

# First Presbyterian Church

## August 11, 2024



*Welcome*

**Sermon:**  
*Awake and Alert*

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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 Guest Speaker***

Rev. Gregory Han

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

Mark Sowden / FPC Youth

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

Today's flowers are given to the glory of God by Greg and Irma Scott, in memory of Amy Scott Achoa.

## *Order of Worship*

(\*Please stand if able.)

### Preparation

Opening Music

Welcome and Announcements

### Adoration

Introit

*Lord, We Come to Worship You*

*Folts*

Call to Worship

(from Ephesians 4: 1- 6)

One: Day after day, an abundance of God's love,

All: Morning by morning, new signs of blessing:

One: A gentle rain, an awesome sunset,

All: A friend's embrace, a child's smile,

One: A new insight, a sense of peace,

All: A shared meal, a treasured moment.

One: All around us and deep within us are signs of God's presence.

All: How can we not sing of God's faithfulness?

\*Hymn #274

O God of Earth and Space

1. O God of earth and space, Of sea and fire and air,  
Your providence surrounds us here And everywhere.  
In fruit and grain and tree, In shelter from the cold,  
In cooling breezes, flowing wells, Now as of old.

2. Where faithfulness is shown, Where love and truth abound,  
Where beauty graces human life, There You are found.  
Inspirer of all thought! Creative force of art!  
The melody on every tongue, In every heart!

3. Wherever freedom reigns, Where sin is overthrown,  
Where justice fused with mercy rules, There You are known.  
Give us the courage clear To make the earth a home  
**For all to live in harmony In Christ's shalom.**

## Confession

### \*Call to Confession

### \*Prayer of Confession

God of love, we know the fractures and splits of community. We know the painful disagreements, the harsh words, the stubborn silences, the turned backs. We know the work needed to be together, to thrive and communicate, to abide and play together.

God of hope, you have placed in us a yearning to dwell together in unity, to live by a larger vision, to believe in a deeper trust. You sent Jesus to be our Savior. You have sent the Spirit to work in and through us. Touch us once again with the mystery and wonder of being a community of faith. Through Jesus Christ, who holds us all in grace and love. Amen.

### \*Silent Prayer of Confession

#### \*Assurance of Pardon

Our Lord said to those who would listen, "You shall know the truth, and the truth shall set you free." Friends, receive the life-giving truth of God's forgiveness, and prepare yourselves for life according to God's kingdom.

**We accept God's gift of new life. Thanks be to God! Amen.**

\*Gloria Patri

## Minute for Mission

## Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

## Offertory

\*Doxology

## **\*Prayer of Dedication and The Lord's Prayer**

\*Choral Response

## Anthem

## *Soon and Very Soon*

## *Proclamation*

## Scripture Reading

## Hebrews 11: 1-16

The Word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God

## Children's Time

\*Hymn #263

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

1. Immortal, invisible, God only wise,  
In light inaccessible hid from our eyes,  
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,  
Almighty, victorious, Thy great name we praise.
2. Unresting, unhaunting, and silent as light,  
Nor wanting, nor wasting, Thou rulest in might;  
Thy justice like mountains high soaring above  
Thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.
3. To all, life Thou givest, to both great and small;  
In all life Thou livest, the true life of all;  
We blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree,  
Then wither and perish; but naught changeth Thee.

Scripture Reading

Luke 12: 32-40

Sermon

**“Awake and Alert”**

Rev. Gregory Han

## Dedication

Prayers of the People

\*Hymn #264

When in Our Music God Is Glorified

1. When in our music God is glorified,  
And adoration leaves no room for pride,  
It is as though the whole creation cried:  
Alleluia!
2. How often, making music, we have found  
A new dimension in the world of sound,  
As worship moved us to a more profound  
Alleluia!
4. Let every instrument be tuned for praise!  
Let all rejoice who have a voice to raise!  
And may God give us faith to sing always:  
Alleluia! Amen.

\*Charge and Benediction

\*Closing Response

God Be with You Till We Meet Again

God be with you till we meet again;  
Loving counsels guide, uphold you,  
**With a Shepherd's care enfold you;**  
God be with you till we meet again.

\*Postlude

*Copyright Information*

**"O God of Earth and Space"**

Text: © 1980 Jane Parker Huber; from A Singing Faith.  
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**"When in Our Music God Is Glorified"**

Text: Copyright © 1972 by Hope Publishing Company,  
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**"God Be with You Till We Meet Again"**

Music: From the English Hymnal, 1906. Used by permission of Oxford University Press.

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

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Hebrews 11: 1-16

<sup>1</sup> Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. <sup>2</sup> Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. <sup>3</sup> By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

<sup>4</sup> By faith Abel offered to God a more acceptable **sacrifice than Cain's**. Through this he received approval as righteous, God himself giving approval to his gifts; he died, but through his faith he still speaks. <sup>5</sup> By faith Enoch was **taken so that he did not experience death, and "he was not found, because God had taken him."** For it was attested before he was taken away that **"he had pleased God."** <sup>6</sup> And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would approach God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him. <sup>7</sup> By faith Noah, warned by God about events as yet unseen, respected the warning and built an ark to save his household; by this he condemned the world and became an heir to the righteousness that is in accordance with faith.

<sup>8</sup> By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance, and he set out, not knowing where he was going. <sup>9</sup> By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. <sup>10</sup> For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. <sup>11</sup> **By faith, with Sarah's involvement, he received power of procreation, even though he was too old, because he considered him faithful who had promised.** <sup>12</sup> Therefore from one person, and this one **as good as dead, descendants were born, "as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore."**

<sup>13</sup> All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, <sup>14</sup> for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. <sup>15</sup> If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. <sup>16</sup> But as it is, they desire a better homeland, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

Luke 12: 32-40

<sup>32</sup> **Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.** <sup>33</sup> Sell your possessions and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. <sup>34</sup> For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

<sup>35</sup> **Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit;** <sup>36</sup> be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. <sup>37</sup> Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. <sup>38</sup> If he comes during the middle of the night or near dawn and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

<sup>39</sup> **But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into.** <sup>40</sup> You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."

## Notes



## *Welcoming Our New Pastor*

**September 15 will be Rev. Seth Saathoff's first Sunday at the pulpit. After the 11:00 worship service we will be having a meet & greet potluck for the Saathoff family. Please plan to join us for this exciting event. More details will be available in the upcoming weeks.**

## ***Presbyterian Day School Hiring Teacher's Aids***

Do you enjoy helping children learn and grow? Are you looking for a job during school hours? If so, join our amazing PDS team! Our work days are 8:30-2:30 **Monday through Thursday and we follow the CISD calendar year. If you're interested in this opportunity, please call Lori Thompson at (936) 756-3990.**

## *Opportunities for Everyone*

We are revamping and revitalizing our Elementary Sunday School classes, starting August 18<sup>th</sup>, and could use your help. We're looking for teachers, helpers, worship leaders and subs. There's plenty of opportunity to help, with no long-term commitment required. Please contact Dena Sowden [DSowden@FPCConroe.org](mailto:DSowden@FPCConroe.org) or Elizabeth Ackley at [lbthnn97@gmail.com](mailto:lbthnn97@gmail.com).

We also have opportunities for new small groups and Bible studies on Sunday mornings, Wednesday Night Live and Sunday evenings during The Spark, which is open to all ages. Contact Dena Sowden for details.

## ***Pastor's Class on August 18***

**Rev. Han will hold a second and final Summer Pastor's Class on Sunday, August 18<sup>th</sup>, at 9:30 a.m., in the Youth Sunday School room. This will be an opportunity to ask questions about the Presbyterian Church, as well as general questions. A Google form has been created for receiving questions, which can be found on our Facebook page and the FPC website ([fpcConroe.org](http://fpcConroe.org)).**

## Calendar of Weekly Events

<p><i>Sunday</i> August 11</p>	<p>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 with Cara Wood (Rm. 204) Ancient Christianity-video presentation and class discussion. <i>On break for the month of August.</i> 9:30 a.m. Exploring Our Faith with Susan Buckley (Rm. 206) <b>9:30 a.m. Seekers' Bible Study with Randy Blanton</b> (Rm. 207) Study of the Apostle Paul's letter to the Philippians 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>) 5:00-7:00 p.m. The Spark (Gym)</p>
<p><i>Monday</i> August 12</p>	<p>1:30 p.m. Monday Bible Study (Parlor)</p>
<p><i>Wednesday</i> August 14</p>	<p>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) 5:45 p.m. Handbells Practice (Sanctuary) 7:00-8:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Practice (Choir Room)</p>
<p><i>Sunday</i> August 18</p>	<p>9:30 a.m. Class with Rev. Han (Youth area) 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 with Cara Wood (Rm. 204) Ancient Christianity-video presentation and class discussion. <i>On break for the month of August.</i> 9:30 a.m. Exploring Our Faith with Susan Buckley (Rm. 206) <b>9:30 a.m. Seekers' Bible Study with Randy Blanton</b> (Rm. 207) Study of the Apostle Paul's letter to the Philippians 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>) 5:00-7:00 p.m. The Spark (Gym)</p>

## Save the Date

August 14	CISD Classes Begin
August 17	PDS Event: Watermelon and Waterslides
August 18	Final Summer Class with Rev. Han
August 20	PDS: Meet the Teacher
August 21	PDS Classes Begin
September 2	Labor Day (PDS & FPC closed)
September 15	Potluck Reception for Rev. Saathoff & family

## 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:** Lynn & Jamie DeGeorge (Barton), Thad M. (West), Kelly D., Stephanie R. (Riggs-Harpur), 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

Bonnie Hernandez, Music Director

Rolethial McKelvey, Accompanist

Jackye Cannon and Jane Corbit, Bookkeeping

Shirley Dukes, Parish Nurse



### First Presbyterian Church

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