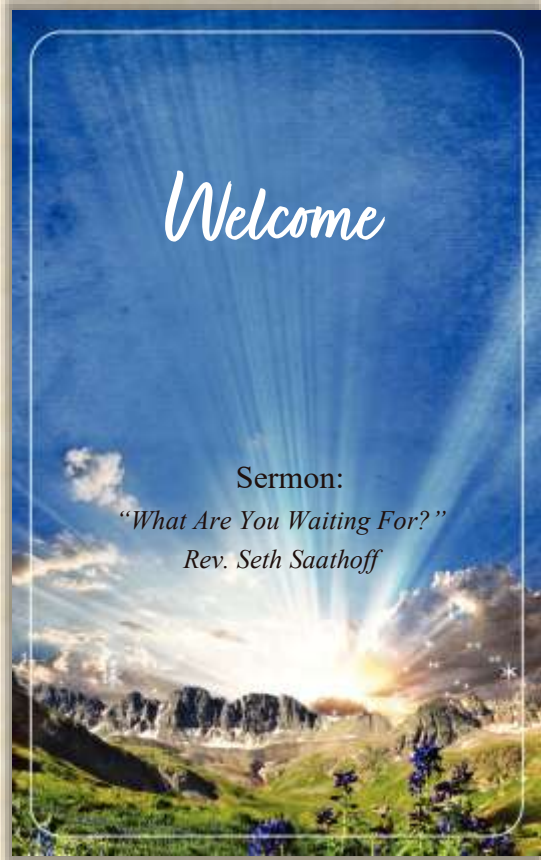


First Presbyterian Church  
May 17, 2026



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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](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***

*Matt Laletas*

***Today's Flowers***

*Today's flowers are given to the glory of God by  
David & Vivian Macdonald, in memory of their parents.*

***Last Week's Attendance, May 10***

*8:30 a.m. Worship Service - 14*

*11:00 a.m. Worship Service - 167*

*Online Worship Attendance - 16*

***Total Attendance – 197***

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

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

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

Shout to God with songs of great joy.  
Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised.  
God has made us whole.  
God has called us to a ministry of hope and love.  
Come, let us celebrate the love of God.

**Let us praise God's name and serve God joyfully.**

\*Hymn #148

At the Name of Jesus

1. At the name of Jesus, every knee shall bow,  
Every tongue confess Him King of glory now;  
**'Tis the Father's pleasure We should call Him Lord,**  
Who from the beginning Was the mighty Word.
3. Bore it up triumphant, With its human light,  
Through all ranks of creatures, To the central height,  
**To the throne of Godhead, to the Father's breast;**  
Filled it with the glory Of that perfect rest.
4. Christians, this Lord Jesus Shall return again,  
**With His Father's glory O'er the earth to reign;**  
For all wreaths of empire Meet upon His brow,  
And our hearts confess Him King of glory now.

\*Please stand if able.

\*Call to Confession

\*Silent Prayer of Confession

\*Assurance of Pardon

The risen Christ has ascended, not to abandon the world, but to reign over it in love. The crucified and risen Lord now intercedes for us at the right hand of the Father.

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

Psalm 68:1-3, 32-35; Acts 1:6-11

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

**"What Are You Waiting For?"**

*Rev. Seth Saathoff*

### 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 #485

To God Be the Glory

1. To God be the glory, great things He hath done!  
So loved He the world that He gave us His Son,  
Who yielded His life an atonement for sin,  
And opened the life-gate that all may go in.

Refrain:

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,  
Let the earth hear His voice!  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,  
Let the people rejoice!  
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,  
And give Him the glory: great things He hath done!

2. Great things He hath taught us, great things He hath done,  
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;  
But purer, and higher, and greater will be  
Our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.  
(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

Shout to God with songs of great joy.  
Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised.  
God has made us whole.  
God has called us to a ministry of hope and love.  
Come, let us celebrate the love of God.

**Let us praise God's name and serve God joyfully.**

\*Hymn

Open The Eyes Of My Heart

Chorus:

Open the eyes of my heart Lord  
Open the eyes of my heart  
I want to see You  
I want to see You

Verse:

To see You high and lifted up  
Shining in the light of Your glory  
Pour out Your power and love  
As we sing holy, holy, holy

Bridge:

Holy, holy, holy  
Holy, holy, holy  
Holy, holy, holy  
I want to see You

\*Please stand if able.

\*Call to Confession

\*Prayer of Confession

We have to confess, O Lord, that we are people who want to have everything proven for us. We hear the message in the scripture of **Jesus' ascension, and we smile smugly, not truly believing the vision.** Forgive us for our arrogant doubts and attitudes of smugness. Help us remember that everything Jesus taught us was to prepare us to **help build God's realm here on earth. We are called to be people of faith,** not of absolute proof, as we understand it. Let us place our trust in Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior. Let us look with eyes of faith as he ascends to the Father. We pray in his name, amen.

\*Silent Prayer of Confession

\*Assurance of Pardon

The risen Christ has ascended, not to abandon the world, but to reign over it in love. The crucified and risen Lord now intercedes for us at the right hand of the Father.

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:

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

\*Gloria Patri

Minute for Mission

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

\*Doxology

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

\*Choral Response

The Word

**Children's Time** - Senior Recognition

Anthem

*Irish Blessing*

*Patterson*

Scripture Reading

Psalms 68:1-3, 32-35

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

\*Hymn #148

At the Name of Jesus

1. At the name of Jesus, every knee shall bow,  
Every tongue confess Him King of glory now;  
**'Tis the Father's pleasure We should call Him Lord,**  
Who from the beginning Was the mighty Word.
3. Bore it up triumphant, With its human light,  
Through all ranks of creatures, To the central height,  
**To the throne of Godhead, to the Father's breast;**  
Filled it with the glory Of that perfect rest.
4. Christians, this Lord Jesus Shall return again,  
**With His Father's glory O'er the earth to reign;**  
For all wreaths of empire Meet upon His brow,  
And our hearts confess Him King of glory now.

Scripture Reading

Acts 1:6-11

Sermon

**"What Are You Waiting For?"**

*Rev. Seth Saathoff*

## Responding to God's Word

Affirmation of Faith

*(The Apostles' Creed)*

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the People

\*Hymn #485

To God Be the Glory

1. To God be the glory, great things He hath done!  
So loved He the world that He gave us His Son,  
Who yielded His life an atonement for sin,  
And opened the life-gate that all may go in.

Refrain:

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,  
Let the earth hear His voice!  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,  
Let the people rejoice!  
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,  
And give Him the glory: great things He hath done!

2. Great things He hath taught us, great things He hath done,  
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;  
But purer, and higher, and greater will be  
Our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.  
(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*

†

**"Reign In Us" (Adapted by Folts)**

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**"How Marvelous Are the Works"**

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**"Irish Blessing" by Mark Patterson**

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

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### Psalm 68:1-3, 32-35

<sup>1</sup> May God arise, may his enemies be scattered; may his foes flee before him. <sup>2</sup> May you blow them away like smoke—as wax melts before the fire, may the wicked perish before God. <sup>3</sup> But may the righteous be glad and rejoice before God; may they be happy and joyful.

<sup>32</sup> Sing to God, you kingdoms of the earth, sing praise to the Lord, <sup>33</sup> to him who rides across the highest heavens, the ancient heavens, who thunders with mighty voice. <sup>34</sup> Proclaim the power of God, whose majesty is over Israel, whose power is in the heavens. <sup>35</sup> You, God, are awesome in your sanctuary; the God of Israel gives power and strength to his people.

Praise be to God!

### Acts 1:6-11

<sup>6</sup> **Then they gathered around him and asked him, “Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?”**

<sup>7</sup> He said to them: **“It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority.** <sup>8</sup> But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, **and to the ends of the earth.”**

<sup>9</sup> After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight.

<sup>10</sup> They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. <sup>11</sup> **“Men of Galilee,” they said, “why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven.”**

# *Notes*



*New Summer Service Schedule Begins May 24<sup>th</sup>*

Please make note that today is the last Sunday that we'll be having an 8:30 a.m. worship service. Our 11:00 service will be our only Sunday service through the end of summer.

*Pentecost Sunday May 24*

Historically, red has been associated with Pentecost Sunday as a reminder of **God's empowerment of the Church through the abiding presence of the Holy Spirit**. Luke recorded that a great wind blew, filling the place, and tongues of fire rested above the heads of the disciples. As a result of this divine encounter, the disciples declared the good news of Jesus Christ to all present! Thousands believed in the Christ and were added to the Church! We invite you to commemorate this great day in church history by wearing red as we gather on May 24 for the Day of Pentecost.

*Animal Crocheting Class Today*

The animal crocheting class will be held today at 12:30 p.m. Feel free to call Kaleigh at (713) 582-4804 if you have any questions or need child care.

***Children's Sunday School and Church***

Beginning May 24<sup>th</sup> (with the summer schedule), Children's Sunday School and Children's Church will take a break for the summer, allowing our volunteer teachers an opportunity to enjoy their summer vacation time. They will resume after Rally Day in the fall. In the meantime, we do have a Children's Corner in the Sanctuary and children will have a lesson and activity during the Sunday School hour, in the nursery, with Ms. Linda and Ms. Amber. Contact Dena Sowden with any questions at [DSowden@FPCConroe.Org](mailto:DSowden@FPCConroe.Org)



## ***June is Men's Health Month***

**Men's health is a family matter. This is why** First Presbyterian Church Conroe **is hosting Life Line Screening, the nation's leading provider of preventive health screenings** on Friday, June 19, 2026. The screenings provided focus on vascular disease, a leading cause of illness and disability among men.

Screenings are fast, painless and affordable. Three key tests check for blocked carotid arteries, an irregular heart rhythm called atrial fibrillation, and high blood pressure, which are the three leading risk factors for stroke.

Other tests check for abdominal aortic aneurysms and hardening of the arteries in the legs. A bone density screening to assess osteoporosis risk is also offered and is appropriate for both men and women. Many events also offer blood tests, including cholesterol, glucose and c-reactive protein screenings, as well as take-home colon cancer early detection tests.

For more information regarding the screenings or to schedule an appointment, call 1-844-591-7160 or go to <https://lisa.social/HC> or text the word **"circle"** to 216-279-1607. Pre-registration is required.

## ***Men's Mo Ranch Retreat***



A group of six men from FPC Conroe ventured to the 74<sup>th</sup> **annual Men's Conference**, held at Mo-Ranch in the beautiful Texas hill country. We enjoyed engaging sermons and Bible study sessions, informative workshops, great food and fellowship, and more. Attending were Pastor Seth Saathoff, Steve Scheffler, Randy Blanton, Michael Dwyer, Roy Kessler, and David Nichols.

**Pastor Seth was elected to serve on the Men's Council, which plans each year's conference, and Steve Scheffler led a popular workshop on "Ecclesiastes and its Connection to Modern Music."**

Thanks to Steve Scheffler for photos. More pictures can be found in the upcoming *The Link*.

## **Hurricane season begins June 1.**

**Here are some suggestions to help you be better prepared.**

### **Have these items on hand:**

- ⇒ **A gallon per day of drinking water per person for three days.**
- ⇒ **Non-perishable foods for three days.**
- ⇒ **Batteries, battery charger [power bank] for cellphone.**
- ⇒ **Medications for two weeks.**
- ⇒ **Important papers in secure location in a water proof container (like a sealed plastic freezer bag)**

### **Things to do:**

- ⇒ **If your household has a generator, check that it's functioning now.**
- ⇒ **Is your home AC compressor secure and above ground level?**
- ⇒ **Prepare a list of your emergency contacts to have on you in case you need medical assistance so that they can be notified.**

## Calendar of Weekly Events

<p><i>Sunday</i> May 17</p>	<p>8:30 a.m. Worship with Communion (Sanctuary)</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Bereans Sunday School Class with Bob Shepherd <b>(Rm. 105) Paul's uplifting letter to the church at Philippi.</b></p> <p>9:30 a.m. Fellowship Class <b>(Rm. 204) Studying "1 &amp; 2 Peter",</b> 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><b>9:30 a.m. Seekers' Bible Study with Randy Blanton</b> (Library) <b>Paul's Letter to the Romans on Sunday (Contact Randy Blanton to join by Zoom).</b></p> <p><b>9:30 a.m. FPC Kids' Sunday School</b> (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 <a href="http://www.com/fpcConroe">www.com/fpcConroe</a> or YouTube.com/fpcConroe)</p> <p>12:30 p.m. Session Meeting</p> <p>12:30 p.m. Animal Crocheting class (Rm. 105)</p> <p><b>4:00 p.m. "A Year Through the Bible" Study</b> (Rm. 105)</p> <p>5:00-7:00 p.m. The Spark (Gym)</p>
<p><i>Monday</i> May 18</p>	<p>1:30 p.m. Monday Bible Study (Parlor)</p>
<p><i>Wednesday</i> May 20</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 24</i></p>	<p>9:30 a.m. Bereans Sunday School Class with Bob Shepherd (Rm. 105) <b>Paul's uplifting letter to the church at Philippi.</b></p> <p>9:30 a.m. Fellowship Class (Rm. 204) <b>Studying "1 &amp; 2 Peter",</b> 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><b>9:30 a.m. Seekers' Bible Study with Randy Blanton</b> (Library) <b>Paul's Letter to the Romans on Sunday</b> (Contact Randy Blanton to join by Zoom).</p> <p><b>9:30 a.m. FPC Kids' Sunday School</b> (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 <a href="http://www.com/fpcConroe">www.com/fpcConroe</a> or YouTube.com/fpcConroe)</p> <p><b>4:00 p.m. "A Year Through the Bible" Study</b> (Rm. 105)</p> <p>5:00-7:00 p.m. The Spark (Gym)</p>
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## Save the Date

- |            |   |
|------------|---|
| May 24     | Pentecost / Begin Summer Service Schedule     |
| May 25     | Memorial Day (FPC office closed)              |
| June 14-20 | Youth Mission Trip                            |
| June 21    | <b>Father's Day</b>                           |
| July 4     | Independence Day                              |
| July 6     | Independence Day observed (FPC office closed) |
| July 13-17 | Vacation Bible School                         |

## Prayer List

Members: Susan Juhl, Cindy and Ron Massey, John Gutekunst, James Dopp, Ron Bailey, Marcia Park and family, Steve and Connie Tibbetts, 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:*

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