

First Presbyterian Church
May 3, 2026



8:30 Worship Service with Communion	Page 3
11:00 Worship Service	Page 6
Scripture Readings	Page 11
The Connection	Page 14
Calendar of Events	Page 16
Prayer List	Page 18

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. 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

Last Week's Attendance, April 26

8:30 a.m. Worship Service - 11

11:00 a.m. Worship Service - 141

Online Worship Attendance - 39

Total Attendance – 191

8:30 A.M. WORSHIP WITH COMMUNION

Preparing to Receive God's Word

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame.
Deliver me in your righteousness. Incline your ear to me. Make haste
to deliver me.

Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag and my
stronghold.

For the sake of your name, lead me and guide me. Take me out of the
net they have secretly set for me.

For you are my tower of strength. Into your hands I commend my spirit.

For you have redeemed me, O Lord, O God of truth.

My times are in your hand. Rescue me from the hand of my enemies and
from those who persecute me.

Make your face to shine upon your servant, and in your loving-
kindness save me.

*Hymn #388

O Jesus, I Have Promised

1. O Jesus, I have promised
To serve Thee to the end;
Be Thou forever near me,
My Master and my Friend;
I shall not fear the battle
If Thou art by my side,
Nor wander from the pathway
If Thou wilt be my guide.

*Please stand if able.

2. O let me feel Thee near me!
The world is ever near;
I see the sights that dazzle,
The tempting sounds I hear;
My foes are ever near me,
Around me and within;
But Jesus, draw Thou nearer,
And shield my soul from sin.

4. O Jesus, Thou hast promised
To all who follow Thee
That where Thou art in glory
There shall Thy servant be;
And, Jesus, I have promised
To serve Thee to the end;
O give me grace to follow,
My Master and my friend.

*Call to Confession

*Silent Prayer of Confession

*Assurance of Pardon

While we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. In him, we are forgiven, renewed, and set free to walk in newness of life.

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:

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

*Gloria Patri

The Word

Scripture Readings

Acts 6:8-15, 7:51-60; John 14:1-14

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"Whose Job Is It, Anyway?"

Rev. Callie Candee

Responding to God's 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 #467

How Great Thou Art

1. O Lord my God! when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the worlds Thy hands have made,
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
Thy power throughout the universe displayed;

Refrain:

Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee,

How great Thou art, how great Thou art!

Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee,

How great Thou art, how great Thou art!

3. And when I think that God, His Son not sparing,
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in;
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,
He bled and died to take away my sin; (Refrain)

4. When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration,
And there proclaim, my God, how great Thou art! (Refrain)

*Charge and Benediction

*Postlude

11:00 A.M. WORSHIP SERVICE

Preparing to Receive God's Word

Opening Music

Welcome and Announcements

Introit

Reign in Us

Neufeld/Glovet

Call to Worship

In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame.
Deliver me in your righteousness. Incline your ear to me. Make haste to deliver me.

Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag and my stronghold.

For the sake of your name, lead me and guide me. Take me out of the net they have secretly set for me.

For you are my tower of strength. Into your hands I commend my spirit.

For you have redeemed me, O Lord, O God of truth.

My times are in your hand. Rescue me from the hand of my enemies and from those who persecute me.

Make your face to shine upon your servant, and in your loving-kindness save me.

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*Please stand if able.

2. O let me feel Thee near me!
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And shield my soul from sin.

4. O Jesus, Thou hast promised
To all who follow Thee
That where Thou art in glory
There shall Thy servant be;
And, Jesus, I have promised
To serve Thee to the end;
O give me grace to follow,
My Master and my friend.

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession

Have mercy on us, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercies, blot out our transgressions. Wash us thoroughly from our iniquities, and cleanse us from our sin. For we acknowledge our transgressions, and our sin is ever before us. Create in us clean hearts, O God, and renew a right spirit within us. Cast us not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from us. Amen.

*Silent Prayer of Confession

*Assurance of Pardon

While we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. In him, we are forgiven, renewed, and set free to walk in newness of life.

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:

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

*Gloria Patri

Minute for Mission

The Sacrament of Communion

Invitation to the Table

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

Words of Institution

Distribution of the Elements

Communion Anthem

Prayer of Thanksgiving

*Hymn #467

How Great Thou Art

1. O Lord my God! when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the worlds Thy hands have made,
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
Thy power throughout the universe displayed;

Refrain:

Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!

3. And when I think that God, His Son not sparing,
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in;
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,
He bled and died to take away my sin; (Refrain)
4. When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration,
And there proclaim, my God, how great Thou art! (Refrain)

*Charge and Benediction

*Choral Response

How Marvelous Are the Works

He alone is the King of kings,
He rules Lord of all.

How marvelous are the works of the Lord,
how excellent are His ways.
How wonderful is His glory and fame,
ever the same, great is the name of the Lord;
is His glory and fame, ever the same,
great is the name of the Lord.
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!

*Postlude

Copyright Information

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"How Great Thou Art"

by Carl Gustav Boberg and Stuart K. Hine

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"Reign In Us" (Adapted by Folts)

Words & Music by Tim & Jon Neufeld and Ben Glove
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"How Marvelous Are the Works"

by David Augerman and Joseph M. Martin

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"Let Not Your Heart Be Troubled"

by Ruth Elaine Schram

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This Week's Scripture Readings

Acts 6:8-15, 7:51-60

⁸ **Now Stephen, a man full of God's grace and power, performed great wonders and signs among the people.** ⁹ Opposition arose, however, from members of the Synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called)—Jews of Cyrene and Alexandria as well as the provinces of Cilicia and Asia—who began to argue with Stephen. ¹⁰ But they could not stand up against the wisdom the Spirit gave him as he spoke.

¹¹ Then they secretly **persuaded some men to say, "We have heard Stephen speak blasphemous words against Moses and against God."**

¹² So they stirred up the people and the elders and the teachers of the law. They seized Stephen and brought him before the Sanhedrin. ¹³ They produced false witnesses, **who testified, "This fellow never stops speaking against this holy place and against the law.** ¹⁴ For we have heard him say that this Jesus of Nazareth will destroy this place **and change the customs Moses handed down to us."**

¹⁵ All who were sitting in the Sanhedrin looked intently at Stephen, and they saw that his face was like the face of an angel.

^{7:51} **"You stiff-necked people! Your hearts and ears are still uncircumcised. You are just like your ancestors: You always resist the Holy Spirit!** ⁵² Was there ever a prophet your ancestors did not persecute? They even killed those who predicted the coming of the Righteous One. And now you have betrayed and murdered him— ⁵³ you who have received the law that was given through angels **but have not obeyed it."**

⁵⁴ When the members of the Sanhedrin heard this, they were furious and gnashed their teeth at him. ⁵⁵ But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶ **"Look," he said, "I see heaven open and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God."**

⁵⁷ At this they covered their ears and, yelling at the top of their voices, they all rushed at him, ⁵⁸ dragged him out of the city and began to stone him. Meanwhile, the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul.

⁵⁹ **While they were stoning him, Stephen prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit."** ⁶⁰ Then he fell on his knees **and cried out, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them."** When he had said this, he fell asleep.

John 14:1-14

¹ **“Do not let your hearts be troubled.** You believe in God; believe also in me. ² **My Father’s house has many rooms; if that were not so,** would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. ⁴ **You know the way to the place where I am going.”**

⁵ Thomas **said to him, “Lord, we don’t know where you are going, so how can we know the way?”**

⁶ Jesus answered, **“I am** the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷ If you really know me, you will know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him.”

⁸ Philip **said, “Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us.”**

⁹ Jesus answered: **“Don’t you know me, Philip, even after I have** been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. **How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’?** ¹⁰ **Don’t you believe** that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me? The words I say to you I do not speak on my own authority. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work. ¹¹ Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; or at least believe on the evidence of the works themselves. ¹² Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³ And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.

Notes



Mother's Day Brunch

We'll be serving Mother's Day Brunch from 9:00 a.m. - 10:40 a.m. in the FLC. For those who want to make sure they don't miss out on Sunday School, we'll have Youth coming around with a food & beverage cart, delivering plates for those in Sunday School. We could still use some help serving and cleaning up. If you're able to assist, please contact Mark Sowden at (281) 728-8710.

PDS Teacher Appreciation

Teacher appreciation is May 4-7. We will have boxes set out for each staff member of PDS with available notecards for you to write a note of appreciation or encouragement. Thank you for supporting PDS!

Serve Our Neighbor Day

Dear congregation, for Serve Our Neighbor day, on May 16th, we would like to serve members of our congregation that are in need. If you know of someone who could use help at their home, please let us know. We are looking for three projects for that Saturday. This could include cleaning, mowing, flower bed cleaning, sorting, organizing, or anything else that will not take more than two hours. Thank you for allowing us to help the people of the congregation. Please call Debra Slade-Redden (936) 520-8929 or email dsladeredden@hotmail.com with your ideas.

Members of Armed Services Photos

The Worship Committee is requesting photos of your loved ones that have **served, or who are presently serving, in our nation's armed services.** Please send your photos to Randy Blanton at randyblanton@yahoo.com in .jpeg format, and include the name, branch of service, rank, and years of service. The photos of the men and women who have served, and have passed, will be streamed on May 24, 2026.

Prayer List Updates

We ask for continued support in keeping our prayer list updated. If any of our prayer requests have had a change in status, or need to be removed, please make the church office staff aware. Thank you.



Ways You Can Be Involved at

First Presbyterian Church



- 1. Family Promise of Montgomery County**

4 weeks per year, time slots available: Mon - Fri during of hours: 5:30 - 6:30.
Along with other families, help provide a meal during our front week for up to 5 Families.
Interested? Contact Deborah Giddles 832.212.2500
- 2. Montgomery County Food Bank**

3rd Thursday of each month; approx. 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.
Along with a team, prepare a meal for about 60 people in the bank facility; must wear closed-toed shoes & fill out a waiver form the first time volunteering. Interested? Contact Susan Buckley.
- 3. Montgomery County Women's Center**

3rd Saturday of every other month. Approx. 8:00 - 12:00
Along with a team, prepare a meal for about 80 people in the bank's church, the Women's Center, the Women's Center picks up meals from.
Interested? Contact Shirley Dukes 936-760-8655
- 4. The Salvation Army**

1st, 2nd, 3rd, & 4th Mondays of each month; approx. 9:45-12:30
Making sack lunches to be prepared and dropped off at The Salvation Army.
Interested? Contact:
Liz Reeves (M) 713-818-1006, Chris Kattner (F) 936-524-0380,
Cindy Bailey (M) 936-597-3579, John & Suzy King
- 5. Compassion United**

Various volunteer opportunities are available; our church doesn't currently have a group involved with Compassion United.
Interested? Contact Stormie Garrett (Volunteer Coordinator) with my 936-274-3799
- 6. Angel Reach**

Various volunteer opportunities are available; our church doesn't currently have a group involved with Angel Reach.
Interested? Katrina Katrina Atkinson -Engagement Coordinator 936-202-8499

Calendar of Weekly Events

<p><i>Sunday</i> May 3</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 uplifting letter to the church at Philippi.</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Fellowship Class (Rm. 204) Studying "1 & 2 Peter", by Max Lucado, taught by Deborah Geddes, Glenna Lang and Glenn Elms.</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Exploring Our Faith with Susan Buckley (Rm. 206)</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Seekers' Bible Study with Randy Blanton (Library) Paul's Letter to the Romans on Sunday (Contact Randy Blanton to join by Zoom).</p> <p>9:30 a.m. FPC Kids' Sunday School (Rm. 203)</p> <p>10:30 a.m. Fellowship (Narthex)</p> <p>10:35 a.m. Praise band (Sanctuary)</p> <p>11:00 a.m. Worship Service (Sanctuary and Facebook Live www.com/fpcConroe or YouTube.com/fpcConroe)</p> <p>12:00 p.m. Committee Meetings</p> <p>12:30 p.m. Animal Crocheting class (Rm. 105)</p> <p>4:00 p.m. "A Year Through the Bible" Study (Rm. 105)</p> <p>5:00-7:00 p.m. The Spark (Gym)</p>
<p><i>Monday</i> May 4</p>	<p>1:30 p.m. Monday Bible Study (Parlor)</p>
<p><i>Tuesday</i> May 5</p>	<p>10:00 a.m. Rebecca Circle (Parlor)</p>
<p><i>Wednesday</i> May 6</p>	<p>9:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Mission Sewing (Rm. 105)</p> <p>4:00 p.m. Small Group Study (Parlor)</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 May 10</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 uplifting letter to the church at Philippi.</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Fellowship Class (Rm. 204) Studying "1 & 2 Peter", by Max Lucado, taught by Deborah Geddes, Glenna Lang and Glenn Elms.</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Exploring Our Faith with Susan Buckley (Rm. 206)</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Seekers' Bible Study with Randy Blanton (Library) Paul's Letter to the Romans on Sunday (Contact Randy Blanton to join by Zoom).</p> <p>9:30 a.m. FPC Kids' Sunday School (Rm. 203)</p> <p>10:30 a.m. Fellowship (Narthex)</p> <p>10:35 a.m. Praise band (Sanctuary)</p> <p>11:00 a.m. Worship Service (Sanctuary and Facebook Live www.com/fpcConroe or YouTube.com/fpcConroe)</p> <p>4:00 p.m. "A Year Through the Bible" Study (Rm. 105)</p> <p>5:00-7:00 p.m. The Spark (Gym)</p>
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Save the Date

- May 7 National Day of Prayer
- May 10 **Mother's Day Brunch**
- May 16 Serve Our Neighbor Day
- May 17 Senior Sunday
- May 24 Pentecost / Resume Summer Service Schedule
- May 25 Memorial Day (FPC office closed)

Prayer List

Members: Cindy and Ron Massey, John Gutekunst, James Dopp, Ron Bailey, Marcia Park and family, Steve and Connie Tibbetts, Nedra Murphy, Jean Heasley, Fred Kate, Sylvia Dopp, Roy Kessler, Ruth Masters, Jeannene Wendt, Reed Watson, John Lancaster, Kari Elliott, Tildon Hebert, Alice Helms, Jean Ball, Mary Hudson, Paul Ivison, Virginia Olivier

Members' Relatives & Friends: Lindsey Rose M., Catherine C. (Rose), Reagan M. (Taylor), Melissa and Mark M. (Miller), Connor, Caroline and baby M. (Saathoffs), Gabrielle T. (Tanner), Noah G. (Simon), David W. (Hart), Bret F. (Kasmiersky), Dorene D. and Dan S. (B. Hernandez), Siana F. and family (Watson), Wes K. (Yates), Alicia I., James I., and Ron S. (Bailey), Susie K. (Davis), Danielle S. & kids, Stephanie R. & kids (Riggs-Harpur), Blade B., Judy N. (Dukes), Michael R. (Dwyer), Tom J. & family, Bill M. (Browder), Tony N. (Spinks), 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), John R. (Hethershaw), James M., Patty M., Enrique E. (Moore), Jeffrey H. & Leah H. (Heasley), Wendy S. (Adamson), Sherry M. (Garrison), Lee H. (Helms), Caleb & Michaela W. (Henderson), Gerald H. (Roberts)

Ministry Leaders

Administration	Cheryl Nichols (2027, Chair) Matthew Laletas (2028)
Building & Grounds	Bill Harshbarger (2026, Chair)
Care-Prayer	Randy Blanton (2026, Chair)
Discipleship	Elizabeth Laletas (2028, Chair) Sabrina Sowden (2027) Sean Morton (2027, Youth elder) Savannah Hector (2028, Youth elder)
Fellowship	Debbie Morse (2027, Chair)
Membership	David Nichols (2027, Chair)
Missions	Debra Slade-Redden (2028, Chair)
PDS	Pat Hudson (2027, Chair)
Worship	Mike Wisda (2026, Chair) Cynda Hector (2028)
Trustees	David Nichols (2026) Fred Kate (2027) Anne Spinks (2028)

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:

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Church Office (936) 756-8884 Fax (936) 756-8842
Website: www.fpcConroe.org

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Mailing Address:

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