

# First Presbyterian Church

## April 6, 2025



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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](http://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*

Martha Haines

#### *Today's Flowers*

Today's flowers are given to the glory of God by John Wright.

#### *Last Week's Attendance, March 30*

8:30 a.m. Worship Service - 22

11:00 a.m. Worship Service - 136

Online Worship Attendance - 26

**Total Attendance – 184**

## **8:30 A.M. WORSHIP WITH COMMUNION**

### *Preparing to Receive God's Word*

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

Here, in this place, we discover the great things God has done.  
In story and song, in silence and sacrament, we are reminded that  
God's love for us lasts forever.  
Here, with these people, we find our true home.  
Where we can run home laughing, even after being lost for so long.  
Here, during this holy season, we hear those promises made so long ago.  
Of the One who is always faithful.  
Come, let us worship God with thanksgiving.  
Let us worship God with grateful praise.

\*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)

\*Please stand if able.

\*Call to Confession

\*Silent Prayer of Confession

\*Assurance of Pardon

Christ does not turn away our offerings, nor does He reject our brokenness. In love, He receives us, forgives us, and calls us to new life.

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:

**Because of Christ's great love for us, we have been forgiven!**

\*Gloria Patri

*The Word*

Scripture Readings

Isaiah 43:16-21; John 12:1-8

The Word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

Sermon

**“Can’t You Smell That Smell?”**

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 #142

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!

1. All hail the power of Jesus' name!

Let angels prostrate fall;  
Bring forth the royal diadem,  
And crown Him Lord of all!  
Bring forth the royal diadem,  
And crown Him Lord of all!

2. Ye chosen seed of Israel's race,  
Ye ransomed from the fall,  
Hail Him who saves you by His grace,  
And crown Him Lord of all!  
Hail Him who saves you by His grace,  
And crown Him Lord of all!
3. Let every kindred, every tribe,  
On this terrestrial ball,  
To Him all majesty ascribe,  
And crown Him Lord of all!  
To Him all majesty ascribe,  
And crown Him Lord of all!
4. O that with yonder sacred throng  
We at His feet may fall!  
We'll join the everlasting song,  
And crown Him Lord of all!  
We'll join the everlasting song,  
And crown Him Lord of all!

\*Charge and Benediction

\*Postlude

*Copyright Information*

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## 11:00 A.M. WORSHIP SERVICE

### Preparing to Receive God's Word

Opening Music

Welcome and Announcements

Introit

*Introit V*

*Folts*

Call to Worship

Here, in this place, we discover the great things God has done.

In story and song, in silence and sacrament, we are reminded that God's love for us lasts forever.

Here, with these people, we find our true home.

Where we can run home laughing, even after being lost for so long.

Here, during this holy season, we hear those promises made so long ago. Of the One who is always faithful.

Come, let us worship God with thanksgiving.

Let us worship God with grateful praise.

\*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)

\*Please stand if able.

\*Call to Confession

\*Prayer of Confession

You have shown us extravagant love, yet we confess that we often hold back. We cling to what we have instead of pouring ourselves out in devotion to You. We criticize the gifts of others instead of celebrating their faithfulness. We are distracted by wealth and power, failing to see the beauty of humble service.

Forgive us, Lord. Open our hearts to love as Mary loved, to give as she gave, and to follow Jesus with gratitude and trust.

In His name, we pray. Amen.

\*Silent Prayer of Confession

\*Assurance of Pardon

Christ does not turn away our offerings, nor does He reject our brokenness. In love, He receives us, forgives us, and calls us to new life.

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:

**Because of Christ's great love for us, we have been forgiven!**

\*Gloria Patri

Minute for Mission

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

*Cover Me with the Night*

Ramsey

Vocal solo by Garrett Hehli

\*Doxology

\*Prayer of Dedication

\*Choral Response

## The Word

Scripture Readings

Isaiah 43:16-21; John 12:1-8

The Word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

Sermon

**“Can’t You Smell That Smell?”**

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 #142

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!

1. All hail the power of Jesus' name!  
Let angels prostrate fall;  
Bring forth the royal diadem,  
And crown Him Lord of all!  
Bring forth the royal diadem,  
And crown Him Lord of all!
2. Ye chosen seed of Israel's race,  
Ye ransomed from the fall,  
Hail Him who saves you by His grace,  
And crown Him Lord of all!  
Hail Him who saves you by His grace,  
And crown Him Lord of all!

3. Let every kindred, every tribe,  
On this terrestrial ball,  
To Him all majesty ascribe,  
And crown Him Lord of all!  
To Him all majesty ascribe,  
And crown Him Lord of all!

4. O that with yonder sacred throng  
We at His feet may fall!  
We'll join the everlasting song,  
And crown Him Lord of all!  
We'll join the everlasting song,  
And crown Him Lord of all!

\*Charge and Benediction

\*Choral Response

At the Name of Jesus

**That ev'ry knee shall bow,  
and ev'ry tongue shall confess  
that Jesus Christ is Lord!  
At the name of Jesus!  
At the name of Jesus!**

\*Postlude

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

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### **Isaiah 43:16-21**

<sup>16</sup> Thus says the Lord, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters, <sup>17</sup> who brings out chariot and horse, army and warrior; they lie down; they cannot rise; they are extinguished, quenched like a wick: <sup>18</sup> Do not remember the former things or consider the things of old. <sup>19</sup> I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth; do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. <sup>20</sup> The wild animals will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches, for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, <sup>21</sup> the people whom I formed for myself so that they might declare my praise.

### **John 12:1-8**

<sup>1</sup> Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. <sup>2</sup> There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those reclining with him. <sup>3</sup> Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed **Jesus's feet, and wiped them** with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. <sup>4</sup> But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, <sup>5</sup> **"Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?"** <sup>6</sup> (He said this not because he cared about the poor but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) <sup>7</sup> **Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial.** <sup>8</sup> **You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."**

# Notes



## *New and Prospective Members Invited to "First Steps" Orientation Class on April 13*

First Presbyterian Church Conroe and its Membership Committee will host a new and prospective member lunch and orientation class called First Steps on Sunday, April 13, from 12:30 p.m. (following the 11 a.m. worship service) until 1:45 p.m. in the Family Life Center Gym. First Steps gives new and prospective members an overview of the Christian faith, the Presbyterian tradition, and the mission and ministries of our church. Rev. Saathoff and several lay leaders will facilitate this class. Lunch and nursery will be provided. In order to best plan for this event, we request that all attendees RSVP to Steve Scheffler (281.851.1690 or [scscheffler@sbcglobal.net](mailto:scscheffler@sbcglobal.net)) no later than Wednesday, April 9.

### *Easter Lily Order and Dedications*

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 Thursday, April 10<sup>th</sup>.

### *Greeters Needed for 8:30 Service*

We are in need of greeters for the 8:30 a.m. service. If you would be able to greet before and after the service, once a month, please contact Judy Weinburger at (713) 203-8458.

### *Prayer List Updates*

Thanks to everyone who has helped us to update our prayer list. If someone on the prayer list no longer requires prayer, please make the church office staff aware. Thank you.

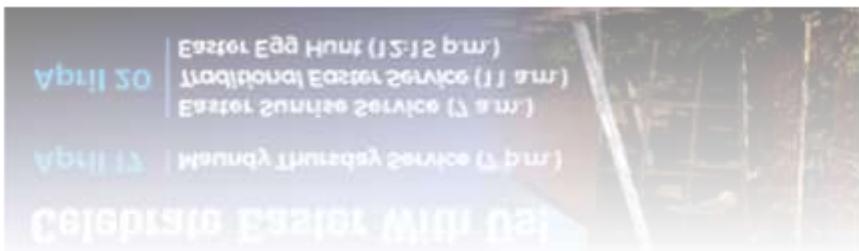
## Easter Sunday Breakfast

As we prepare for Holy Week, we want to remind you of the complimentary breakfast following the Easter Sunrise Service on April 20<sup>th</sup>. Please plan to join us for this food and fellowship opportunity.



The image is a promotional graphic for First Presbyterian Church. It features a logo on the left with a stylized cross and a church building icon inside a circle. The text "First Presbyterian Church" is written in a serif font. Below the logo, the text "Celebrate Easter With Us!" is displayed in a large, bold, sans-serif font. To the right of the text is a photograph of a modern church building with a large glass cross on its facade. Below the main title, there are two sections of event details. The first section, for April 17, lists a "Maundy Thursday Service (7 p.m.)". The second section, for April 20, lists an "Easter Sunrise Service (7 a.m.)", a "Traditional Easter Service (11 a.m.)", and an "Easter Egg Hunt (12:15 p.m.)".

April 17	Maundy Thursday Service (7 p.m.)
April 20	Easter Sunrise Service (7 a.m.)
	Traditional Easter Service (11 a.m.)
	Easter Egg Hunt (12:15 p.m.)

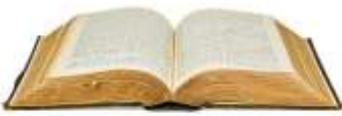


## Spiritual Direction with Rev. Callie Candee

Christians have sought out silent prayer retreats for centuries; driven by a hunger for closer communion with God, we choose times of silence, of meditation of Scripture, to hear God more clearly and to follow Jesus' invitation to 'come away with me to a quiet place and rest.' In our ever too busy world, such an invitation is a blessing, as we enter stillness, reflection upon God's Word, and open ourselves to hearing more fully God's response to us. Rev. Callie Candee is offering one-on-one Spiritual Direction sessions for our congregation. She can be reached at [CallieCandee@yahoo.com](mailto:CallieCandee@yahoo.com).

## New Bible Study Series Begins May 4<sup>th</sup>

On May 4, Frank Denton will host a one-hour class on Sunday evening at 5:00 p.m., “The Bible, an Overview” as an introduction into his new Bible Study to begin in June. This study will take you through the Bible Genesis-Revelations in a 52-week period. We will cover a book (or two) each week in our one-hour study. As a guideline we will use Dr. Alan B Stringfellow’s work book “Through the Bible in One Year”



You will learn major themes of all the books, the key verses, the central messages. You will learn how each book is organized, how it came into being and its role in the Bible story.

This may well be the most exciting journey of your Christian life. It will go through step by step each book and connect the dots, if you will, for God’s plan of redemption for mankind from the first chapter. You will learn why the Jewish faith and traditions have had a strong influence on our Christian community even today. How the prophecies and events of the Old Testament relate to the New Testament and even our modern traditions and Christian faith.

Sermons we hear weekly and hymns we sing will take on a new and special meaning after seeing how they relate to events in the Bible.

We hope to see you Sunday May 4th at 5:00 for an introduction to this exciting and informative journey.

### ***Children’s Church***

After the Children’s Sermon, children between 5-8 will be invited to attend Children’s Church, where they will pray, sing praise songs, and learn Bible stories - everything we do in a regular church service, but more age-appropriate. Children will return to the sanctuary for the final hymn.

Volunteers are needed, so please use the link or scan the QR code to pick a date!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0D4CABAD2EA2F94-55218097-childrens>



When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

Matthew 2:10-11



## CAPITAL CAMPAIGN: GIFTS, PRAYERS, AND PREPARATION

The cross is the center of our capital campaign logo, just as Christ should be the center of our church and our individual lives. During this season of Lent, our hearts and minds are on Jesus. We humbly reflect on the sacrifice of our Lord Jesus Christ and God's plan of salvation for us. This truly was and is the greatest gift, that He died for us as an atonement for our sins, so that we might have eternal life with Him and God our Father. Through belief in Him, we have the Holy Spirit to guide us on how to grow His Kingdom while we are here on earth.

Our capital campaign will continue through April. On Sunday, May 18, we will announce the amounts of your gifts to grow His Kingdom. We ask that you continue to pray for the success of this campaign, continue to focus your hearts and minds on Jesus Christ, and prepare to celebrate what God is doing for First Presbyterian Church of Conroe to further His Kingdom in our congregation, our community, and beyond.

## Calendar of Weekly Events

<i>Sunday April 6</i>	<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) Studying "More Parables from the Back Side" by J. Ellsworth Kalas, taught by Deborah Geddes, Glenna Lang and Glenn Elms. 9:30 a.m. Exploring Our Faith with Susan Buckley (Rm. 206) <b>9:30 a.m. Seekers' Bible Study with Randy Blanton</b> (Library) Study of the Apostle Paul's letter to the Philippians <b>9:30 a.m. FPC Kid's Sunday School</b> (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 <a href="http://www.com/fpcConroe">www.com/fpcConroe</a> or <a href="https://www.youtube.com/fpcConroe">YouTube.com/fpcConroe</a>) 12:30 p.m. Committee Meetings 5:00-7:00 p.m. The Spark (Gym)</p>
<i>Monday April 7</i>	1:30 p.m. Monday Bible Study (Parlor)
<i>Tuesday April 8</i>	10:00 a.m. Ruth Circle (Parlor) 5:00 p.m. Lydia Circle (Youth area)
<i>Wednesday April 9</i>	9:30 a.m. Martha Circle (Parlor) 5:45 p.m. Handbells Practice (Sanctuary) 7:00-8:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Practice (Choir Room)

*Palm Sunday  
April 13*

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**) **Studying "More Parables from the Back Side" by J. Ellsworth Kalas**, 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)  
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](http://www.com/fpcConroe) or [YouTube.com/fpcConroe](https://YouTube.com/fpcConroe))  
5:00-7:00 p.m. The Spark (Gym)

## Save the Date

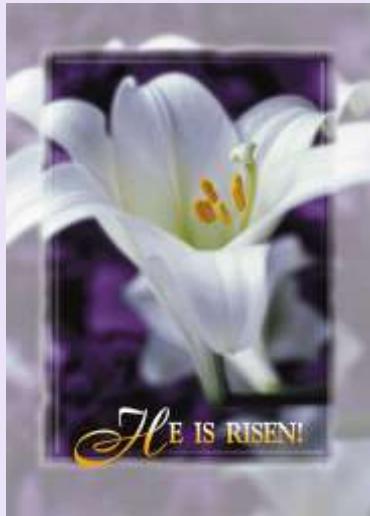
April 13	Palm Sunday
April 17	Maundy Thursday
April 18	Good Friday
April 20	Easter Sunday Services, Early Breakfast, and Easter Egg Hunt
April 21	FPC and PDS Closed for Easter Holiday
April 27	Youth Auction & Mystery Dinner
May 1	National Day of Prayer



## Prayer List

Members: Family and friends of Cecil Watt, Roy Kessler, Judy Weinburger, Ruth Masters, Kyle Walker, Glenna Lang, 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), Wes K. (Yates), Alicia I., James I., and Ron S. (Bailey), Susie K. (Davis), Anna (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), Shannon L. (Diamond), Rick J. (Juhl), Joe T. Sr., 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), Jeffrey H. & Leah H. (Heasley), Katie B. (Pohla), Wendy S. (Adamson), Sherry M. (Garrison), Lee H. (Helms), Caleb & Michaela W. (Henderson), Gerald H. (Roberts)



# 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, April 10<sup>th</sup>.***

**Please print clearly.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Number of lilies \_\_\_\_\_ Amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Designation \_\_\_\_\_

## 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](http://www.fpcConroe.org)

• • •

#### *Mailing Address:*

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