

Welcome to  
First Presbyterian Church  
December 5, 2021



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## **8:30 A.M. COMMUNION AND PRAYER**

### Preparation

Prelude Carol Prelude

### Adoration

Call to Worship

\*Hymn #41

O Come, All Ye faithful

1. O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!  
Come, and behold Him, born the King of angels!

Refrain:

O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
Christ, the Lord!

2. Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning,  
Jesus, to Thee be all glory given;  
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing! (Refrain)
3. Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation!  
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!  
Glory to God, all glory in the highest! (Refrain)

### Confession

\*Call to Confession

\*Silent Prayer of Confession

\*Assurance of Pardon

Friends, believe the Good News.  
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

\*Gloria Patri

Welcome and Announcements

### Proclamation

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 7:10-17

Our Christmas Carol: Christmas Past

*“Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.”*

(Isaiah 7:14)

Dedication

The Sacrament of Communion

Invitation to the Table

Prayers of the People

Words of Institution

Distribution of the Elements

Prayer of thanksgiving

\*Hymn #31

Hark, the Herald Angels Sing

1. Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King.  
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"  
Joyful, all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies;  
With the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Refrain:

Hark! the herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King!"

2. Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ the everlasting Lord!  
Late in time, behold Him come, offspring of the virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail the incarnate Deity,  
Pleased in flesh with us to dwell, Jesus our Emmanuel. (Refrain)

Charge and Benediction

3. Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all He brings, risen with healing in His wings.  
Mild He lays His glory by, born that we no more may die.  
Born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth. (Refrain)

\*Postlude

Carol Postlude

\*Please stand if able.

### *Copyright Information*

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Used by permission.

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### *Visitors, Welcome to FPC*

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 [fpccconroe.org](http://fpccconroe.org) and fill out the Visitor form online, or on page 17 of this bulletin. We appreciate you joining us for services today, whether online or in person.

# WELCOME

# 11:00 A.M. WORSHIP SERVICE

## Preparation

Opening Music

## Adoration

Introit

Carol Processional

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Mark and Dena Sowden

Call to Worship

Isaiah 40:1-5, 9

<sup>1</sup> Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. <sup>2</sup> Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the LORD'S hand double for all her sins.

<sup>3</sup> **A voice cries: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God.** <sup>4</sup> Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. <sup>5</sup> And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the **LORD has spoken."**

<sup>9</sup> Go on up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good news; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good news; lift it up, **fear not; say to the cities of Judah, "Behold your God!"**

***Let's join together in heart and in voice to worship the Lord, our God.***

\*Hymn #41

O Come, All Ye faithful

1. O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!  
Come, and behold Him, born the King of angels!

Refrain:

O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
Christ, the Lord!

2. Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning,  
Jesus, to Thee be all glory given;  
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing! (Refrain)

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Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!  
Glory to God, all glory in the highest! (Refrain)

Confession

\*Call to Confession

\*Silent Prayer of Confession

\*Assurance of Pardon

Friends, believe the Good News.  
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

\*Gloria Patri

Welcome and Announcements

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory *Silent Night*

\*Doxology

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

\*Choral Response

Scripture Reading Luke 1:5-17

Anthem *On Jordan's Bank*

Scripture Reading Luke 1:26-38

Anthem *The Song of Mary* Putnam

Proclamation

Scripture Reading Isaiah 7:10-17

Sermon Rev. Dr. David H. Green

Our Christmas Carol: Christmas Past

*"Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall  
conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel."*

(Isaiah 7:14)

## Dedication

The Sacrament of Communion

Invitation to the Table

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Scripture Reading

Luke 2:8-20

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Hark, the Herald Angels Sing

1. Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King.  
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"  
Joyful, all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies;  
With the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Refrain:

Hark! the herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King!"

2. Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ the everlasting Lord!  
Late in time, behold Him come, offspring of the virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail the incarnate Deity,  
Pleased in flesh with us to dwell, Jesus our Emmanuel. (Refrain)

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Light and life to all He brings, risen with healing in His wings.  
Mild He lays His glory by, born that we no more may die.  
Born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth. (Refrain)

\*Postlude

Carol Postlude

\*Please stand if able.

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

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Scripture Reading #1:

Isaiah 7:10-17

<sup>10</sup> Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz: <sup>11</sup> **“Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.”**

<sup>12</sup> **But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test.”**

<sup>13</sup> **And he said, “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? <sup>14</sup> Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. <sup>15</sup> He shall eat curds and honey when he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. <sup>16</sup> For before the boy knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land whose two kings you dread will be deserted. <sup>17</sup> The Lord will bring upon you and upon your people and upon your father's house such days as have not come since the day that Ephraim departed from Judah – the king of Assyria!”**



# *Notes*



### *Poinsettia Dedications*



Poinsettias will be ordered again this year, and will be delivered in time for our December 19<sup>th</sup> worship service. If you would like to purchase one (or more) poinsettias and make a dedication in memory or in honor of a loved one, please see the form on page 16 of this bulletin. The cost of poinsettias this year is \$12.

Please fill out your form and enclose payment, making sure that your dedication is printed clearly.

### *Stewardship Campaign for 2022*

All congregation members should have received a letter, along with a pledge card for the year of 2022. If you did not receive a packet, additional pledge cards can be found on the Welcome Desk for your convenience. Thanks for your continued support for the future vision of First Presbyterian Church.

### *An Advent Gift for You!*

*Sacred Time for Advent* is an online gathering to connect with the meaning of the Advent season using Bible reflections, conversation and prayer. Offered by LEAD (Living Every Day as Disciples), participants can choose an open group offered for an hour at various times on Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday. The program began on Monday, November 29<sup>th</sup> and will last for four weeks. There will also be a daily devotion email including art, scripture, story and prayer.

This is a gift to you from the Presbytery of New Covenant. Register here: <https://waytolead.org/sacred-time-to-welcome-the-seasons/>  
Use the coupon code AdventGift.



## *New Pews for the Sanctuary*

On December 12<sup>th</sup>, we will have our first worship services with new pews in place. These will be a welcome addition to the Sanctuary for both practical and cosmetic reasons. We hope you will enjoy the new pews, which were made possible by a generous gift by the late Bill Parker.



Thanks to those who were instrumental in the selection process. This includes Dana Corbit, Tom Lowery, Christ Kattner and Steve Tibbetts. We thank you for your time and efforts.

## *Gingerbread House Event & Movie Night* *December 18<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.*



Join us for hot dogs, hot chocolate and family fun in the Family Life Center.

Decorate your gingerbread house together or have a friendly competition. The cost is only \$5 **per house**. We'll **decorate from 6:00-7:00 p.m.**, then enjoy Family Movie Night with **"Mickey's**



**Christmas Carol"** from 7:00-7:30 p.m.

Register today for \$5.00 at the FPC or PDS office.

Contact Dena Sowden at [DSowden@fpcconroe.org](mailto:DSowden@fpcconroe.org) or call 936-756-8884.

## *Annual Christmas Pageant December 12<sup>th</sup>*



Sunday, December 12<sup>th</sup>, **we'll be having the Annual Christmas Pageant** during the 11:00 a.m. worship service. The children of Presbyterian Day School will be singing Christmas songs prior to the 11:00 service. Please arrive by **10:40 a.m., so you don't miss them!**

We will also be having a cookie and cocoa reception after the service, so please plan to stay and enjoy.

## Prayer List

Members: Mary Hudson, Jean Ball, George Shackelford, Margaret Hill, Kim Phillip, Flem Keathley, Carolyn Hebert, Paul Ivison, Lorraine Bosse, Don and Doris Myers, Margaret Carson, Fay Harrison, Clyde Cruikshank, Virginia Tamborello, Ben Hughes, Jeanette DeFee, Polly Miller, Jeanne Leverette, Virginia Olivier, Tom Braaten

Members' Relatives & Friends: Jack W. and Jenny C. (Cannon), William W. (Weinburger), Freddy G. (Taylor), Lynda H. and Amy D. (Ebanks), Sherry B. (Harrison), Mitchell B. (Blott), Maria H. (Hughes), Kellye H. and Jeffrey H. (Heasley), Sabra S. (Swoboda), Deborah R. (Rose), Jack S. and Jay, Katie B. (Pohla), Wendy S. (Adamson), Harry S., Jr. (Havens), Tim J. (Staff), Krissy P. & family (Kasmiersky), Judy N. (Dukes), Sherry M. (Garrison), Diane B., Pat **S.'s family, Lindsey W., Ruby G., Beverly F. (S. Walker), Enrique E. (Moore),** Paul M. (Alan Moore), Lee H. and Gene H. (Helms), Caleb & Michaela W. (Henderson), Lisa & her children (Webb), Gerald H. (Roberts), Tamara B. (Harrison), Leslie M. family and Martha K. (Juhl), Tucker H. (Hudson), Nikkia (Wilmberty), Virginia R. (Smith), Dana K. (Shorts)

## Good Things to Know

### *Attendance*

Sunday, November 28<sup>th</sup>

8:30 a.m. Prayer and Communion - 15

11:00 a.m. Worship Services - 108

Online Worship Attendance - 96

Total Attendance - 219

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

Martha Haines

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

Today's flowers are given for the glory of God by:



Jane Corbit and the Corbit family, in memory of Nicole and Alex Corbit.



Gary and Judy Weinburger, in memory of their fathers, Robert Johnson and Al Weinburger.

## Calendar of Weekly Events

Sunday <i>December 5</i>	8:30 a.m. Communion and Prayer (Sanctuary) 9:00 a.m. Fellowship (Bistro) 9:30 a.m. Fellowship class with Cara Wood: An <b>Advent study based on Isaiah 9:6 and the book by Walter Brueggemann, <i>Names for the Messiah</i></b> . (Zoom Meeting ID: 267 960 141, Password: 330714) <a href="https://zoom.us/j/267960141">https://zoom.us/j/267960141</a> (or call +1 346 248 7799, 267960141#) 9:30 a.m. Bereans Sunday School Class with Bob Shepherd (Rm. 105): Paul's letter to the Colossians. 9:30 a.m. Young & U Sunday School Class (young adults and university age students) (Library and Zoom <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86497519299?pwd=cktiTmZ5SEM1SWZpNWRLUWhwS1lxQT09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86497519299?</a> <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86497519299?pwd=cktiTmZ5SEM1SWZpNWRLUWhwS1lxQT09">us02web.zoom.us/j/86497519299?</a> Meeting ID: 864 9751 9299 Passcode: 77304) 9:30 a.m. Exploring Our Faith (Rm. 206) <i>The Master Plan: My Journey from Life in Prison to a Life of Purpose</i> , by Chris Wilson, together with <i>Restoring Peace: Using Lessons From Prison to Mend Broken Relationships</i> , by Kirk Blackard. 9:30 a.m. Wanderers (Parlor) <i>Christmas from the Backside</i> , by J. Ellsworth Kalas. 10:30 a.m. Fellowship (Narthex) 11:00 a.m. Worship Service (Facebook Live <a href="http://www.facebook.com/fpcConroe">www.facebook.com/fpcConroe</a> or YouTube.com/fpcConroe)
Monday <i>December 6</i>	1:30 p.m. Monday Afternoon Bible Study (Youth Commons Area)
Tuesday <i>December 7</i>	7:30 a.m. Tuesday Morning Bible Study (Zoom Meeting ID: 844 897 863, Password: 77304))
Wednesday <i>December 8</i>	9:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Mission Sewing (Rm. 105) 10:30 a.m. FPC Staff Meeting (Zoom ID available by invitation) 5:45 p.m. Handbells Practice (Sanctuary) The Spark (Gym) WILL RETURN DECEMBER 1 Disciple Bible Study (Room 105 and Zoom 879 2931 2569 passcode 77304) WILL RETURN JANUARY 5 7:00-8:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Practice (Sanctuary)

<p style="text-align: center;">Sunday December 12</p>	<p>8:30 a.m. Communion and Prayer (Sanctuary)</p> <p>9:00 a.m. Fellowship (Bistro)</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Fellowship class with Cara Wood: An <b>Advent study based on Isaiah 9:6 and the book by Walter Brueggemann, <i>Names for the Messiah</i></b>. (Zoom Meeting ID: 267 960 141, Password: 330714) <a href="https://zoom.us/j/267960141">https://zoom.us/j/267960141</a> (or call +1 346 248 7799, 267960141#)</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Bereans Sunday School Class with Bob Shepherd (Rm. 105): Paul's letter to the Colossians.</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Young &amp; U Sunday School Class (young adults and university age students) (Library and Zoom <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86497519299?pwd=cktiTmZ5SEM1SWZpNWRLUWhwS1lxQT09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86497519299?pwd=cktiTmZ5SEM1SWZpNWRLUWhwS1lxQT09</a> Meeting ID: 864 9751 9299 Passcode: 77304))</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Exploring Our Faith (Rm. 206) <i>The Master Plan: My Journey from Life in Prison to a Life of Purpose</i>, by Chris Wilson, together with <i>Restoring Peace: Using Lessons From Prison to Mend Broken Relationships</i>, by Kirk Blackard.</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Wanderers (Parlor) <i>Christmas from the Backside</i>, by J. Ellsworth Kalas.</p> <p>10:30 a.m. Fellowship (Narthex)</p> <p>11:00 a.m. Worship Service (Facebook Live <a href="http://www.facebook.com/fpcConroe">www.facebook.com/fpcConroe</a> or YouTube.com/fpcConroe)</p>
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## Save the Date

December 12	Christmas Pageant (during 11:00 service)
December 18	Family Movie Night
December 24	Christmas Eve Services
December 25	Christmas Day
December 26 & 27	Christmas Day Observed (FPC office closed)
January 1	Happy New Year

## Ministry Leaders

Administration	Jay Swoboda (2022, Chair)
Building & Grounds	Stephan Tibbetts (2022, Chair), David Perciful (2022)
Care-Prayer	Bob Shepherd (2023, Chair)
Discipleship	Anne Spinks (2021, Chair), Mark Sowden (2021)
Fellowship	Shirley Dukes (2021, Chair)
Membership	Donna Stewart (2021, Chair), Anna McNamara (2022), Abby Stewart (2022), Dena Sowden (2023)
Missions	Tom Young (2021)
PDS	Karen Clark (2021), Sharon Walker (2022)
Worship	Chuck and Janet Pohla (2023, Chairs)

# A Handful of Weeds

A young, poor girl was on her way to church on Christmas Eve. She had no money for a Christmas gift for the church; so on her way to mass, she stopped and picked a handful of “weeds” from the side of the dusty road. The girl brought the native Mexican “weeds” into the church and set them on the altar during the service. The “weeds” burst into brilliant, bright red color as they lay in the church.



Since then, poinsettias, which require short days to bloom, have been a traditional part of the people’s holiday. This legend might explain why many people today still use the poinsettia to decorate their home during the Advent season.

We, at First Presbyterian Church, will fill our sanctuary with poinsettias during the Advent season because of their vibrant colors. The red symbolizes God’s love for us and the green symbolizes everlasting life.

To help us bring these meanings to life in the church, you may purchase a poinsettia in memory or in honor of a loved one, a special occasion or a relevant event. Simply complete the information below, and enclose \$12 for each poinsettia. Place your form and cash/check in the collection plate or return to the church office. Thank you.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Number of desired poinsettias \_\_\_\_\_

Amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Dedicated to \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

(Please print clearly)



## Visitor Form

*Thank you for coming! We would love to get to know you.*

Please complete this form and drop it in the offertory box at the back of the church. Or, if you would prefer to complete this form online, please visit our website at [www.FPCConroe.org](http://www.FPCConroe.org).

### Member Information

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Birth date (MM/DD/YYYY): \_\_\_\_\_

### Spouse's Information

Spouse's First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Birth date (MM/DD/YYYY): \_\_\_\_\_

### Children's Information

Children's Names (Please indicate last name if different):

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth date: \_\_\_\_\_

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth date: \_\_\_\_\_

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth date: \_\_\_\_\_

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Getting Involved in the Life of the Church

(Please check all that apply)

- I would like more information about membership
- I would like information about baptism
- I would like to be contacted by a Stephen Minister
- Contact me about getting involved in the church

## Please contact me regarding:

\_\_\_\_\_ Adult Sunday School

\_\_\_\_\_ Bible Studies

\_\_\_\_\_ Children & Nursery

\_\_\_\_\_ Men's groups

\_\_\_\_\_ Women's groups

\_\_\_\_\_ Greeters

\_\_\_\_\_ Handbells/Choir

\_\_\_\_\_ Youth choir

Other:

## How did you first hear about us? (Please circle one)

Facebook

Drive by

Website

Friend/Family

Other

**Member Information for Church Directory**  
**First Presbyterian Church of Conroe**

Please list all information you would like included in the new directory. There is not a limit to phone numbers or email addresses.

**Member Information**

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Birth date (MM/DD/YYYY): \_\_\_\_\_

**Spouse's Information**

Spouse's First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Birth date (MM/DD/YYYY): \_\_\_\_\_

**Children's Information**

Children's Names (Please indicate last name if different):

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth date: \_\_\_\_\_

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth date: \_\_\_\_\_

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth date: \_\_\_\_\_

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Staff and Church Information

### Staff

Rev. Dr. David H. Green, Senior Pastor  
Dena Sowden, Director of Christian Education  
Stephanie Cooke, Interim Music Director  
Shirley Dukes, Parish Nurse  
Sharon VanSchuyver, Church Administrator  
Yvonne Rose, Office Assistant



First Presbyterian Church  
2727 N. Loop 336 W., Conroe, TX 77304  
Church Office (936) 756-8884 Fax (936) 756-8842  
Website: [www.fpccconroe.org](http://www.fpccconroe.org)