

First Presbyterian Church

March 10, 2024



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8:30 A.M. WORSHIP WITH COMMUNION

Preparation

Prelude

Adoration

Call to Worship

*Hymn #81

Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days

1. Lord, who throughout these forty days
For us didst fast and pray,
Teach us with Thee to mourn our sins,
And close by Thee to stay.
2. As Thou with Satan didst contend,
And didst the victory win,
O give us strength in Thee to fight,
In Thee to conquer sin.
3. And through these days of penitence,
And through Thy Passiontide,
Yea, evermore, in life and death,
O Lord, with us abide.
4. Abide with us, that so, this life
Of suffering over-past,
An Easter of unending joy
We may attain at last!

Confession

*Call to Confession

*Silent Prayer of Confession

*Assurance of Pardon

Scripture tells us that no one who believes in God will be put to shame.

God's love is sure, able to withstand any test.

We need no longer live according to the temptations that play on our worst shame or fears.

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

*Gloria Patri

Welcome and Announcements

Proclamation

Scripture Reading

2 Corinthians 5: 16-21

Luke 15: 1-3, 11b-32

Sermon

"Generosity and the Grumpy"

Rev. Gregory Han

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 #324

Open My Eyes That I May See

1. Open my eyes, that I may see
Glimpses of truth Thou hast for me;
Place in my hands the wonderful key
That shall unclasp and set me free.
Silently now I wait for Thee,
Ready, my God, Thy will to see;
Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine!

2. Open my ears, that I may hear
Voices of truth Thou sendest clear;
And while the wave notes fall on my ear,
Everything false will disappear.
Silently now I wait for Thee,
Ready, my God, Thy will to see;
Open my ears, illumine me, Spirit divine!

3. Open my mouth, and let me bear
Gladly the warm truth everywhere;
Open my heart, and let me prepare
Love with Thy children thus to share.
Silently now I wait for Thee,
Ready, my God, Thy will to see;
Open my heart, illumine me, Spirit divine!

*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.

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“The Weight of the Cross” by Christopher Machen

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“You Are Mine” by: David Haas, arranged by: Mark Hayes

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CCL # 2714264

11:00 A.M. WORSHIP SERVICE

Preparation

Opening Music

Adoration

Introit

Listen to My Words, O Lord

Folts

Call to Worship

One: Mighty God calls from daybreak to dusk:

All: "Gather together my people."

One: God's summons is not quiet or tame.

All: God comes like a wildfire, consuming all that stands in the way.

One: God comes like a whirlwind, determined to get our attention.

All: God's call echoes through the universe, in all times and places:

One: "Gather together my faithful people."

All: Let us worship together, for the God of all creation calls.

*Hymn #81

Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days

1. Lord, who throughout these forty days
For us didst fast and pray,
Teach us with Thee to mourn our sins,
And close by Thee to stay.
2. As Thou with Satan didst contend,
And didst the victory win,
O give us strength in Thee to fight,
In Thee to conquer sin.
3. And through these days of penitence,
And through Thy Passiontide,
Yea, evermore, in life and death,
O Lord, with us abide.
4. Abide with us, that so, this life
Of suffering over-past,
An Easter of unending joy
We may attain at last!

Confession

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession

God, we have heard that we are a chosen people, but sometimes we think of ourselves as nobodies.

We know that you have called us out of darkness into your marvelous light, but often we hide from brightness and prefer to remain in the dark.

Forgive us for failing to accept your love and your call. Help us to be your people and do your will. May we proclaim your mighty acts in our words and our deeds. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

*Silent Prayer of Confession

*Assurance of Pardon

Scripture tells us that no one who believes in God will be put to shame.

God's love is sure, able to withstand any test.

We need no longer live according to the temptations that play on our worst shame or fears.

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

The Weight of the Cross
Soloist - Sharon West

Machen

Proclamation

Scripture Reading

2 Corinthians 5: 16-21

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Children's Time

*Hymn #281

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

1. Guide me, O Thou great Jehovah,
Pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but Thou art mighty;
Hold me with Thy powerful hand;
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
Feed me till I want no more,
Feed me till I want no more.
2. Open now the crystal fountain,
Whence the healing stream doth flow;
Let the fire and cloudy pillar
Lead me all my journey through;
Strong deliverer, strong deliverer,
Be Thou still my strength and shield,
Be Thou still my strength and shield.

Scripture Reading

Luke 15: 1-3, 11b-32

Sermon

“Generosity and the Grumpy”
Rev. Gregory Han

Dedication

Prayers of the People

*Hymn #324

Open My Eyes That I May See

1. Open my eyes, that I may see
Glimpses of truth Thou hast for me;
Place in my hands the wonderful key
That shall unclasp and set me free.
Silently now I wait for Thee,
Ready, my God, Thy will to see;
Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine!

2. Open my ears, that I may hear
Voices of truth Thou sendest clear;
And while the wave notes fall on my ear,
Everything false will disappear.
Silently now I wait for Thee,
Ready, my God, Thy will to see;
Open my ears, illumine me, Spirit divine!

3. Open my mouth, and let me bear
Gladly the warm truth everywhere;
Open my heart, and let me prepare
Love with Thy children thus to share.
Silently now I wait for Thee,
Ready, my God, Thy will to see;
Open my heart, illumine me, Spirit divine!

*Charge and Benediction

*Closing Response

You Are Mine

I will come to you in the silence,
I will lift you from all your fear.
You will hear my voice,
I claim you as my choice,
be still and know I am here.

Refrain:
Do not be afraid, I am with you.
I have called you each by name.
Come and follow me,
I will bring you home;
I love you and you are mine.

*Postlude

*Please stand if able.

This Week's Scripture Readings



2 Corinthians 5: 16-21

¹⁶ From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we no longer know him in that way. ¹⁷ So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; look, new things have come into being! ¹⁸ All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹ that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. ²⁰ So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ: be reconciled to God. ²¹ For our sake God made the one who knew no sin to be sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Notes

Luke 15: 1-3, 11b-32

¹ Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. ² **And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.”**

³ So he told them this parable:

¹¹ Then Jesus said, **“There was a man who had two sons. ¹² The younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of the wealth that will belong to me.’ So he divided his assets between them. ¹³ A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant region, and there he squandered his wealth in dissolute living. ¹⁴ When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that region, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵ So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that region, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. ¹⁶ He would gladly have filled his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, and no one gave him anything. ¹⁷ But when he came to his senses he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! ¹⁸ I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.”’ ²⁰ So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. ²¹ Then the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ ²² But the father said to his slaves, ‘Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³ And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate, ²⁴ for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!’ And they began to celebrate.**

²⁵ **“Now his elder son was in the field, and as he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶ He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. ²⁷ He replied, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf because he has got him back safe and sound.’ ²⁸ Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. ²⁹ But he answered his father, ‘Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command, yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. ³⁰ But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your assets with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!’ ³¹ Then the father said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³² But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.’ ”**



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.

Easter Lily Order/Dedication Form

As is our usual practice, we will have lilies for the Easter Sunday services, along with dedications in celebration, honor or memory of loved ones. Forms for dedications are located on page 19 of this bulletin (or you can pick one up at the Welcome Desk). Simply complete the form and place it in the offering plate, or return it to the church office, with your payment of \$15 per lily. The deadline for lily orders is March 21.

Our 2024 flower calendar is available at the Welcome Desk if you would like to sign up for a flower dedication. The flowers always contribute nicely to our Sunday worship services and they are yours to take home if you so wish.

Arrangements are \$45.



PNC Update #3

The Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) would like to thank everyone who responded to the recent survey, which will help guide us in our search efforts. Over the next few weeks, the PNC will work on drafting the **Ministry Discernment Profile**, which will be uploaded to the PCUSA's Church Leadership Connection portal. This will give us the best opportunity to find a "match" with pastors who may be interested in coming to FPC Conroe. As always, the PNC asks for the congregation's prayers as we continue our work to find our next pastor.

Church Directory Update

Many of you have been asking about the status of the updated church pictorial directory. There was a delay in the process as the Membership committee **worked to update the church's active membership listing**. Now that this is complete, we are working with the publisher to make sure the directory is published in an expedited fashion. As soon as we have a delivery date from the publisher, we will reach out to everyone who participated in the photo session. We thank you for your patience!



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.



Calendar of Weekly Events

<p><i>Sunday</i> <i>March 10</i></p>	<p>8:30 a.m. Worship with Communion (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 (Rm. 105): "The Book of Habakkuk - A Very Different Prophet."</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Fellowship Class with Cara Wood (Rm. 204) "Knowing the Bible – A Study of Romans", by Jared Wilson</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 (Rm. 207) "Micah: Social Injustice and the Covenant Community"</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>5:00-7:00 p.m. The Spark (Gym)</p>
<p><i>Monday</i> <i>March 11</i></p>	<p>1:30 p.m. Monday Bible Study (Parlor)</p>
<p><i>Tuesday</i> <i>March 12</i></p>	<p>10:00 a.m. Ruth Circle (Parlor)</p> <p>5:15 p.m. Lydia Circle (Youth area)</p>
<p><i>Wednesday</i> <i>March 13</i></p>	<p>9:30 a.m. Martha Circle (Parlor)</p> <p>9:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Mission Sewing (Rm. 105)</p> <p>3:30 p.m. Bible Study with Gordon Juhl: <i>Pilgrimage into the Last Third of Life</i> (Rm. 206)</p> <p>5:45 p.m. Handbells Practice (Sanctuary)</p> <p>7:00-8:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Practice (Choir Room)</p>

<p><i>Sunday March 17</i></p>	<p>8:30 a.m. Worship with Communion (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 (Rm. 105): "The Book of Habakkuk - A Very Different Prophet."</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Fellowship Class with Cara Wood (Rm. 204) "Knowing the Bible – A Study of Romans", by Jared Wilson</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 (Rm. 207) "Micah: Social Injustice and the Covenant Community"</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>12:00 p.m. Session Meeting</p> <p>5:00-7:00 p.m. The Spark (Gym)</p>
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Save the Date

March 11-15	PDS & CISD Spring Break
March 17	Annual Meeting
March 18-21	PDS Book Fair
March 24	Palm Sunday
March 28	Maundy Thursday Service
March 29	CISD Holiday (Good Friday)
March 29	Youth Lock-in at FPC
March 31	Easter Sunday Services Easter Egg Hunt

Prayer List

Members: The family of Warren 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 Ivson, Don Myer, Virginia Tamborello, Jeanne Leverette, Virginia Olivier

Members' Relatives & Friends: Rev. Callie Candee and family, family of Dorothy P. (Lucas), Marie J. (Das), Tom J. & family, Bill M. (Browder), Lee family (Corbit), 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), Steve T., Lonnie H. and Vivian M. (Hammonds), Wendy C. (Harshbarger), Wendy C., Christy V. (Massey), Gloria S., Kim H., Vickie K., Cindy K. (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, March 3rd

8:30 a.m. Worship Service - 23

11:00 a.m. Worship Service - 135

Online Worship Attendance - 25

Total Attendance – 183

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: _____

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

Other:

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

Facebook

Drive by

Website

Friend/Family

Other



Easter Lilies

History, mythology, and art are filled with stories and images that speak of the beauty and majesty of these elegant white flowers. One of the most famous Biblical references is in the Sermon on the Mount, when Christ

said, "Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they toil not, neither do they spin and yet Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these."

Often called the "White-Robed Apostles of Hope," lilies are said to have been found growing in the Garden of Gethsemane after Christ's agony. At Easter time, churches bank their communion tables and surround their crosses with masses of Easter Lilies, to commemorate the resurrection of Jesus Christ and hope of life everlasting.

To help bring the beauty of the lily to our church this Easter, church members may purchase a lily in memory or in honor of a loved one, a special occasion or relevant event. Simply complete the information below and enclose a check or cash in the amount of \$15 for each lily. Place your form and payment in the collection plate or return to the church office. ***All orders should be in by Thursday, March 21st.***

Please print clearly.

Name _____

Number of lilies _____ Amount enclosed _____ Phone # _____

Designation _____

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

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

Mailing Address:

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