

# First Presbyterian Church

July 21, 2024

*Welcome*

**Sermon:**  
***The Center Holds***



|                    |         |
|--------------------|---------|
| Worship Service    | Page 3  |
| Scripture Readings | Page 8  |
| The Connection     | Page 9  |
| Calendar of Events | Page 10 |
| Prayer List        | Page 11 |

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](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.

### ***Special Thanks...***

#### ***To Today's Worship Leader***

Sharon Walker

#### ***To Our Guest Pianist/Organist***

Donna Davis

(who is filling in for Rolethial while she is on vacation)

#### ***For Today's Flowers***

Today's flowers are given to the glory of God by Ron and Jeannene Wendt, in celebration of their 66<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary, and by Judy Weinburger, in memory of Gary Weinburger's birthday.

(\*Please stand if able.)

## Opening Music

## Welcome and Announcements

Introit      *Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart*

Call to Worship (from Psalm 36)

<sup>5</sup>Your steadfast love, O Lord, extends to the heavens, your faithfulness to the clouds.

<sup>6</sup> Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains, your judgments are like the great deep; you save humans and animals alike, O Lord.

<sup>7</sup> How precious is your steadfast love, O God! All people may take refuge in the shadow of your wings.

<sup>8</sup> They feast on the abundance of your house, and you give them drink from the river of your delights.

<sup>9</sup> For with you is the fountain of life; in your light we see light.

<sup>10</sup> O continue your steadfast love to those who know you, and your salvation to the upright of heart!

\*Hymn #145

## Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!

1. Rejoice ye pure in heart!  
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!  
Your festal banner wave on high,  
The cross of Christ your King.

Refrain:

Rejoice! rejoice! rejoice,  
Give thanks, and sing!

2. Yes, on through life's long path,  
Still chanting as ye go;  
From youth to age, by night and day,  
In gladness and in woe. (Refrain)

3. At last the march shall end;  
The wearied ones shall rest;  
The pilgrims find their home at last,  
Jerusalem the blest. (Refrain)

4. Then on, ye pure in heart!  
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!  
Your festal banner wave on high,  
The cross of Christ your King. (Refrain)

### Confession

\*Call to Confession

\*Prayer of Confession

Heavenly Teacher, we do not always pray as we ought.  
Help us to speak our truth and to listen for your forgiveness:

**When we pray, "Our Father in heaven",**

But forget to embrace all people as your children (silent prayer)

**When we say "Your kingdom come"**

Without working for your kingdom on earth (silent prayer)

When we ask for our daily bread

But do not recognize it as your gift (silent prayer)

When we request forgiveness for ourselves,

But fail to pardon others (silent prayer)

When we plead not to be led into times of trial,

But walk willingly into temptation (silent prayer)

When we honor you with our lips,

But fail you with our lives (silent prayer)

O Lord, forgive us. Help us to pray unceasingly, that we may be transformed by the renewing power of the Spirit. Create spaces in our prayer, that we might hear and live out your words back to us, words of love and justice, grace and forgiveness.

\*Assurance of Pardon

There is no place so far away that the love of God cannot touch.

There is no emptiness so great that the grace of God cannot fill.

**God's arms remain open to us always, ready to embrace us in the wildness of mercy and welcome us home.**

In the name of Christ who makes all things new, Thanks be to God! Amen!

\*Gloria Patri

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

\*Doxology

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

\*Choral Response

Anthem

*Lord, Tune Our Hearts*

*Martin*

*Proclamation*

Scripture Reading

Luke 10: 38-42

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

## **Children's Time**

\*Hymn #460

Holy God, We Praise Your Name

1. Holy God, we praise Your name;  
Lord of all, we bow before You;  
All on earth Your scepter claim,  
All in heaven above adore You.  
Infinite Your vast domain,  
Everlasting is Your reign.
2. Hark, the glad celestial hymn  
Angel choirs above are raising;  
Cherubim and seraphim,  
In unceasing chorus praising,  
Fill the heavens with sweet accord:  
Holy, holy, holy Lord.
4. Holy Father, Holy Son,  
Holy Spirit: Three we name You,  
While in essence only One;  
Undivided God we claim You,  
And adoring bend the knee  
While we own the mystery.

Scripture Reading

Colossians 1:15-28

Sermon

**“The Center Holds”**  
*Rev. Gregory Han*

*Dedication*

Prayers of the People

\*Hymn #391

Take My Life

1. Take my life, and let it be  
Consecrated, Lord, to Thee.  
Take my moments and my days;  
Let them flow in ceaseless praise,  
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.
2. Take my hands, and let them move  
At the impulse of Thy love.  
Take my feet, and let them be  
Swift and beautiful for Thee,  
Swift and beautiful for Thee.
3. Take my voice, and let me sing,  
Always, only, for my King.  
Take my lips, and let them be  
Filled with messages from Thee,  
Filled with messages from Thee.
6. Take my love; my Lord, I pour  
At Thy feet its treasure store.  
Take myself, and I will be  
Ever, only, all for Thee,  
Ever, only, all for Thee.

\*Charge and Benediction

\*Closing Response

Bless His Holy Name

Bless the Lord, O my soul,  
And all that is within me  
Bless his holy name. (Repeat)

He has done great things,  
He has done great things,  
He has done great things,  
Bless his holy name.

Bless the Lord, O my soul,  
And all that is within me  
Bless his holy name.

\*Postlude

*Notes*

## ***This Week's Scripture Reading***

Luke 10: 38-42

<sup>38</sup> Now as they went on their way, he entered a certain village where a woman named Martha welcomed him. <sup>39</sup> She had a sister named Mary, **who sat at Jesus's feet and listened to what he was saying.** <sup>40</sup> But Martha **was distracted by her many tasks, so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her, then, to help me."** <sup>41</sup> But the Lord answered her, **"Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things, <sup>42</sup> but few things are needed—indeed only one. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."**

Colossians 1:15-28

<sup>15</sup> He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation, <sup>16</sup> for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. <sup>17</sup> He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. <sup>18</sup> He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. <sup>19</sup> For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, <sup>20</sup> and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

<sup>21</sup> And you who were once estranged and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, <sup>22</sup> he has now reconciled in his fleshly body through death, so as to present you holy and blameless and irreproachable before him, <sup>23</sup> provided that you continue securely established and steadfast in the faith, without shifting from the hope promised by the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven. I, Paul, became a minister of this gospel.

<sup>24</sup> I am now rejoicing in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I **am completing what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body,** that is, the church. <sup>25</sup> **I became its minister according to God's commission** that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, <sup>26</sup> the mystery that has been hidden throughout the ages and generations but has now been revealed to his saints. <sup>27</sup> To them God chose to make known how great among the gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. <sup>28</sup> It is he whom we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone in all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ.





### *Congregational Meeting July 28*

Please make note that there will be a called Congregational Meeting on Sunday, July 28, 2024, during the 11:00 worship service, for the purpose of the Pastoral Nominating Committee presenting its report on the Senior Pastor nominee and Terms of Call. We hope you will join us.

*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><br/><i>July 21</i></p>    | <p>9:30 a.m. Bereans Sunday School Class with Bob Shepherd (Rm. 105)<br/>Paul's letter to the church at Ephesus</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Fellowship Class with Cara Wood (Rm. 204) Ancient Christianity-video presentation and class discussion</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Exploring Our Faith with Susan Buckley (Rm. 206)</p> <p><b>9:30 a.m. Seekers' Bible Study with Randy Blanton (Rm. 207) "Micah: Social Injustice and the Covenant Community"</b></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 <a href="http://www.com/fpcConroe">www.com/fpcConroe</a> or YouTube.com/fpcConroe)</p> <p>12:00 p.m. Session Meeting</p> <p>5:00-7:00 p.m. The Spark (Gym)</p> |
| <p><i>Wednesday</i><br/><i>July 24</i></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</i><br/><i>July 28</i></p>    | <p>9:30 a.m. Bereans Sunday School Class with Bob Shepherd (Rm. 105)<br/>Paul's letter to the church at Ephesus</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Fellowship Class with Cara Wood (Rm. 204) Ancient Christianity-video presentation and class discussion</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Exploring Our Faith with Susan Buckley (Rm. 206)</p> <p><b>9:30 a.m. Seekers' Bible Study with Randy Blanton (Rm. 207) Study of the Apostle Paul's letter to the Philippians</b></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 <a href="http://www.com/fpcConroe">www.com/fpcConroe</a> or YouTube.com/fpcConroe)</p> <p>5:00-7:00 p.m. The Spark (Gym)</p>                                  |

## Save the Date

|           |                                       |
|-----------|---------------------------------------|
| July 28   | Called Meeting of the Congregation    |
| August 11 | Rally Day                             |
| August 14 | CISD Classes Begin                    |
| August 17 | PDS Event: Watermelon and Waterslides |
| August 20 | PDS: Meet the Teacher                 |
| August 21 | PDS Classes Begin                     |

## Prayer List

Members: Karen Hethershaw, 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, Paul Ivison, Don Myer, Virginia Tamborello, Jeanne Leverette, Virginia Olivier

**Members' Relatives & Friends:** Thad M. (West), Kelly D., Stephanie R. (Riggs-Harpur), Sharon M. and Meaghan G. & family (FPC Staff), Blade B., Judy N. (Dukes), Bonnie L., Michael R. (Dwyer), the family of Dorothy P. (Lucas), Marie J. (Das), Tom J. & family, Bill M. (Browder), Lee family (Corbit), 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), Genevieve W. (Morton), Lindsey W. (Walker), Karl W. (Watt), Lisa J. (Miller), Shannon L. (Diamond), Rick J., Sydney H. and Martha K. (Juhl), Harry S., Jr. and family (Havens), Joy D. (Rose), Steve T., Lonnie H. and Vivian M. (Hammonds), Wendy C. (Harshbarger), 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), Sherry M. (Garrison), Lee H. (Helms), Caleb & Michaela W. (Henderson), Gerald H. (Roberts), Tucker H. (Hudson)

## 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  
Yvonne Rose, Office Manager  
Stephanie Cooke, 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