



## ***PALM SUNDAY***

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*Called to make fully-devoted followers of Jesus Christ:*

*Inwardly Strong,  
Outwardly Focused.*

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April 2, 2023

Stephenson Hall, 11:00 AM

*First Presbyterian Church of Tulsa*

*Born by grace in 1885*

# ***Palm Sunday***

*Stephenson Hall, 11:00 a.m.*

## **Words of Preparation**

[Jesus' death] rather marks the deep caesura in which the glory of his descent—he who is the light of the world—finds its limitation and its terminus and in which the glory of his ascent begins. It is where the two coincide—in a manner that is utterly paradoxical and scandalous to the human mind.

Herman Ridderbos, *The Gospel of John*

## **Prelude**

God is On the Throne

Why should I worry? Why should I fear? Why should I run when Jesus is here? I'm safe in His arms. Safe in His heart. Nothing can take me away from His love.

*God is on the throne. He reigns forevermore. Just think about it. Just think about it. God is always good. He loves like a father should. Just think about it. Just think about it.*

When I am anxious, when I'm afraid, I find strength when I call on His Name. I'm safe in His arms. Safe in His heart. Nothing can take me away from His love. He's the King of power. The King of kings. He is the Lord over everything. To Him be the glory, the honor and praise, forever and ever, amen, always. *Refrain*

Hallelujah, He reigns. Hallelujah, He saves. Hallelujah, always. He's never gonna let me down. *Refrain*

## **Song of Praise**

Praise to the Lord the Almighty

Praise to the Lord, The Almighty, the King of creation. O my soul, praise Him for He is thy health and salvation. All ye who hear, now to His temple draw near. Praise Him in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things, so wondrously reigneth. Shelters thee under His wings, yet so gently sustaineth.

Hast thou not seen how thy desires e'er have been granted in what He ordaineth?

Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee. Surely His goodness and mercy, here, daily attend thee. Ponder anew what the Almighty can do, if with His love, He befriend thee.

Praise to the Lord, O let all that is in me adore Him. All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before Him. Let the Amen sound from His people again; Gladly, for aye we adore Him.

### **First Reading**

Luke 19:41-44

Elder Brett Crane

### **Prayer of Confession**

We Confess

Almighty God, we confess our sin; what we have done, what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

*Have mercy. Have mercy on us. Have mercy. Have mercy on us.*

Most gracious God, we have lost our way. Like wandering sheep, we have gone astray. We're truly sorry and we turn back. Now, for the sake of Your Son Jesus Christ. *Refrain*

As far as the East is from the West so far have you removed our sinfulness. You carried our guilt and shame upon Yourself. We are forgiven. Forgiven. We are forgiven. Forgiven.

### **Assurance of Pardon**

Believe the good news! God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through Him. In Jesus Christ there is forgiveness for all who call upon Him. **Alleluia! Amen!**

**Responsive Reading**      Psalm 24:7-10

Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors,  
**That the King of glory may come in.**

Who is this King of glory?

**The Lord, strong and mighty, the Lord, mighty in battle!**

Lift up your heads, O gates! And lift them up, O ancient doors,  
**That the King of glory may come in.**

Who is this King of glory?

**The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory!**

Let us stand and welcome this King of Glory, even Jesus Christ!

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia, amen!**

**Songs of Praise**      Who Is This King of Glory?

Who is this King of Glory that pursues me with His love and haunts me with each hearing of His softly spoken words? My conscience a reminder of forgiveness that I need; who is this King of Glory who offers it to me?

Who is this King of angels; O blessed Prince of Peace; revealing things of heaven and all its mysteries? My spirit's ever longing for His grace in which to stand; who is this King of glory; Son of God and Son of Man?

*His name is Jesus; precious Jesus; Lord Almighty; King of my heart; King of glory!*

Who is this King of glory, with strength and majesty, and wisdom beyond measure; the gracious King of kings; the Lord of earth and heaven; the Creator of all things? He is the King of glory! He is everything to me! *Refrain*

Lift High the Name of Jesus

Lift high the name of Jesus, of Jesus our King. Make known the power of His grace, The beauty of His peace. Remember how His mercy reached and we cried out to Him. He lifted us to solid ground, to freedom from our sin.

*Oh sing my soul, and tell all He's done, till the earth and heavens  
are filled with His glory!*

Lift high the name of Jesus, of Jesus our Lord. His power in us is  
greater than, is greater than this world. To share the reason for  
our hope, to serve with love and grace, that all who see Him shine  
through us might bring the Father praise! *Refrain*

Lift high the name of Jesus, of Jesus our Light. No other name on  
earth can save, can raise a soul to life. He opens up our eyes to  
see the harvest He has grown. We labor in His fields of grace as  
He leads sinners home! *Refrain*

### **The Affirmation of Faith** (Heidelberg Catechism, Q & A 1)

Q. What is your only comfort in life and in death?

**A. That I am not my own, but belong—body and soul, in life and  
in death—to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for  
all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from the  
tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that  
not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in  
heaven; in fact, all things must work together for my salvation.  
Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of  
eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready  
from now on to live for him.**

### **Passing of the Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you! **And also with you!**

### **Blessing of the Young Disciples** Why Palms?

### **Song of Preparation** How Deep the Father's Love

How deep the Father's love for us; how vast beyond all measure,  
that He should give His only Son to make a wretch His

treasure. How great the pain of searing loss; the Father turns His face away, as wounds which mar the Chosen One, bring many sons to glory.

Behold, the Man upon a cross, my sin upon His shoulders.  
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice call out among the scoffers.  
It was my sin that held Him there until it was accomplished. His dying breath has brought me life; I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything; no gifts, no power, no wisdom, but I will boast in Jesus Christ; His death and resurrection. Why should I gain from His reward? I cannot give an answer, but this I know with all my heart, His wounds have paid my ransom.

## **Gospel Reading**

John 12:12-16

## **Sermon** The (Unexpected) Glory of the King

Rev. Dan Hutchinson

His disciples did not understand these things at first, but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered... (John 12:16a)

## **The Celebration of Communion**

Words of Institution

Prayer of Blessing

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

## **Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer**

### **Song of Sending**

Before the Throne

Before the throne of God above I have a strong and perfect plea;  
a great High Priest whose name is Love, who ever lives and pleads  
for me. My name is graven on His hands; my name is written on  
His heart; I know that while in heaven He stands, no tongue can  
bid me thence depart; no tongue can bid me thence depart.

When satan tempts me to despair and tells me of the guilt within,  
upward I look and see Him there, who made an end to all my sin.

Because the sinless Savior died, my sinful soul is counted free;  
for God the Just is satisfied to look on Him and pardon me; to look  
on Him and pardon me!

*Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Praise the One risen Son of God!*

Behold Him there the risen Lamb; my perfect spotless  
righteousness; the great unchangeable I Am; the King of glory  
and of grace. One with Himself I cannot die, my soul is purchased  
with His blood. My life is hid with Christ on high; with Christ my  
Savior and my God; with Christ my Savior and my God! *Refrain*

## Charge and Benediction

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## First Church Updates

**Our *Letter of Blessing*** is directed to: *Covenant Presbyterian Church, Nashville, Tennessee.*

### Today

**Professor Jerry McCoy concludes his series on *Faith and Physics* this week: 9:30 today in the Stephenson and 11:30 this Wednesday in room E104. Our special thanks to Jerry for these last two months of teaching!**

### This Week

**This week we follow the Master** straight to the cross and the joy of resurrection!  
Come and bring your friends to each and all of these Holy Week services:

**April 6:** Maundy Thursday: 7:30 p.m., Sanctuary

**April 7:** Good Friday worship: noon, Kerr Chapel

*Homilists:*

Rev. Terry Buxton  
Rev. Wambugu Gachungi  
Rev. Julia Metcalf  
Rev. Deron Spoo

Rev. James Estes  
Rev. Daniel Hutchinson  
Dr. Jim Miller

**April 9:** Easter: Resurrection Sunday

6:30 a.m. Sunrise service, Camp Loughridge;  
8:00 and 11:00 a.m., Sanctuary (identical services);  
8:30 and 11:00 a.m., Stephenson Hall;  
11:00 a.m. Tulsa International Fellowship, Great Hall

**Stay Close to the Master: this Wednesday**, Stephenson Hall, 6:15 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. Small group discussion of video devotional by Dr. John Ortberg.

**Holy Week Prayer Vigil – Maundy Thursday, April 6 at 9:00 p.m. through Easter Sunday, April 9 at 7:00 a.m.** Sign-up for a 30 minute slot to ensure an unbroken prayer chain by clicking on the QR code below, or at the atrium tables today and next Sunday.



**H2O Project** –You’re invited to participate in the *H2O Project* by giving generously to our partners in the H2O Project, Marion Medical Mission. The mission works with local villagers in Malawi, Tanzania and Zambia by digging wells for their villages and teaching them how to maintain them. The cost per well (serving 120 people) is \$450. Please make your gift by going online --through April 9.

### **Mark Your Calendar**

**Interested in providing some good breakfast food** for the singers, ringers and instrumentalists who will serve musically all Easter morning? Food is brought in by members of the congregation on Easter morning between 7:30 and 8:45 a.m. To sign-up, please visit the table in the atrium today, or use the QR code below, or contact Kathy Wilson at 918-301-1029 or [kwilson@firstchurchtulsa.org](mailto:kwilson@firstchurchtulsa.org).



**Join us this Spring at “Seasons”**, a space for women in all seasons of life to connect with one another and be transformed by the Word and presence of God. Meet us in Stephenson Hall from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. on Monday, April 17.



**Works of HeART** - WOH is an FPC art ministry for the clients at the Day Center for the Homeless. Interested in volunteering? Stop by the table in the atrium, Sunday, April 23, 30.

**PKM fundraiser:** the *Mara Gen* (love and hope) Concert on April 27 in the Great Hall of the Bernsen Community Life Center at 6:00 p.m. The Tulsa Opera's Traveling Voices and the International African Children's Choir are performing. Tickets are \$35. For details, see <https://www.petrakids.org/mara-gen-concert> or the table in the atrium, April 16, 23. All money raised funds the PKM Student Scholarship Fund.

### **Ongoing Ministry Opportunities**

**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 Facebook, Instagram at *@fpcyoungadults*, or contact Rev. Julia Metcalf at 918-301-1030.

**Presbyterian Women's March Mission project** benefits the Lindsey House. They are collecting money to make Easter baskets for the children who live at Lindsey House, which provides transitional housing and programs to help newly homeless mothers with children get back on their feet and achieve financial independence. There will be an acrylic collection box at the atrium desk for contributions.

**Faith Partners Addiction Ministry** - Faith Partners provides intervention, education, and recovery support to individuals and families suffering from addiction. If you are in need of help, resources, or if you have further questions, please call the Church and leave your number. A Faith Partners team member will return your call. All contact is confidential.

### **Parish Register**

**Prayers for Healing:** Jane Azlin, Linda Barnett, Rob Berry, Beth Campbell, Dwight Creveling, Marilyn Davis, Donna Droege, Cecil Drummond, David Dunning, Mary Ann Elliott, Gaye Graeler, Cynthia Hill-Meriwether, Linda

Hopkins, Mike Hopkins, Elaine Horkey, Meg Hubler, Warren Hubler, Jeannie Dickey Kelsay, Joyce Kunkel, Carmelitti LeFlore, Amy Lesh, Ann McKellar, Jan Miller, David Morgan, Anne Nunnelee, David Osterholt, Shari Postier, Rosemary Priest, Carly Rivers, Zach Rivers, Mary Ruddle, Robert Shaw, Jane Sneed, Cissy Ssettimba, Cat Thompson, Mike Tidwell, and Susan Waldie.

**With Gratitude for the Resurrection:** Pamela Kraemer Neumann, a member since 1966, died on March 22.

**Sympathy and Prayers to:** Mary O'Brien on the death of her daughter-in-law, Shannon Turner, who died on March 2.

### Worship Notes

*The trumpet lilies proclaim the Lord's resurrection presence and power! Their presence here involves a labor of love. We thank those who worked to beautify this house of prayer: Edie Allen, Judy Brill, Minnie Casteel, Sandy Curtis, Carol Graham, Mary Anne and Tom Marberry, Rosemary and Rick Priest, Amy Tate, Cynthia Wiles —and special thanks to Sherye Halliburton!*

**Services are broadcast** and 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](http://FirstChurchTulsa.org/YouTube).

**Please notify the church** if there is a pastoral need, change of address/phone number or other important family news. Contact Kathy Wilson at 918-301-1029 or [kwilson@firstchurchtulsa.org](mailto:kwilson@firstchurchtulsa.org).

**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.

**The Guild of Intercessors** is a group of FPC members who are dedicated to praying for the needs both within and outside of this congregation.

If you'd appreciate prayer for yourself, a loved one, or a friend, please call Paula Peterson, Guild Chairman at 918-296-5548. Requests are shared with the Pastors and Guild members.

**We will resume passing offering plates** at each service on Easter Sunday. There are other ways, of course, to give. See the QR code below:



## THIS WEEK

### TODAY 4/2

- 8:00 am Worship, Kerr Chapel
- 8:30 am Worship, Stephenson Hall
- 9:30 am Gatherings and Classes
- 11:00 am Worship, Sanctuary, Stephenson Hall and Great Hall

### Monday 4/3

- 11:30 am Monday School, Kirkland Library
- 11:45 am Guy's Monday Bible Study, E103

### Tuesday 4/4

- 9:30 am Precepts, E100

### Wednesday 4/5

- 11:30 am Pastor's Study, E104
- 11:30 am Downtown Theological Roundtable, 206
- 12:00 pm Pathways to Hope, 206
- 5:15 pm Wednesday Night Dinner, Stephenson Hall
- 6:00 pm Awana, POW and Amass Exodus
- 6:15 pm Lenten Study, Stephenson Hall
- 6:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room

### Thursday 4/6

- 7:30 pm Maundy Thursday Service, Sanctuary

### Friday 4/7

- 12:00 pm Good Friday Service, Kerr Chapel

### Saturday 4/8

- 8:45 am Before the Rooster Crows, E103

## COME, GROW YOUR FAITH!

### TODAY: Adult Classes, 9:30 a.m.

Cornerstone	Minor Prophets	E102
Covenanters	<i>Renovated: God, Dallas, &amp; the Church That Transforms</i>	E101
Faith and Family	<i>Neuroscience: The Impact of Technology on Our Kids: "Faith"</i>	Prayer Room
Forum	<i>All the Places to Go</i>	E200
Harbingers	<i>The Me I Want to Be</i>	E202
Morning Glory	Mastering Your Emotions	B318
New Parents	Theology and Parenting	E205
Pastor's Study 1	Faith and Physics	Stephenson Hall
Pastor's Study 2	New Testament Overview	E104
Reflections	<i>Judges</i>	E103
Shepherds	<i>Study of Ruth</i>	E203
Sojourners	<i>A Man After God's Own Heart</i>	E204
UKirk	New Testament Overview	E104
The Vine	Ortberg Lenten Video Study	E100
Westminster	<i>Introduction to the Spiritual Disciplines</i>	Tower Room
Young Adults	New Testament Overview	E104