conroe, TX 77304