

# First Presbyterian Church

October 27, 2024



**Sermon:**  
*A Time to Plant  
and a Time to Harvest*

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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.

***~ Good Things to Know ~***

***Today's Worship Leader***

Mark Sowden

***Today's Flowers***

Today's flowers are given to the glory of God by Leslie Graham, in memory of Sarah Graham.

***Last Week's Attendance, October 20***

8:30 a.m. Worship Service - 27

11:00 a.m. Worship Service - 118

Online Worship Attendance - 23

**Total Attendance – 168**

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

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

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

For everything there is a season, a time for every activity under heaven.  
A time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to harvest.

Thankful for the bountiful harvest we have received, we plant seeds for future generations to reap.

Giving thanks to God, we give just as we have received.

With heart, soul, mind, and voice:

Let us worship God!

\*Hymn #411

Arise, Your Light Is Come!

1. Arise, your light is come!  
The Spirit's call obey;  
Show forth the glory of your God,  
Which shines on you today.
3. Arise, your light is come!  
All you in sorrow born,  
Bind up the broken-hearted ones  
And comfort those who mourn.
4. Arise, your light is come!  
The mountains burst in song!  
Rise up like eagles on the wing;  
God's power will make us strong.

\*Please stand if able.

\*Call to Confession

\*Silent Prayer of Confession

\*Assurance of Pardon

Even in our moments of doubt and lack of faith, God is still at work. God is still healing. God is still forgiving. Even when you fail to see God, God still sees you, and still loves you.

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel;

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

\*Gloria Patri

### The Word

Scripture Reading

Revelation 21:1-6, Ecclesiastes 3:1-2

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

**"A Time to Plant and a Time to Harvest"**

*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

Distribution of the Elements

Prayer of Thanksgiving

\*Hymn

He Lives

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

\*Postlude

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**"He Lives"** by Alfred Henry Ackley  
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**"Wade in the Water"** by Roger Emerson  
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**"We are Marching" and "Siyahamba"**  
Text: South African folksong  
Tune: South African folksong  
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## **11:00 A.M. WORSHIP SERVICE**

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

Opening Music

Welcome and Announcements

Introit

*Open Your Heart in Humble Adoration*

*Folts*

Call to Worship

For everything there is a season, a time for every activity under heaven.  
A time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to  
harvest.

Thankful for the bountiful harvest we have received, we plant seeds for  
future generations to reap.

Giving thanks to God, we give just as we have received.

With heart, soul, mind, and voice:

Let us worship God!

\*Hymn #411

Arise, Your Light Is Come!

1. Arise, your light is come!  
The Spirit's call obey;  
Show forth the glory of your God,  
Which shines on you today.
3. Arise, your light is come!  
All you in sorrow born,  
Bind up the broken-hearted ones  
And comfort those who mourn.
4. Arise, your light is come!  
The mountains burst in song!  
Rise up like eagles on the wing;  
God's power will make us strong.

\*Please stand if able.

\*Call to Confession

\*Prayer of Confession

Almighty God, you love us, but we have not loved you. You call, but we have not listened. We walk away from neighbors in need, wrapped in our own concerns. We freely enjoy the fruits of labor from those who came before us, but we are hesitant to plant seeds for the next generation to enjoy.

God of grace, help us to admit our sin, so that as you come to us in mercy, we may repent, turn to you, and receive forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer.

\*Silent Prayer of Confession

\*Assurance of Pardon

Even in our moments of doubt and lack of faith, God is still at work. God is still healing. God is still forgiving. Even when you fail to see God, God still sees you, and still loves you.

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel;

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

\*Gloria Patri

Moment for Stewardship

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

\*Doxology

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

\*Choral Response

## The Word

### Children's Time

Anthem

*Wade in the Water*

*Emerson*

Scripture Reading

Revelation 21:1-6

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

\*Hymn #260

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

1. A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing;  
Our helper He, amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing;  
For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe;  
His craft and power are great, and, armed with cruel hate,  
On earth is not his equal.
2. Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing;  
**Were not the right Man on our side, the Man of God's own choosing:**  
Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is He;  
Lord Sabaoth, His Name, from age to age the same,  
And He must win the battle.
4. That word above all earthly powers, no thanks to them, abideth;  
The Spirit and the gifts are ours through Him Who with us sideth:  
Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also;  
**The body they may kill: God's truth abideth still,**  
His kingdom is forever.

Scripture Reading

Ecclesiastes 3:1-2

**Sermon**

**"A Time to Plant and a Time to Harvest"**

*Rev. Seth Saathoff*



## Responding to the Word

### Prayers of the People

#### \*Hymn

He Lives

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

#### \*Closing Response

We Are Marching

We are marching in the light of God,  
we are marching in the light of God.  
We are marching in the light of God,  
we are marching in the light of the light of God,  
we are marching, marching, we are marching, marching,  
we are marching in the light of the light of God,  
we are marching, marching, we are marching, marching,  
we are marching in the light of God.

#### \*Postlude

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

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### Revelation 21:1-6

<sup>1</sup> Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. <sup>2</sup> And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. <sup>3</sup> And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

**"See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them and be their God; <sup>4</sup> he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away."**

**<sup>5</sup> And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." <sup>6</sup> Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.**

### Ecclesiastes 3:1-2

<sup>3</sup> For everything there is a season, a time for every activity under heaven. <sup>2</sup> A time to be born and a time to die. A time to plant and a time to harvest.

# *Notes*



### *WNL Menu*

**You won't want to miss our October 30 meal, which will consist of three-sauce spaghetti, Caesar salad, garlic bread, and Italian cream cake.**

If you are unable to attend WNL, takeout is available if requested through the church office by Tuesday at 4:00 p.m. We will serve dinner at 5:00 p.m. The cost is \$5 for 12-89 years of age.

### *Stewardship Season*

This Sunday, October 27, marks the beginning of our church's Stewardship Season. While stewardship is something that we ideally practice throughout the year, now is the time that we reflect on what our Lord has done for us and offer our pledge to Him for the coming year.

This week you should receive FPC Conroe's proposed 2025 operating budget along with a pledge card. If for some reason you do not receive a letter, it will be available in the office. November 17 has been set aside for Dedication Sunday where we will commit our offerings to our church for the Lord's work. Please pray for God's guidance for what He is calling you to give for the coming year.

*"A time to plant, and a time to harvest." - Ecclesiastes 3:2b*

### *Worship Leaders Needed*

YOU ARE INVITED — If you would like to participate in our Worship Services as one of the Worship Leaders, please contact Sharon Walker at (936) 520-9530 or [sswalker46@hotmail.com](mailto:sswalker46@hotmail.com) on or before October 27. On Sunday, November 3, at 12:30 p.m., a meeting will convene in the Parlor. If you are unable to attend the meeting, please notify Sharon to arrange a date/time for training, as well as to answer questions.

### *Display for FPC Veterans*

Please make note of the bulletin board in the hallway that has been set up for FPC Veterans. You are invited to share photos of yourselves or loved ones who have served in any capacity in our military. The photos can be turned in to the office, addressed to Dena Sowden, with the name, branch and rank at any time. If you would like to get the photo back, please indicate that when you drop it off, and we will be sure to get your original back to you.

### *Veterans Day Breakfast*

On November 11<sup>th</sup>, PDS will be hosting breakfast for FPC and PDS Veterans. If you would like to take part in this special morning, please plan to meet in the bistro area at 9:00 a.m. We hope you will join us!



### *Saturday with the Saathoffs*

The Saathoff family wants to get to know our FPC family and is inviting you to dinner! Use the link to choose an upcoming Saturday that works for you. Please call the church office to set up a time, or use the following link.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0D4CABAD2EA2F94-51851903-saturdays#/>

### *Mission Sewing Needs*

The Mission Sewing Group is preparing for the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Sew-a-thon to be held on February 22, 2025. Registration begins February 2<sup>nd</sup>. In the meantime, **we are taking donations of buttons... any type of buttons!** Please drop them off in the main office or Room 105.



*New and Prospective Members Invited to  
"First Steps" Orientation Class on November 10*

First Presbyterian Church Conroe and its Membership Committee will host a new and prospective member lunch and orientation class called *First Steps* on Sunday, November 10, from 12:30 p.m. (following the 11 a.m. worship service) until 2 p.m. in Room 105. *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.

Please confirm your attendance to Steve Scheffler at (281)-851-1690 or email: [scscheffler@sbcglobal.net](mailto:scscheffler@sbcglobal.net) on or before November 3.



**Help Us Bring  
Christmas Joy  
To Others**



**Philip Cash**

*toys for cops*



**November 9, 2024**

**Catfish Dinner \$12.00 • To Go Plates Available**

**Noon til 3 pm • Live & Silent Auctions**

**North Montgomery County Community Center  
600 Gerald Street, Willis TX 77378**

All donations welcome - Contact Marilyn Kasziersky 936-441-8778  
[www.familypromiseofmc.org](http://www.familypromiseofmc.org)

## Prayer List

Members: Kyle Walker, Glenna Lang, Joe Clark, Jeannene Wendt, 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: C.M. (Blott), Sue P. (Clark), Wes K. (Yates), Alicia I., James I., and Ron S. (Bailey), Susie K (Davis), Anna and Wendy C. (Harshbarger), the family of Lynn DeGeorge (Barton), Thad M. (West), 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), Karl W. (Watt), Lisa J. (Miller), Shannon L. (Diamond), Rick J., Sydney H. and Martha K. (Juhl), Joe T. Sr and caregivers, Harry S., Jr. and family (Havens), Joy D. (Rose), Steve T., Lonnie H. and Vivian M. (Hammonds), Kim H. (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)

*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>October 27</i></p>	<p>8:30 a.m. Worship with Communion (Sanctuary)</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Bereans Sunday School Class with Bob Shepherd (Rm. 105) Paul's letter to the church at Ephesus</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Fellowship Class with Cara Wood (Rm. 204) Max Lucado study series "What Happens Next-A Traveler's Guide Through the End of This Age."</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</b> (Library) Study of the Apostle Paul's letter to the Philippians</p> <p><b>9:30 a.m. FPC Kid's Sunday School</b> (Rm. 203)</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>
<p><i>Monday</i> <i>October 28</i></p>	<p>1:30 p.m. Monday Bible Study (Parlor)</p>
<p><i>Wednesday</i> <i>October 30</i></p>	<p>4:00 p.m. Small Group Study with Gordon Juhl. Studying Timothy Keller's devotion <b>God's Wisdom for Navigating Life.</b></p> <p>5:00 p.m. Wednesday Night Live Meal (FLC)</p> <p>5:45 p.m. Handbells Practice (Sanctuary)</p> <p>6:00 p.m. Bible Studies</p> <p>6:00-7:00 p.m. J.A.M. Kids Craft and Music Time</p> <p>7:00-8:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Practice (Choir Room)</p>



<p><i>Sunday</i> <i>November 3</i></p>	<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 with Cara Wood (Rm. 204) Max Lucado study series "What Happens Next-A Traveler's Guide Through the End of This Age."  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 YouTube.com/fpcConroe)  12:30 p.m. Committee Meetings  5:00-7:00 p.m. The Spark (Gym)</p>
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## Save the Date

- November 3      All Saints Day Memorial
- November 11      **Veteran's Day Breakfast with PDS**
- November 20      WNL Thanksgiving Dinner and Worship Service
- November 25-29      CISD/PDS Thanksgiving break
- November 28      Thanksgiving Day



## Ministry Leaders

Administration	Cheryl Nichols (2025, Chair)
Building & Grounds	Bill Harshbarger (2026, Chair)
Care-Prayer	Bob Shepherd (2024, Chair)
Discipleship	Mark Sowden (2024, Chair) Dena Sowden (2024) Alex Williams (2024) Masen Stuntz (2025)
Fellowship	TBD
Membership	Steve Scheffler (2025)
Missions	Bobby Ezell (2024, Chair) Catherine Scheffler (2025)
PDS	Sharon Walker (2025, Chair)
Worship	Randy Blanton and Mike Wisda (2026, Co-chairs)



*Thank You  
for  
Joining Us*

## Staff and Church Information

### Staff

Rev. Seth Saathoff, Senior Pastor  
Rev. Callie Candee, Pastoral Care  
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