



First Sunday of Advent
November 30, 2025
8 a.m. worship, Kerr Chapel

First Presbyterian Church of Tulsa

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



Christ our Hope

The Words of Preparation

Far above...the night-sky was still dim and pale. There, peeping among the cloud-wrack above a dark tor high up in the mountains, Sam saw a white star twinkle for a while. The beauty of it smote his heart, as he looked up out of the forsaken land, and hope returned to him. For like a shaft, clear and cold, the thought pierced him that in the end the Shadow was only a small and passing thing: there was light and high beauty forever beyond its reach.

J. R. R. Tolkien, *The Lord of the Rings*

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

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

arr. Mark Hayes

Susan Reid, soloist

Lo, how a rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung, of Jesse's lineage coming, as men of old have sung. It came, a Floweret bright, amid the cold of winter, when half spent was the night. Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the rose I have in mind. With Mary we behold it, the Virgin Mother kind. To show God's love aright, she bore to men a Savior, when half spent was the night. This Flower, whose fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air, dispels with glorious splendor the darkness everywhere. True man, yet very God, from sin and death He saves us, and lightens every load.

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE (1) Hope

Larry and Kate Kindbom; and Matt and Kelsey McAfee

This morning we light a candle to proclaim the coming of Christ, the light of the World.
In this season of Advent, we prepare ourselves for His coming.

For the day when

The nations shall beat their swords into plowshares.

For the day when

The wolf will lie down with the lamb.

For the day when

Every tear will be wiped from every eye, and death and sin will be no more.

For the day when

God shall dwell with His people.

Even so, Lord Jesus, quickly come and rule in our lives this day!

Alleluia! Amen!

◆ THE OPENING HYMN 5

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

PICARDY

◆ THE PRAYER OF ADORATION

Elder Bob Farris

THE FIRST READING**1 Peter 2:22-24****THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, during this Advent season, we stand in awe of Your love for us. We cannot fathom the love that caused Christ to take on flesh and suffer in our place; the sinless for the sinner. We cannot comprehend that His wounds have brought us life. Forgive us for failing to receive You. Forgive us for walking in darkness when You Yourself are the light. Forgive us for refusing to follow Your example of humble sacrifice. Forgive us our pride and envy and selfishness and hate. By Your Spirit's power, so cleanse our hearts that we might walk in Your ways and live as those who know Your coming... *(in silence)*

THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends, 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 RESPONSE OF GRATITUDE**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 SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS**THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE****THE OFFERING 3****Comfort, Comfort You My People****PSALM 42****THE SECOND READING****Isaiah 11:1-9****THE SERMON****Christ Our Hope****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 2**

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

HYFRYDOL

◆ **THE CHARGE AND THE BENEDICTION****THE POSTLUDE**

Toccata on the tune PICARDY

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@firstchurchtulsa.org.

Advent Sermon Series (Promise Fulfilled): This Advent season, we explore the themes of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love through the prophetic writings of the prophet Isaiah. Isaiah stands at a crossroads, looking back at the unfolding story of God's redemption that we have explored this fall, and looking ahead to the promise of God's coming Kingdom and the Advent of His great salvation. Join us as we consider how the words of Isaiah find their fulfillment in Christ and how they speak to us today as we await the return of our once and future King.

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, Janice Garbart, 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, Bob Shipman, Vanda Simmons, Alex Smith, Andrea Smith, Jane Sneed, Sally Stewart, Marcia Tromp, Ralph Veatch, Gretchen Wagner, Susan Waldie, and Norma Wallace.

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](https://www.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 Karen Cluck.

The flowers that adorn the Sanctuary today are given to the glory of God and in memory of Beverly Parschauer, by Dr. John Parschauer and 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@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](https://www.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 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 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.



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.

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.

Jammies for Jesus: Wednesday, December 3, dinner at 5:30 p.m. and program at 6:00 p.m., in Stephenson Hall and the courtyard. There will be crafts, dancing, story time, carols and treats!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Advent Study Series at First Church: During this Advent season, our church family is invited to prepare our hearts through a four-week study called, “Promise Fulfilled” centered on the themes of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love. Sunday School classes will explore weekly video teachings from our pastors, and these presentations, as well as downloadable materials, will also be available on our website for small groups and independent study.

Packets of Advent study cards to be used as you light your wreath will be available beginning today. These will contain scripture and discussion questions and are suitable for all ages. We look forward to walking together through this meaningful season as we anticipate the coming of Christ, the Light of the World.

Women of First Church are invited to the annual Christmas Luncheon, hosted by the First Ladies Council. Following the 11:00 Worship services in the Miller Library on Sunday, December 14 for food, Christmas music and fellowship. While there is no cost for this event, a reservation is needed. To register contact Kathy Wilson at 918-301-1029/kwilson@firstchurchtulsa.org or click the QR code.



Mark Your Calendars with these events:

- December 21 **Christmas Music Sunday**
- December 24 **Christmas Eve Services**
 - 2:00 Carols and Communion
 - 5:00 Children's Nativity
 - 8:00 Lessons and Carols
 - 11:00 Communion
- December 25 **Christmas Day Service, 11:00, Kerr Chapel**
- December 28 9:30 a.m., **Pancake Breakfast** and
11:00 a.m., **Worship in the Sanctuary**
- December 31 **New Year's Eve Watchnight**

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 December Mission is the Emergency Infant Services. Please consider donating funds to purchase diapers, which are the most needed items distributed by EIS. 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@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 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.

Flowers and Christmas Greenery: Every December you will notice the greenery that decorates the church; this greenery is given in memory of loved ones. Each Sunday of the year, families give flowers honoring their loved ones. If you would like to give flowers in 2026, please email your information to Dionna Schooley at dschooley@firstchurchtulsa.org.

SERMON NOTES

Come, Grow Your Faith!

TODAY 12/30

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 12/1

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

Tuesday 12/2

9:30 am	Precept Bible Study, E100
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Wednesday 12/3

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	POW, Amass Exodus
6:30 pm	Chancel Choir, Choir Room

Thursday 12/4

10:00 am	Hearts for the Lord, E313
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Saturday 12/6

8:45 am	Before the Rooster Crows
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Adult Sunday School Classes at 9:30 a.m., December 7

Cornerstone	<i>Advent Series</i>	E102
Covenanters	<i>Advent Series</i>	E101
Faith and Family	<i>Advent Series</i>	206
Foundations	<i>Advent Series</i>	E104
Harbingers	<i>Book of James</i>	E202
Morning Glory	<i>Advent Series</i>	B318
Reflections	<i>Advent Series</i>	E103
Shepherds	<i>R. C. Sproul Teachings</i>	E203
Sojourners	<i>Revelation</i>	E204
Sowers	<i>Advent Series</i>	E205
The Vine	<i>Advent Series</i>	E100
UKirk/Young Adults	<i>Advent Series</i>	E201
Westminster Forum	<i>Incarnation</i>	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 and Music Director*