

First Presbyterian Church

April 20, 2025

Welcome



EASTER SUNDAY

7:00 Worship with Communion	Page 3
11:00 Worship Service	Page 6
Scripture Readings	Page 10
The Connection	Page 12
Easter Lily Dedications	Page 16
Calendar of Events	Page 18

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

Today's Flowers

There is no flower dedication today.

Last Week's Attendance, April 13

8:30 a.m. Worship Service - 17

11:00 a.m. Worship Service - 151

Online Worship Attendance - 27

Total Attendance – 195

7:00 A.M. WORSHIP WITH COMMUNION

Preparing to Receive God's Word

Call to Worship

Hear the good news: the stone has been rolled away; the tomb is empty.
Alleluia! He is risen!
The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.
Alleluia! He is risen!
Death has been swallowed up in victory.
Alleluia! He is risen!
Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?
Alleluia! He is risen!
Hear the good news of the gospel: Jesus Christ is risen!
Alleluia! He is risen indeed!

Hymn

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today!

1. Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!
Earth and heaven in chorus say, Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!
Sing, ye heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!
2. Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!
Fought the fight, the battle won; Alleluia!
Death in vain forbids Him rise; Alleluia!
Christ has opened paradise. Alleluia!
3. Lives again our glorious King; Alleluia!
Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!
Once He died, our souls to save; Alleluia!
Where's thy victory, boasting grave? Alleluia!

*Please stand if able.

Call to Confession

Silent Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Christ, our risen Savior, has conquered sin and death. In His resurrection, we are given new life. As far as the east is from the west, so far has God removed our transgressions from us.

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:

Because of Christ's great love for us, we are forgiven!

The Word

Scripture Readings

Isaiah 65:17-25; Luke 24:1-12

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

“Going Off Script”

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. I serve a risen Savior, He's in the world today;
I know that He is living, whatever men may say;
I see His hand of mercy, I hear His voice of cheer,
And just the time I need Him He's always near.

Refrain:

He lives, He lives, Christ Jesus lives today!
He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way.
He lives, He lives, salvation to impart!
You ask me how I know He lives?
He lives within my heart.

2. In all the world around me I see His loving care,
And tho' my heart grows weary, I never will despair;
I know that He is leading thro' all the stormy blast,
The day of His appearing will come at last. (Refrain)

Charge and Benediction

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"Crown Him with Many Crowns" Arr. by Joan J. Pinkston

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"Majestic Holy One" by Cindy Berry

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"He Lives" by Alfred Henry Ackley

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Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Risen Lord, on this day of resurrection, we come before You with humble hearts. We confess that we have not always lived in the light of Your victory over death. We have allowed fear, doubt, and sin to cloud our hearts, forgetting the power of Your resurrection to transform us. We have failed to love one another as You have loved us, and we have sought the things of this world rather than the things of Your kingdom.

Forgive us, O Lord. Renew in us a spirit of hope and joy, that we might live as those who have been raised with You to new life. In Your mercy, transform our hearts, that we might walk in the light of the resurrection, now and forevermore. Amen.

Choral Anthem

Easter Rejoicing

Alington/Willcocks

Assurance of Pardon

Christ, our risen Savior, has conquered sin and death. In His resurrection, we are given new life. As far as the east is from the west, so far has God removed our transgressions from us.

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:

Because of Christ's great love for us, we are forgiven!

*Gloria Patri

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

I Know That My Redeemer Lives

McChesney

FPC Handbell Choir

*Doxology

***Prayer of Dedication and the Lord's Prayer**

*Choral Response

The Word

Children's Time

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 65:17-25

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Anthem

Crown Him with Many Crowns

Pinkston

Scripture Reading

Luke 24:1-12

Sermon

“Going Off Script”

Rev. Seth Saathoff

Anthem

Majestic Holy One

Berry

Responding to the Word

Prayers of the People

*Hymn #122

Thine Is the Glory

1. Thine is the glory,
Risen, conquering Son;
Endless is the victory
Thou o'er death hast won.
Angels in bright raiment
Rolled the stone away,
Kept the folded grave-clothes
Where Thy body lay.

2. Lo! Jesus meets us,
Risen from the tomb;
Lovingly He greets us,
Scatters fear and gloom.
Let the church with gladness
Hymns of triumph sing,
For the Lord now liveth;
Death hath lost its sting.

3. No more we doubt Thee,
Glorious Prince of life!
Life is nought without Thee;
Aid us in our strife.
Make us more than conquerors
Through Thy deathless love;
Bring us safe through Jordan
To Thy home above.

Refrain (last time only)
Thine is the glory,
Risen, conquering Son;
Endless is the victory
Thou o'er death hast won.

*Charge and Benediction

*Choral Response

He Lives

He lives, He lives, Christ Jesus lives today!
He walks with me and talks with me
Along life's narrow way.
He lives, He lives, salvation to impart!
You ask me how I know He lives?
He lives within my heart.

*Postlude



This Week's Scripture Readings

Isaiah 65:17-25

¹⁷ For I am about to create new heavens and a new earth; the former things shall not be remembered or come to mind. ¹⁸ But be glad and rejoice forever in what I am creating, for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy and its people as a delight. ¹⁹ I will rejoice in Jerusalem and delight in my people; no more shall the sound of weeping be heard in it or the cry of distress. ²⁰ No more shall there be in it an infant who lives but a few days or an old person who does not live out a lifetime, for one who dies at a hundred years will be considered a youth, and one who falls short of a hundred will be considered accursed. ²¹ They shall build houses and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit. ²² They shall not build and another inhabit; they shall not plant and another eat, for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be, and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands. ²³ They shall not labor in vain or bear children for calamity, for they shall be offspring blessed by the Lord - and their descendants as well. ²⁴ Before they call I will answer, while they are yet speaking I will hear. ²⁵ The wolf and the lamb shall feed together; the lion shall eat straw like the ox, but the serpent - its food shall be dust! They shall not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, says the Lord.

Luke 24:1-12

¹ But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they went to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. ² They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, ³ but when they went in they did not find the body. ⁴ While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. ⁵ The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men **said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here but has risen.** ⁶ Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, ⁷ that the Son of Man must be handed over to the hands of sinners and be **crucified and on the third day rise again.**" ⁸ Then they remembered his words, ⁹ and returning from the tomb they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest.

¹⁰ Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. ¹¹ But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. ¹² But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

Notes



One Great Hour of Sharing April 20 & 27

We will collect the One Great Hour of Sharing offering on Easter Sunday, April 20th, as well as the following Sunday, April 27th. This special offering of the Presbyterian Church (USA) supports efforts to relieve hunger through the Presbyterian Hunger Program, promote development through the Presbyterian Committee on the Self-Development of People, and assist in areas of disaster recovery through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.

Those who wish to contribute can find a “One Great Hour of Sharing” envelope on the tables at the back of the sanctuary, and your donation can be placed in the collection plate. Thank you.

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) 202-8458.

New Bible Study Series Begins May 4th

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-Revelation 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”.**

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.

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.

Toy Chest Trauma

You are cordially invited to

A Mystery Party

Date April 27, 2025

Time 5:00 - 7:00 pm

Location Family Life Center

Adults
\$15/person
\$5 for Kids 5-12 yrs old
<5 yrs FREE

Please RSVP no later than

It's Never Too Late To Join The Fun!!

Details Enclosed

Presale tickets available in the Narthex on Sundays, Online (scan QR Code to pay) or email DSowden@FPCConroe.com to reserve your spot.

QR Code

Children's Church

After the Children's Time, 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>



Capital Campaign Update

We would ask that
you continue to
pray for our
Capital Campaign.



The results will be
announced on
May 18th.

Prayer List

Members: Rev. Callie Candee, 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: Siana F. and family (Watson), 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, 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 Lily Dedications

- ◆ *David & Vivian McDonald - In memory of our parents and family that are no longer with us.*
- ◆ *Sandra Davis - In memory of Bryan Davis.*
- ◆ *Leslie Graham*
- ◆ *Jean Heasley - In loving memory of Kellye and Scott Heasley.*
- ◆ *Patrick Hudson - To the glory of God and in honor of my wife, Mary.*
- ◆ *Ann Johnson - In honor of our children, Lynn & Steve Jenkins and Burt Johnson.*
- ◆ *Gunilla Oh - For Karen Larsson*
- ◆ *Janet Pohla - In memory of my mother.*
- ◆ *Annetta Rose - In memory of grandparents, John & Amanda Rowe.*
- ◆ *Soren Rose - In memory of grandparents, Aring & Helen Rose.*
- ◆ *Kaleigh Riggs-Harper - For Bill Watkins*
- ◆ *Bobby Ezell - In loving memory of Patricia Ezell.*
- ◆ *Bob & Paula Shepherd - He has risen indeed!*
- ◆ *Marty Taylor - In loving memory of Warren and God's gift of 55 years together, and in gratitude for the members of this church for their love and support.*
- ◆ *John & Cathy Wright - In honor of parents and grandchildren.*

- ◆ *Judy Hughes - In memory of Ben Hughes.*
- ◆ *Jane Corbit - In memory of Charlie Corbit; in memory of Nicole and Alex Corbit.*
- ◆ *Shirley Dukes - In memory of George & Evelyn Bryson, (Brother) Gordon Bryson, and my husband, Bobby Dukes.*
- ◆ *Bill & Linda Harshbarger - In loving memory of our parents, and of our granddaughter, Ella Grace.*
- ◆ *Thad & Lucinda Marshall - In honor of our son and his family.*
- ◆ *Voorhees-Curran Families - A blessed Easter to all!*
- ◆ *Roy & Liz Kessler - To the glory of God!*
- ◆ *David & Mary Carol Awalt - In memory of Warren & Sally Awalt; in memory of Buddy Hopkins.*
- ◆ *The Saathoffs - In celebration of marriage of Billy and Rebecca; in memory of Roland Saathoff; in honor of Nana & Papa McNair; in honor of Uncle George & Aunt Shelly; in honor of Gigi Saathoff.*



Calendar of Weekly Events

<i>Easter Sunday April 20</i>	<p>7:00 a.m. Easter Sunrise Service (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 (<i>Available by Zoom; contact Randy Blanton for details.</i>) 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)</p>
<i>Monday April 21</i>	<p>FPC and PDS closed for holiday. 1:30 p.m. Monday Bible Study (Parlor) NO STUDY TODAY</p>
<i>Wednesday April 23</i>	<p>9:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Mission Sewing (Rm. 105) 5:45 p.m. Handbells Practice (Sanctuary)</p>

*Sunday
April 27*

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 (*Available by Zoom; contact Randy Blanton for details.*)
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](https://www.youtube.com/fpcConroe))
12:30 p.m. Session Meeting (Rm. 105)
5:00-7:00 p.m. Youth Auction and Mystery Dinner (Gym)

Save the Date

April 21	FPC and PDS Closed for Easter Holiday
April 27	Youth Auction & Mystery Dinner
May 1	National Day of Prayer
May 5-8	PDS Teacher Appreciation Week
May 11	Mother's Day Brunch / Confirmation Sunday / PW Life Membership Awards
May 15	PDS Last Day of School
May 18	Senior Sunday
May 22	CISD Last Day of School
May 26	Memorial Day (FPC office closed for observance)

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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