



The Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost
November 16, 2025
11 a.m. worship, Sanctuary

First Presbyterian Church of Tulsa

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



Christ the True and Better Elijah

The Words of Preparation

The double references to Elijah's 'crying out to Yahweh' are very significant. Elijah, great prophet that he is (or will become), does not work some holy abracadabra. He doesn't have some easy, convenient gift by which he gets out of this jam. He is not a religious magician, who struts into the widow's distress brandishing some instant razzle-dazzle that is always at his disposal. He is no candidate for super-prophet. He is rather a servant, who can do nothing but plead with Yahweh over the affliction of this recent convert.

Dale Ralph Davis, *1 Kings: The Wisdom and the Folly*

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

Blessed is the One

Craig Courtney

Hannah Johnson, soloist

Blessed is the one whose transgressions are forgiven. Blessed is the one whose sins are covered, the one to whom the Lord imputes no iniquity, in whose spirit is no guile. You are my hiding place. You will preserve me from trouble, surrounding me with songs of deliverance. When mighty waters rise, they will not reach me. Blessed is the one, O Lord.

from Psalm 32

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 97

The Lord reigns, let the earth rejoice; let the many coastlands be glad!

Clouds and thick darkness are all around him; righteousness and justice are the foundation of his throne.

Fire goes before him and burns up his adversaries all around.

His lightnings light up the world; the earth sees and trembles. The mountains melt like wax before the Lord, before the Lord of all the earth.

The heavens proclaim his righteousness, and all the peoples see his glory.

All worshipers of images are put to shame, who make their boast in worthless idols; worship him, all you gods!

Zion hears and is glad, and the daughters of Judah rejoice, because of your judgments, O Lord.

For you, O Lord, are most high over all the earth; you are exalted far above all gods.

O you who love the Lord, hate evil!

He preserves the lives of his saints; he delivers them from the hand of the wicked.

Light is sown for the righteous, and joy for the upright in heart.

Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous, and give thanks to his holy name!

♦ **THE PRAYER OF ADORATION**

Elder Dylan Seibert

THE FIRST READING

Luke 9:28-36

THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God our Heavenly Father, we confess that we have sinned against You in thought, word and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have failed to listen to You, and we have failed to receive Christ as Savior and Lord. We have wandered from You and lived according to our own wisdom and understanding. Forgive us, O Lord. Pardon those who repent, and by the power of Your Spirit, fix our eyes and our hearts on Jesus that we might walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name... *(in silence)*

THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON

And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, 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 He set aside, nailing it to the cross. He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in Him.

Colossians 2:13-14

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

♦ **THE PASSING OF THE PEACE**

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

♦ **THE RESPONSE OF GRATITUDE**

The Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below; praise Him above, you heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. **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 SACRAMENT OF BAPTISMS**

Joel Donohue, Clerk of Session

Charlotte Crane, daughter of Caitlin and Bretton Crane
Palmer James Gerow, daughter of Carley and Blake Gerow

THE HYMN OF PREPARATION**I Am Not My Own***(Choir)*

The one who made the heavens made my heart and soul; before I drew a breath I was loved and known. I am His creation, the Maker's masterpiece, and all that He designs will be done in me.

(Congregation joins)

My body is a temple of the Living God; I'll worship in this house that His blood has bought. As I bear His image, O may I not profane, the holiness I hold in this earthly frame.

I belong to the Lord, O I am not my own. I belong to the Lord, I am not my own. I will honor Him for this I know, I belong to the Lord, I am not my own.

And, if He has redeemed me, I am not my own. The measure of my worth is His love alone. He declares my standing, and He declares my state, so I will know myself by the name He gave. *Refrain*

I am not my own and now my heart is free; O Maker come and make what You will of me. There is nothing broken that You can not repair, so Lord I leave my life in Your loving care. *Refrain*

THE SECOND READING**1 Kings 17-18****THE SERMON****Christ the True and Better Elijah**

Rev. Dan Hutchinson

THE OFFERING**How Great Thou Art**

Craig Courtney

O Lord my God! When I in awesome wonder consider all the worlds Thy hands have made, I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder, Thy power throughout the universe displayed; *then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee: How great thou art!* And when I think that God, His Son not sparing, sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in; that on the cross, my burden gladly bearing, He bled and died to take away my sin; *Refrain.* When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in humble adoration and there proclaim, my God, how great Thou art! *Refrain.*

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER◆ **THE CLOSING HYMN 356****Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing**

NETTLETON

◆ **THE CHARGE AND THE BENEDICTION****THE POSTLUDE****Improvisation on the tune DUKE STREET**◆ *Please stand***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@firstchurchtulsa.org.

PARISH REGISTER

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

The Joy of Christian Marriage: Elizabeth DeVore and Allen Massey were married on October 25.

With Gratitude for the Resurrection: Joyce Kunkel, a member since 1998, died on November 9.

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 Letters of Blessing today go to Barbara Mugge and David Osterholt.

The flowers that adorn the Sanctuary today are given to the glory of God and memory of Charles Crane, Ruth Crane Ferguson, C. W. Steinsiek, Mary Ann Steinsiek Rich, by Brett and Cheryl Crane.

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.

Thank you for your faithful support: Weekly tithes and offerings to the Lord may be given electronically in lieu of the offering plates at firstchurchtulsa.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 [@pastorfpc](https://twitter.com/pastorfpc) 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.

Book Table Sale: Visit the book table in the atrium today to choose from an array of titles on sale.

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



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

Pastor's Study (Foundations): Sunday mornings, 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. in room E104. We will discuss the historical, theological, and literary nature of Genesis and how this first book of the Bible sets the stage for everything to come. All are welcome!

Music Lovers! Don't miss the annual Fall Concert today at 5:00 p.m. presented by the Chancel Choir and orchestra, including the much-loved *Gloria* by Antonio Vivaldi. There will be a reception following the concert.

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.

Courage, Dear Heart...Stories of Heroic Sacrifice and Surrender to Jesus: Class led by Rev. James Estes on Wednesdays, at 11:30 a.m. in room E102. In this inspiring class, we'll journey through the stories of men and women who cried out to God—and followed Him when He answered. Their lives, drawn from the *Christian Heroes Then and Now* series, are testimonies of contagious courage and sacred surrender. Click the QR code to reserve your box lunch.



Wednesday Night Downtown

Wednesdays at 5:15 p.m. (dinner) in Stephenson Hall
Children and Youth Classes start at 6:00 p.m. and Adults at 6:15 p.m.

C. S. Lewis, *The Chronicles of Narnia* (and other fictional works) led by Rev. Dan Hutchinson

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

Courage, Dear Heart...Stories of Heroic Sacrifice and Surrender to Jesus: room E102, led by James Estes, this class will journey through the stories of men and women who cried out to God – and followed Him when He answered. Their lives, drawn from the *Christian Heroes Then and Now* series, are testimonies of contagious courage and sacred surrender.

Hearts for the Lord: Thursdays, 10:00 a.m., E313, this class will be studying *None Like Him: 10 Ways We are Different From God* by Jen Wilkins. The study teaches how to become articulate and committed followers of Christ, with a clear understanding of why they believe what they believe, grounded in the Word of God.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Thanksgiving Day Worship Service: First Church members and friends who find themselves without family nearby during the holidays are invited to the 11:00 a.m. Thanksgiving Day worship service in the Chapel and a Thanksgiving meal following the service, hosted by the Deacons, in Stephenson Hall. There is no cost, but an RSVP is needed to allow the kitchen to plan for the meal. To register, please use the QR link below or you may contact Kathy Wilson at 918-301-1029/kwilson@firstchurchtulsa.org. Registration deadline is November 10.



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 November Mission is the Coffee Bunker, non-profit organization founded in Tulsa. Please consider donating funds which will be used to prepare holiday meals for veterans, active duty, National Guard, Reservists and their families who rely on support from the Coffee Bunker. Cash or check donations may be placed in the PW mission acrylic donation box located in the atrium on Wednesday evenings and Sunday mornings throughout the month of November.

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@firstchurchtulsa.org to sign up.



Sing with the Choir for Christmas! You are invited to add your voice to the Chancel Choir for the worship services on Christmas Music Sunday, December 21, and Christmas Eve. Join us for rehearsals on Wednesdays from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. on November 19, December 3, 10, and 17. For details contact Ron Pearson at rpearson@firstchurchtulsa.org or 918-301-1013.

Christmas Eve Nativity: Children and youth ages 3 and up are invited to take part in this beloved tradition, presented during the 5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve service. There are many ways to participate, from Biblical characters and animals to angels, acolytes, and liturgists. Every child can find their place in the story. Rehearsal schedules vary by role and age. The children's and youth choirs will begin learning Nativity songs and carols in mid-November during their regular rehearsals, and all who wish to sing are encouraged to attend. Scan the QR code for more information and to register. Registration closes on November 16.



SERMON NOTES

Come, Grow Your Faith!

TODAY 11/16

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 11/17

12:00 pm	Men's Monday Bible Study, E103
7:00 pm	Overtone Rehearsal, 309

Tuesday 11/18

9:30 am	Precept Bible Study, E100
---------	---------------------------

Wednesday 11/19

11:30 am	Courage, Dear Heart, E102
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	Awana, POW, Amass Exodus
6:15 pm	Adult Classes
6:30 pm	Chancel Choir, Choir Room

Thursday 11/20

10:00 am	Hearts for the Lord, E313
----------	---------------------------

Saturday 11/21

8:45 am	Before the Rooster Crows
---------	--------------------------

Adult Sunday School Classes at 9:30 a.m., November 23

Cornerstone	<i>Gospel of John</i>	E102
Covenanters	<i>Simply Christian</i>	E101
Faith and Family	<i>Book of John</i>	206
Foundations	<i>Genesis</i>	E104
Harbingers	<i>Heidelberg Catechism</i>	E202
Morning Glory	Prayer and Sermon Texts	B318
Reflections	Difficult Scriptures in the Old Testament	E103
Shepherds	<i>Book of Joshua</i>	E203
Sojourners	<i>Attributes of God</i>	E204
Sowers	Series by Dr. John Lennox	E205
The Vine	Gospel of Mark	E100
UKirk	Women of the Bible	E201
Westminster Forum	Jesus' words in the Gospel of Matthew	E200

THE FIRST CHURCH PASTORS AND ORGANIST

Daniel Hutchinson, *Interim Senior Pastor*, James Estes, *Associate Pastor*
 Rev. Julia Metcalf, *Associate Pastor* Wambugu Gachungi, *Associate Pastor*
 Ron Pearson, *Organist*