



***God's Covenant
Faithfulness:
In Season and Out of
Season***

*Called to make fully-devoted followers of Jesus Christ:
Inwardly Strong
and
Outwardly Focused.*

JANUARY 21, 2024
11:00 AM
SANCTUARY

*First Presbyterian Church of Tulsa
Born by grace in 1885*

Third Sunday after Epiphany

Sanctuary, 11:00 a.m.

The Words of Preparation

Now the Israelites, when, though preserved by God's hand, they reject as much as possible His proffered grace, are an example to us how many repeated salvations are necessary for us, in order that God may bring us to perfect salvation; because, by our ingratitude, we nullify whatever He has given us, and thus should willfully perish, if God did not correct our apathy by the power of His Spirit.

John Calvin

The Welcome

Rev. James Estes

(Please sign, pass, and return the blue friendship register.)

The Introit

All the Way My Savior Leads Me

Nancy Walters

All the way my Savior leads me; what have I to ask beside? Can I doubt his tender mercy, who through life has been my guide? Heavenly peace, divinest comfort, here by faith in him to dwell! For I know what-e'er befall me, Jesus doeth all things well. All the way my Savior leads me, cheers each winding path I tread, gives me grace for every trial, feeds me with the living bread; though my weary steps may falter, and my soul a-thirst may be, gushing from the Rock before me, Lo! A spring of joy I see. All the way my Savior leads me, O the fullness of his love! Perfect rest to me is promised in my Father's house above. When my spirit, clothed immortal, wings its flight to realms of day, this my song through endless ages: Jesus leads me all the way.

◆ The Call to Worship

I will sing of your steadfast love, O Lord, forever;
with my mouth I will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations.

I declare that your steadfast love is established forever;
Your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.

You said, "I have made a covenant with my chosen one, I have sworn to my servant David: I will establish your descendants forever, and build your throne for all generations.

Praise the Lord.

Psalm 89:1-4

- ◆ **The Hymn** 122 Thine Is the Glory JUDAS MACCABEUS
Acolytes: James Doverspike, Joy Ebil, and Sammy Hand

- ◆ **The Prayer of Adoration** Dan Richmond, Deacon Moderator

The Old Testament Reading Zechariah 12:10-13:1

The Prayer of Confession Rev. Julia Metcalf

Almighty and merciful God, we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against your holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; and we have done those things which we ought not to have done. O Lord, have mercy upon us. Spare those who confess their faults. Restore those who are penitent, according to your promises declared to the world in Christ Jesus, our Lord. And grant, O merciful God, for his sake, that we may live a holy, just, and humble life to the glory of your holy name...*(in silence)*

The Response 118 The Day of Resurrection! LANCASHIRE

The Good News

Having been buried with Jesus Christ in baptism, you were also raised with him through faith in the powerful working of God, who raised him from the dead. You who were dead in your trespasses God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This God set aside, nailing it to the cross. **Alleluia! Amen!**

◆ The Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

◆ 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 Blessing of the Young Disciples

The Hymn of Preparation Through the Red Sea

(Congregation join on stanza 2 and 3)

The musical score is written in G major and 4/4 time. It consists of two systems of music. The first system has three stanzas of lyrics, and the second system has three stanzas. Chords are indicated above the treble clef staff.

System 1:

Chords: D, A, Bm, A, D, G, D, Asus, A, D

1 Through the Red Sea brought at last, al - le - lu - ia!
2 Like the cloud that ov - er - head, al - le - lu - ia!
3 In that cloud and in that sea, al - le - lu - ia!

System 2:

Chords: D, A, Bm, C#m7(b5), F#m, Em7, Asus, A, D

E - gypt's chains be - hind we cast, al - le - lu - ia!
Through the bil - lows is - rael led, al - le - lu - ia!
Bur - ied and bap - tized were we, al - le - lu - ia!

A musical score for a hymn, consisting of two systems of music. Each system has a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The first system has guitar chords A, D, B, E, A, D, and A/C# written above the treble staff. The lyrics are: "Deep and wide flows the tide sev - ering us from / By his tomb Christ makes room, souls re - stor - ing / Earth - ly night brought us light, which is ours e -". The second system has guitar chords Esus, E, A, G, Bm7, Asus, A, and D written above the treble staff. The lyrics are: "bond - age past, al - le - lu - ia! / from the dead, al - le - lu - ia! / ter - nal - ly, al - le - lu - ia!".

The New Testament Reading Exodus 14

The Sermon Waiting Upon the Lord

The LORD will fight for you, and you have only to be silent. Exodus 14:14

The Offertory A Mighty Fortress Is Our God Benjamin Harlan

A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing. Our helper He, amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing. For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe; His craft and power are great, and, armed with cruel hate, on earth is not his equal. Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing; were not the right Man on our side, the man of God's own choosing. Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is He; Lord Sabaoth His name, from age to age the same, and He must win the battle. And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us, we will not fear, for God hath willed His truth to triumph through us. That word above all earthly powers, no thanks to them, abideth; the Spirit and the gifts are ours through Him who with us sideth. Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also; the body they may kill; God's truth abideth still! His kingdom is forever.

The Joys and Concerns of the Church

The Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

- ◆ **The Hymn** 281 Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah CWM RHONDDA
- ◆ **The Charge and Benediction**
- ◆ **The Postlude** Voluntary on the tune CWM RHONDDA Paul Manz

+ + +

Greetings in Christ! We are so glad to have you worshipping with us this morning. 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! Please contact Patricia Hall (918-301-1028 or phall@firstchurchtulsa.org). For general information, you can follow the QR code.



Parish Register

Prayers for Healing: Nifemi Aruna, Jane Azlin, Adelle Beathe, Joy Brewer, Steve Brill, Pat Brown, Roy Cail, Neil Cluck, Randy Corelli, Dwight Creveling, Marilyn Davis, Judah DeSpain, Donna Droege, Cecil Drummond, Gaye Graeler, Rita Graeler, Cynthia Hill-Meriwether, Elaine Horkey, Jeannie Dickey Kelsay, Joyce Kunkel, Judith Land, Carmelitti LeFlore, Amy Lesh, Ann McKellar, Jon Mercer, Jan Miller, Jim Miller, Elsie Osterholt, Judy Pollard, Shari Postier, Lyle Proffitt, Bob Pyle,

Helen Quiring, Carly Rivers, Mary Ruddle, Jo Carolyn Rushing, Cyndi Russell, Jane Sneed, Cissy Ssettimba, Bob Swofford, Larry Tromp, Marcia Tromp, Susan Waldie and Dayne Weierbach.

With Gratitude for the Resurrection: John Scott, a member since 1985, died on December 5.

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*.

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@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 flowers that adorn the Sanctuary today: Given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Lance Miller by the Miller Family.

Our *Letter of Blessing* today goes to Laura Stevens.

Thank you for your faithful support of the ministries of First Church! Weekly tithes and offerings to the Lord may be given electronically at *firstchurchtulsa.org*, text 405-276-4141 or by using the QR code below.



First Church Updates

We are wrapping up Stewardship Season! If you have not already, please turn in your pledge for 2024! Thank you for taking the local church seriously and giving of your very best to the Lord Jesus Christ. In this transition time, your support in prayer and giving is vital.

Pastoral Prayer – Join us as we pray for the pastoral transition. If you're interested in receiving a weekly prayer prompt, please text *@pastorfpc* to "81010".

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.

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. Contact Steve Wilson at *swilson@firstchurchtulsa.org* for more information.

Today

Inquirers Class – Join us today and Sundays, January 28 and February 4, 11 in the Miller Library from 9:15 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. Scan the QR code below.



Chili Cook-Off – Join us today after the 11:00 services in the atrium for the Annual Chili Cook-Off to benefit activities and needs at Anderson Elementary School. The funds raised with the *popular vote* will benefit Anderson Elementary with uniforms, coats, field trips and tutoring.

Events This Week

The January Series – Every weekday through February 2 at 11:30 a.m. in Stephenson Hall. Lunch begins at 11:15 a.m. and the cost is \$7. To make reservations for lunch, please go to the First Church Tulsa webpage.

Hearts for the Lord – Women's Bible study on Thursday, January 25 at 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. in E313.

Young Adults – Join us on Friday, January 26 from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. at the Powerhouse for an Escape Room. "Dare to Enter" this spooky mystery and follow clues together to solve the crime! Please RSVP through the QR code.



Wednesday Night Downtown

Dinner at 5:15 p.m. in Stephenson Hall

Classes at 6:15 p.m.

Tolkien and the Christian Life – What does Middle Earth have to do with Jesus? Join Rev. Dan Hutchinson for an exploration into the biblical and theological themes (sovereignty, nature of good and evil, creation and restoration, home, the work of Christ, etc.) that arise from the world and writings of J.R.R. Tolkien. No prior knowledge of *Lord of the Rings* is required! Starts on January 17 and ends on February 7.

How To Read the Bible (Hermeneutics) – Learning to study, understand, and embrace the Word of God is an essential adventure for every follower of Jesus Christ. John Shelton teaches an inductive methodology that emphasizes studying books of the Bible as wholes and context. Students will gain confidence to approach all genres of scripture and to see the plain meaning of the text; the class meets in room E100.

From Surviving to Thriving In Your Relationship – Join Rev. James Estes and Dr. Tom Philp in room E103 for a four-week exploration of four core characteristics of a thriving marriage. Every week will include biblical and theological reflection, robustly validated relational insights, and weekly “marriage hacks” to help move any relationship from surviving to thriving.

Seekers Bible Study – Rev. Wambugu Gachungi leads an in-depth study of the Sunday morning sermon scriptures. Come and enjoy praying together, studying the Bible, and engaging in lively questions and discussions.

Mark Your Calendar

Parenting Brown Bag Book Discussion – February 8, 25, March 7, 28, April 11, 25, and May 9 - Bring your lunch and discuss with other parents *Thrivers: The Surprising Reasons Why Some Kids Struggle and Others Shine* by Michele Borba. Learn the answers to questions such as: Is my child struggling or thriving? What is the difference between a “striver” and a “thriver” mindset? And many more. Led by Sarah Savage, Director of Children’s Ministries in room E100 from 11:30 am. to 1:00 p.m.

Spiritual Retreat led by Rev. Julia Metcalf, on Saturday, February 10, in the Lodge at Camp Loughridge. More detailed information is coming soon so please save the date.

Watercolor Through Lent – Wednesdays February 14 – March 27, 10:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m. in the Tower Room. This creative art class will be led by Mary Lee Weaver and will use traceable images to create beautiful watercolor cards combined with biblical teachings based on the book *The Ignatian Workout for Lent* by Tim Muldoon. No previous art experience needed. Cost is \$20 and includes all supplies. Click QR code below to register.



Mark Your Calendars with these events:

Jan. 21, 28, Feb. 4, 11	Inquirers Class
January 18	Heart for the Lord- Women’s Bible study
February 10	Spiritual Retreat

COME, GROW YOUR FAITH!

TODAY 1/21

- 8:00 am Worship: Kerr Chapel
- 8:30 am Worship: Stephenson Hall
- 11:00 am Worship: Sanctuary, Stephenson, Great Hall

Monday 1/22

- 10:00 am Little Lambs, Wiseman Hall
- 11:30 am January Series, Stephenson Hall
- 12:00 pm Men's Monday Bible Study, E103

Tuesday 1/23

- 9:30 am Precepts Bible Study, E100
- 7:00 am Men's Bible Study, E313
- 11:30 am January Series, Stephenson Hall

Wednesday 1/24

- 11:30 am January Series, Stephenson Hall
- 5:15 pm Wednesday Night Dinner, Stephenson Hall
- 6:00 pm Awana, POW, Amass Exodus
- 6:15 pm Adult Classes

Thursday 1/25

- 9:30 am Hearts for the Lord Bible Study, E313
- 11:30 am January Series, Stephenson Hall

Friday 1/26

- 11:30 am January Series, Stephenson Hall

Saturday 1/27

- 8:30 am Before the Rooster Crows, E103

Adult Sunday School Classes for **NEXT Sunday, 1/28** at 9:30 a.m.

<i>Cornerstone</i>	<i>The Story</i>	E102
<i>Covenanters</i>	<i>Drive Thru History: Acts to Revelation</i>	E101
<i>Faith and Family</i>	<i>14 Talks by Age 14</i>	Prayer Room
<i>Forum</i>	<i>Who is This Man, John Ortberg</i>	E200
<i>Foundations</i>	<i>Romans</i>	E104
<i>Harbingers</i>	<i>The Reason for God, Timothy Keller</i>	E202
<i>Morning Glory</i>	<i>Prayer and Fasting</i>	B318
<i>Reflections</i>	<i>The Tabernacle</i>	E103
<i>Shepherds</i>	<i>Will the Real Jesus Please Stand Up</i>	E203
<i>Sojourners</i>	<i>Soul Keeping, John Ortberg</i>	E204
<i>The Vine</i>	<i>Bible Study</i>	E100
<i>Westminster</i>	<i>Who Is This Man, John Ortberg</i>	Tower Room
<i>Young Adults/Ukirk</i>	<i>Discovery Bible Study</i>	E201
<i>Young Parents</i>	<i>Guest Speaker</i>	E205