

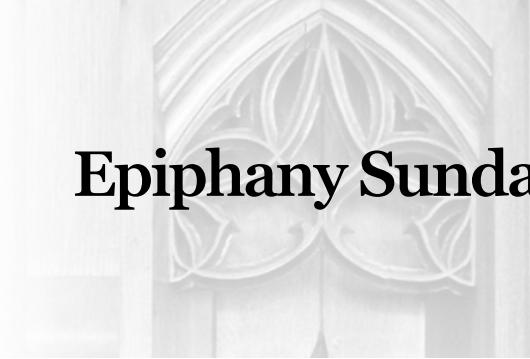
Second Sunday of Christmas

January 4, 2026

8 a.m. worship, Kerr Chapel

First Presbyterian Church of Tulsa

Called to make fully-devoted followers of Christ, inwardly strong and outwardly focused.



Epiphany Sunday

The Words of Preparation

O God, full of compassion, I commit and commend myself to You, in whom I am, and live, and know. Be the goal of my pilgrimage, and my rest along the way. Let my soul take refuge from the crowding turmoil of worldly thought beneath the shadow of Your wings. Let my heart, this sea of restless waves, find peace in You, O God. Amen.

Augustine of Hippo

THE WELCOME

Rev. Dan Hutchinson

Please sign, pass, and return the blue friendship register. Visitors, please fill out a Get Connected card from the pew back and drop it in the offering plate to receive our E-News updates, and fellowship opportunities.

THE INTROIT

Behold That Star!

Spiritual, arr. Mark Hayes

Jewel Pierson, soloist

Behold that star! Behold that star up yonder. Behold that star! It is the star of Bethlehem. There was no room found in the inn for him who was born free from sin. The wise men came on from the East, to worship Him, the Prince of Peace. Refrain. A song broke forth upon the night, from angel hosts all robed in white. "Glory to God, world without end. Peace on the earth, good will to men." Refrain.

◆ THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Isaiah 60:1-3

Arise, shine; for thy light is come,

And the glory of the LORD is risen upon thee.

For behold, the darkness shall cover the earth and gross darkness the peoples,

But the LORD shall arise upon thee and His glory shall be seen upon thee.

And the Gentiles shall come to Thy light,

And kings to the brightness of Thy rising.

Therefore, let us stand in honor,

And let us worship God!

◆ THE OPENING HYMN 68

What Star Is This, with Beams So Bright

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

◆ THE PRAYER OF ADORATION

Elder Laura Krohn

THE FIRST READING

1 John 1:1-9

THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Julia Metcalf

Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, we confess that we have sinned against You. You are the light, and in You there is no darkness at all. Yet we confess that we have loved the darkness and avoided the light. We claim to have fellowship with You, yet all too often, we have walked according to our own wisdom and understanding instead of walking with You, the true source of truth and joy. For the sake of Your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ, we ask that You would forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Hear us now, as we pray... *(in silence)*

THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends, hear and believe the good news of the gospel that in Christ Jesus there is full forgiveness of sins for everyone who calls upon His name! **Alleluia! Amen!**

◆ **THE RESPONSE OF GRATITUDE****What Child Is This?**

What child is this who laid to rest on Mary's lap is sleeping? Whom angels greet with anthems sweet while shepherds watch are keeping. This, this is Christ the King whom shepherds guard and angels sing. Haste, haste to bring Him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.

Why lies He in such mean estate, where ox and ass are feeding? Good Christians, fear, for sinners here the silent Word is pleading. Nails, spears shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you. Hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the Son of Mary.

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh, come, peasant, king, to own him. The King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone him. Raise, raise the song on high, the virgin sings her lullaby. Joy, joy for Christ is born, the babe, the Son of Mary.

◆ **THE 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.

THE SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNs**THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE****THE OFFERING 66****We Three Kings of Orient Are****THREE KINGS OF ORIENT****THE SECOND READING****Matthew 2:1-12****THE SERMON****Pursuing Jesus**

Rev. Dan Hutchinson

THE INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Words of Institution
 Prayer of Blessing
 Sharing of the Bread and Cup

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

◆ **THE CLOSING HYMN 63** As with Gladness Men of Old DIX

◆ **THE CHARGE AND THE BENEDICTION**

THE POSTLUDE Bring a Torch, Jeanette Isabella French carol, arr. Denis Bédard

◆ Please stand

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Greetings in Christ!

We are glad to welcome you to worship! We are a community that seeks to lift high the name of Jesus and to serve the common good. If you are here for the first time, we pray that you will sense the presence of Christ and the warmth of this congregation. If you do not have a church home, we would love to welcome you; if this is your first time worshipping with us, please fill out a *Welcome Guest Card*, or contact Emma Myatt at 918-857-5652 or emyatt@firstchurchoftulsa.org.

PARISH REGISTER

Prayers for Healing: Lisa Angleton, Jane Azlin, Steve Brill, Nelda Brown, Pat Brown, Roy Cail, Beth Campbell, Gary Casteel, Randy Corelli, Teresa Corelli, B. J. Dollahon, Debi Foster, Janice Garbart, Jim Goodwin, Gaye Graeler, Rita Graeler, Patricia Hall, Cynthia Hill-Meriwether, Brenda Johnson, Don Johnson, Amy Lesh, Barbara Mace, Margaret Martinson, Sally McCoy, Ann McKellar, Jon Mercer, Barbara Mugge, David Osterholt, David Perkins, Penny Steinkuehler-Perkins, Carolyn Perryman, Mary Ruddle, Bob Shipman, Alex Smith, Andrea Smith, Jane Sneed, Sally Stewart, Marcia Tromp, Ralph Veatch, Gretchen Wagner, Susan Waldie, and Norma Wallace.

With Gratitude for the Resurrection: Joe Robson, a member since 1983, died on December 27.

WORSHIP NOTES

Services are broadcast on Cox channel 3 (each Sunday) at 11:00 a.m., 5:00 and 10:00 p.m., on the FPC Facebook page, or FirstChurchTulsa.org/YouTube.

For those who need hearing assistance in the Sanctuary or Stephenson Hall, audio headsets are available from the ushers. Also available are large-print hymnals and Bibles.

Our Letter of Blessing today goes to Hannah Robson.

The flowers that adorn the Sanctuary today are given to the glory of God and memory of Bob and Ruthie Huffman, by the Huffman family.

Please notify the church if you have a pastoral need, change of address, phone number or other important family news. Contact Kathy Wilson at 918-301-1029 or kwilson@firstchurchoftulsa.org.

Thank you for your faithful support: Weekly tithes and offerings to the Lord may be given electronically in lieu of the offering plates at firstchurchoftulsa.org, text 405-276-4141 or by using the QR code.



FIRST CHURCH UPDATES

Pastoral Prayer: Join us as we pray for the pastoral transition. To receive a weekly prayer prompt, please text @pastorfp to “81010”.

Prayer in the Chapel: Join together from 10:40 - 10:55 a.m. on the second Sunday of each month for prayer during this time of pastoral transition.

Need a Pastoral Visit? If you or someone whom you know is in the hospital or in need of a pastoral visit, please contact Kathy Wilson at kwilson@firstchurchtulsa.org or 918-201-1029. We no longer receive information from hospitals, so we rely on you to let us know.

Young Adults: First Church is committed to cultivating faith within the next generation, providing a place for young adults to connect with one another and with the larger church. Find us on Instagram at [@fpcyoungadults](https://www.instagram.com/fpcyoungadults) or contact Rev. Julia Metcalf at 918-301-1030.

HAPPENING TODAY

2026 Stewardship Campaign - Live Gratefully. Give Intentionally: For 140 years, First Church has been blessed by the faithful gifts of those who came before us—laying a foundation of ministry, mission, and worship that continues to shape lives today. As we look ahead, we embrace the call to grateful living and intentional giving, recognizing that every gift is an expression of gratitude to God and a commitment to His work. This year, our goal is to welcome 40 new givers who will join in building upon this legacy, ensuring that the next generation experiences the same grace and generosity that have sustained us for more than a century. Every gift counts, no matter the amount. Together, we honor the past and invest in the future. Will you join us? Make your pledge today at FirstChurchTulsa.org/Stewardship26 or scan the QR code provided. Your intentional gift helps us continue this story of faith and generosity.



Epiphany Bonfire and Plunge: Today at 5:00 p.m. at Camp Loughridge. Bring your greens for the bonfire and plunge into the water of the lake. The event will include a brief liturgy, cookies, and hot cider/cocoa by Lake Parthenia.

Interested in joining a Sunday School class? For more information, contact Elizabeth Massey at edevore@firstchurchtulsa.org.

First Friends in the Pews: Meet at the Atrium coffee bar 15 minutes before each worship service.

EVENTS THIS WEEK

Men's Monday Bible Study: Mondays, 12:00 – 1:00 p.m., E103, an informal fellowship of men who want to grow in their understanding and application of God’s word. During lunch they will read a book of the Bible followed by a Bible study.

Precept Bible Study: Tuesdays, 9:30 a.m., E100, led by Denise Rounds; what does it mean to be holy and to know and love God deeply? They will study 1, 2 and 3 John and explore answers to these questions as they consider the fundamentals of Christian beliefs.

Wednesday Night Downtown will resume on January 7 with dinner starting at 5:15, AWANA, Pathfinders, and Exodus starting at 6:00, and adult classes (listed below) starting at 6:15. (For more information contact Elizabeth DeVore at edevore@firstchurchtulsa.org.)

Created for Connection: How to build Christ-centered, healthy relationships rooted in trust and love: led by Dr. Tom Philp, LPC and therapist at Stonebridge, in the Miller Library. Couples will explore God’s design for healthy, life-giving relationships with family, friends, and romantic partners by integrating biblical wisdom with sound psychological insight. Through Scripture, discussion, and practical reflection, participants will learn how attachment, emotional awareness, boundaries, forgiveness, and repair shape our ability to love well. The class emphasizes Christ-centered relationships marked by trust, that weaves its way through each discussion.

Seekers Bible Study: led by Rev. Wambugu in room E104. Rev. Wambugu will lead us through the book of Esther, a Jewish woman who courageously saves her people from annihilation of the Persian empire by relying on God's divine providence.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Newcomer Gathering: Join us for coffee, bagels, and fellowship on Sunday, January 18 at 9:30 a.m. in the Miller Library. Explore what it means to become a member of First Church and learn about our family of faith! Ask questions, learn about First Church, and get to know other newcomers and members!

USE YOUR TALENTS

Join our TV Ministry Team: Gain valuable video and broadcast experience while helping us reach thousands of TV and internet viewers each week. We're looking for students and adults to volunteer in this ministry. For more information, contact Alex Pennell, TV/Video Manager, at 314-607-1032.

The Presbyterian Women's January Mission is the Anderson Elementary School. Please place items such as pencils, crayons, erasers, white construction paper, copy paper, facial tissue and disinfectant wipes in the bin marked PW. Donations located in the atrium. Cash or checks may be placed in the acrylic donation box located at the welcome desk in the atrium throughout the month of December.

Become a mentor to new First Church members: Help new members feel welcomed and connected to First Church! We have launched a mentorship program, pairing each new member with someone to walk alongside them for six months. As a mentor, you will greet them on Sundays and connect with them once a month. Contact Emma Myatt at emyatt@firstchurctulsa.org to sign up.



Internship Opportunity: Are you a college student who loves God and enjoys working with youth? Next Generation Ministries is now receiving applications for its summer youth ministry internship program! You can go to the employment tab on the First Church website for more information and an application.

Job Opportunity: Ministry Assistant for Mission, Outreach and TIF, this position provides administrative and logistical support for FPC mission and outreach ministries, the Tulsa International Fellowship and new member integration. If you are interested, please go to the First Church website.

Helping Hands Ministry: In 2025, Helping Hand Ministry assisted 1,456 clients with utility bills, provided 184 ID or driver's license vouchers, and helped 1,702 individuals by giving them access to our food pantry which provided food assistance to 3,816 family members. The hundreds of Bibles you gifted to our ministry, along with the toiletries collected, helped so many of our neighbors in need. Thank you for your continued support of this vital ministry.

SERMON NOTES

Come, Grow Your Faith!

TODAY 1/4

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| 8:00 am | Worship: Kerr Chapel |
| 8:45 am | Rejoice Ringers, 309 |
| 8:30 am | Worship: Stephenson Hall |
| 9:15 am | First Church Choristers, 308 |
| 11:00 am | Worship: Sanctuary, Stephenson Hall and Great Hall |

Monday 1/5

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|---------|--------------------------|
| 7:00 pm | Overtones Rehearsal, 309 |
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Tuesday 1/6

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| 9:30 am | Precept Bible Study, E102 |
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Wednesday 1/7

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| 5:15 pm | Wednesday Night Dinner, Stephenson Hall |
| 5:00 pm | Youth Praise Band, and Celebration Singers, Powerhouse |
| 5:45 pm | Gloria Women's Choir, 308 |
| 6:00 pm | POW, Amass Exodus |
| 6:30 pm | Chancel Choir, Choir Room |

Saturday 1/10

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| 8:45 am | Before the Rooster Crows |
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Adult Sunday School Classes at 9:30 a.m., January 11

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| Cornerstone | <i>Book of John</i> | E102 |
| Covenanters | <i>Screwtape Letters</i> | E101 |
| Faith and Family | Bible Study | 206 |
| Family's w/Young | | |
| Children | Foundations of Christian Marriage | Tower Room |
| Foundations | <i>Genesis</i> | E104 |
| Harbingers | Bible Study | E202 |
| Morning Glory | Prayer and Sermon Texts | B318 |
| Reflections | Romans Study | E103 |
| Shepherds | <i>Book of Revelations</i> | E203 |
| Sojourners | <i>Come to Me</i> | E204 |
| Sowers | Bible Study | E205 |
| The Vine | Bible Study | E100 |
| UKirk/Young Adults | <i>Genesis</i> | E201 |
| Westminster Forum | Bible Study | E200 |

THE FIRST CHURCH PASTORS AND ORGANIST

Daniel Hutchinson, *Interim Senior Pastor*, James Estes, *Associate Pastor*
 Julia Metcalf, *Associate Pastor*, Wambugu Gachungi, *Associate Pastor*
 Ron Pearson, *Organist and Music Director*