



***Credible Witnesses on
the Road to Pentecost***

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

**MAY 14, 2023
11:00 AM
STEPHENSON HALL
*First Presbyterian Church of Tulsa
Born by grace in 1885***

Sixth Sunday of Eastertide

Stephenson Hall, 11:00 a.m.

Words of Preparation

O God almighty, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Grant us, we pray, to be grounded and settled in your truth by the coming down of the Holy Spirit into our hearts. That which we know not, reveal; that which is wanting in us, fill up; that which we know, confirm; and keep us blameless in your service; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Clement of Rome

Prelude

Who You Say I Am

Who am I that the highest King would welcome me? I was lost but He brought me in; Oh, His love for me. Oh, His love for me.

Who the Son sets free, O is free indeed; I'm a child of God, Yes I am!

Free at last, He has ransomed me; His grace runs deep. While I was a slave to sin, Jesus died for me. Yes, He died for me.

Who the Son sets free, O is free indeed; I'm a child of God, yes I am! In my Father's house there's a place for me; I'm a child of God, yes I am!

I am chosen, not forsaken; I am who You say I am. You are for me, not against me; I am who You say I am. *Refrain*

Welcome

Rev. Dan Hutchinson

Call to Worship (Ephesians 2:1-2a; 3-10)

And you were dead in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked...and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind.

But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—

By grace you have been saved—

And raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

So come, let us join together with joy!

And let us worship God!

Songs of Praise

My Lighthouse

In my wrestling and in my doubts; in my failures You won't walk out. Your great love will lead me through; You are the peace in my troubled sea, O, You are the peace in my troubled sea.

In the silence You won't let go; in the questions Your truth will hold. Your great love will lead me through; You are the peace in my troubled sea, O, You are the peace in my troubled sea.

My Lighthouse, my Lighthouse, shining in the darkness, I will follow You; O, my Lighthouse, my Lighthouse; I will trust the promise, You will carry me safe to shore. Safe to shore; safe to shore; safe to shore.

I won't fear what tomorrow brings; with each morning I'll rise and sing. My God's love will lead me through; You are the peace in my troubled sea, O, You are the peace in my troubled sea. *Refrain*

Fire before us; You're the brightest; You will lead us through the storms. Fire before us; You're the brightest; You will lead us through the storms. Fire before us; You're the brightest; You will lead us through the storms. *Refrain*

Come Thou Fount

Come, Thou fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing Thy grace; streams of mercy never ceasing call for songs of loudest praise. Teach me some melodious sonnet sung by flaming tongues above. Praise the mount, I'm fixed upon it; mount of Thy redeeming love.

Here I raise mine Ebenezer; hither by Thy help I'm come, and I hope, by Thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home. Jesus sought me when a stranger wandering from the fold of God; He, to rescue me from danger, interposed His precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be; let Thy grace Lord, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to Thee. Prone to wander, Lord I feel it; prone to leave the God I love. Here's my heart Lord, take and seal it; seal it for Thy courts above.

Epistle Reading

Romans 3:9-26

Elder Jeanette Kern

Prayer of Confession

Lord, Have Mercy

For what we have done and left undone, we fall on Your countless mercies. For sins that are known and those unknown, we call on Your name so holy.

For envy and pride, for closing our eyes, for scorning our very neighbor; in thought word and deed we've failed You, our King, how deeply we need a Savior!

*Lord, have mercy, Christ, have mercy, Lord, have mercy on us!
Lord, have mercy, Christ, have mercy, Lord, have mercy on us.
Lord have mercy on us.*

For what You have done, Your life of love, You perfectly lived, we praise You! Though tempted and tried, You fixed Your eyes; You finished the work God gave You!

And there on the tree, A King among thieves, You bled for a world's betrayal; You loved to the end, our merciful Friend, how pure and forever faithful! *Refrain*

For hearts that are cold for seizing control, for scorning our very Maker; in thought word and deed, we've failed You our King, how deeply we need a Savior! *Refrain*

The Assurance of Pardon

Friends, believe the good news!

Since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God. Alleluia! Amen!

The Affirmation Response

O praise the One who paid my debt and raised this life up from the dead! O praise the One who paid my debt and raise this life up from the dead! (x2) Jesus, Jesus, Jesus!

Jesus paid it all; all to Him I owe. Sin had left a crimson stain, He washed it white as snow. He washed it white as snow.

The Affirmation of Faith (Eastertide Affirmation)

This is the good news which we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved—if we hold it fast: that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures, that He was buried, that

He was raised on the third day, and that *He appeared first to the women, then to Peter and to the Twelve, and then to many faithful witnesses*. We believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of the living God; He is the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End; He is our Lord and our God. Amen.

Passing of the Peace

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

Blessing of the Young Disciples

Offering

I Am Your Beloved

I've heard the accusation, and I've heard the propaganda; I've heard the lies they whispered to my soul; that I have been forsaken and I'll always be forgotten; No matter what I do it's not enough. But then I heard a voice as it opened up the heavens, reminding me of who I've always been.

I am Your beloved, You have bought me with Your blood, and on Your hand You've written out my name. I am Your beloved, one the Father loves, mercy has defeated all my shame.

There's no accusation or any condemnation when I look into my Father's eyes. They don't see my sin, they only see redemption; this is how my heart has been defined. I can hear a voice that is louder than the thunder reminding me of who I've always been.

Refrain

The One Who knows me best is the One Who loves me most; there is nothing I have done that could change the Father's love.

Refrain

Gospel Reading

Luke 24:32-34

Sermon

Unexpected Grace

They found the eleven...saying, "The Lord is risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!" (Luke 24:33-34)

Sacrament of Baptism

Elder Gary Mathews

Michael J. Shelton, son of John and Grace Shelton

Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world?

I do.

Who is your Lord and Savior?

Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior.

Will you be Christ's faithful disciple, obeying his Word and showing his love?

I will, with God's Help.

Will you devote yourself to the church's teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers?

I will, with God's help.

Sacrament of Communion

Words of Institution

Prayer of Blessing

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Joys and Concerns of the Church and the Lord's Prayer

Song of Sending

His Mercy is More

What love could remember no wrongs we have done?

Omniscient, all knowing, He counts not their sum. Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore, our sins they are many, His mercy is more.

Praise the Lord! His mercy is more. Stronger than darkness, new every morn; our sins they are many, His mercy is more.

What patience would wait as we constantly roam? What Father so tender is calling us home? He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor. Our sins they are many His mercy is more. *Refrain*

What riches of kindness He lavished on us. His blood was the payment, His life was the cost. We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford; our sins they are many, His mercy is more. *Refrain*

Charge and Benediction

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Our Letter of Blessing today goes to Marlene Morgan on the death of her husband, David.

Today

This is the last day to nominate someone for leadership within First Church. Please see the back of today's bulletin.

This Week

"Significant Essays" by C. S. Lewis. Dr. Miller continues his Pastor's Study today and each Sunday at 9:30 (Stephenson) and every Wednesday at 11:30 a.m. (E104).

Praying to Pentecost - The prayer room, (204), remains open during normal church hours through Pentecost, May 28. Come and enjoy a special time of presence and conversation with the Master.

Ascension Day worship in the Courtyard: this Thursday, May 18, at 11:30 a.m. Join us as we celebrate Jesus' Lordship, His ruling and over-ruling power, and His commission to each of his disciples. Lunch is available following the service.

Mark Your Calendar

Pentecost Sunday, May 28

**The 11:00 Sanctuary and 11:00 Stephenson Hall services
join together in the Sanctuary; TIF meets in
the Great Hall.**

Following the service everyone is invited to the **First Family dinner** in the FPC Courtyard following the combined service. Enjoy the blessings of sitting at table together, sharing nourishment and deepening our friendships in Christ. Lunch is available, \$9 adults, \$5 children, \$22 per family. Reservations are not required, but you may pay in advance by the QR code below.



Glimpses of Grace - Sundays in June, 9:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary! Hear four stories of how Jesus has been at work in and through the lives of those within this congregation. These stories will encourage you and enrich your faith.

June 4 - David Osterholt

June 11 - Julia Metcalf

June 18 - Solomon Tsuma

June 25 - Anna Milligan

Summer Backyard Bible Study - Join Rev. Wambugu at his home for an in-depth Summer Backyard Bible study to review and discuss the sermon series each Wednesday beginning on June 7 - August 9 at 6:30 p.m. Contact Laura Stevens at lstevens@firstchurchtulsa.org for more information.

Precept Summer Bible Study - This is a 6-session study entitled *Breaking Free from Fear*. We will meet in E100, from 9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m., June 6 through July 18, excluding July 4. For more information contact Laura Stevens at lstevens@firstchurchtulsa.org.

Ministry Opportunities

The Summer Choir Welcomes You! You are invited to add your voice to the Summer Choir for the 11:00 a.m. Sanctuary service. The only time requirement is a brief rehearsal at 10:15 a.m. in the Choir Room. If you've always wanted to give it a try, here's your opportunity – please join us! For more information, please contact Gretchen Bashforth at 918-301-1012/gbashforth@firstchurchtulsa.org.

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](https://www.facebook.com/fpcyoungadults), or contact Rev. Julia Metcalf at 918-301-1030.

Parish Register

Prayers for Healing: Jane Azlin, Linda Barnett, Pat Brown, Roy Cail, Dwight Creveling, Marilyn Davis, Donna Droege, Cecil Drummond, David Dunning, Mary Ann Elliott, Anita Ewing, Gaye Graeler, Cynthia Hill-Meriwether, Meg Hubler, Warren Hubler, Jeannie Dickey Kelsay, Joyce Kunkel, Carmelitti LeFlore, Amy Lesh, Ann McKellar, Jan Miller, David Osterholt, Larry Osterhout, Rosemary Priest, Lyle Proffitt, Carly Rivers, Mary Ruddle, Robert Shaw, Jane Sneed, Cissy Ssettimba, Marcia Tromp and Susan Waldie.

With Gratitude for the Resurrection: David Morgan, a member since 1938, died on May 7.

Sympathy and Prayers to: Greg Berkhouse on the death of his mother, Nancy Berkhouse, on May 8.

Worship Notes

The flowers that beautify the Sanctuary today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Regina Smith Dickson and Phoebe Merrill Schermerhorn by Ed and Kay Schermerhorn, Stacy Schermerhorn, Todd, Amy, Colin, Winn, Beckett and Merrill Bertsch.

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 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*.

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.



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.

Instruments for Ireland - Do you have a quality guitar or bass guitar in good, playable condition that you no longer need? Send it to Ireland as a missionary! The Irish Mission Partner team is looking for three or four instruments to donate to our mission partner church in Galway; Discovery Church. If you are interested in making such a donation please contact Eric Baird at *ebaird@firstchurchtulsa.org* or Rev. James Estes at *jestes@firstchurchtulsa.org*.

THIS WEEK

TODAY 5/14

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

Monday 5/15

- 11:45 am Guy's Monday Bible Study, E103

Wednesday 5/17

- 11:30 am Pastor's Study, E104
- 11:30 am Downtown Theological Roundtable, 206
- 6:30 pm Chancel Choir Dinner, Stephenson Hall

Thursday 5/18

- 11:30 am Ascension Service, Courtyard

Saturday 5/20

- 8:45 am Before the Rooster Crows, E103

COME, GROW YOUR FAITH!

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

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| Cornerstone | <i>Apostles' Creed</i> | E102 |
| Covenanters | <i>Mere Christianity</i> | E101 |
| Faith and Family | <i>The Heidelberg Catechism</i> | Prayer Room |
| Forum | <i>Soul Keeping</i> | E200 |
| Harbingers | <i>Eternity is Now</i> | E202 |
| Morning Glory | Mastering Your Emotions | B318 |
| Young Parents | <i>Who Is This Man?</i> | E205 |
| Pastor's Study 1 | Significant Essays by C. S. Lewis | Stephenson |
| Pastor's Study 2 | New Testament Overview | E104 |
| Reflections | <i>King David</i> | E103 |
| Shepherds | <i>Study of Elijah</i> | E203 |
| Sojourners | <i>Study of James</i> | E204 |
| UKirk | New Testament Overview | E104 |
| The Vine | <i>Study of Jonah</i> | E100 |
| Westminster | <i>The Greatest Commandment</i> | Tower Room |
| Young Adults | New Testament Overview | E104 |

SEEKING GOD'S SERVANT LEADERS

After the pattern of the One "who came not to be served, but to serve."

-Matthew 20:28

One of the most important privileges we share is to encourage gifted and committed men and women to serve the Lord in leadership positions. Thank you for taking time to offer suggestions to the FPC Nominating Committee.

ELDERS (THE SESSION):

Responsible for the governance of the church.

They provide leadership in all areas, including: Worship, Administration, Programs, Mission, and Ministry.

DEACONS:

The "heartbeat" of the church, ordained for the purpose of "ministering to those in special need."

TRUSTEES:

Stewards of the First Presbyterian Church Foundation.

THE OFFICER NOMINATING COMMITTEE:

Identifies leaders God has called and prepared to serve our congregation.

Currently Serving Elders

| <u>Class of 2023</u> | <u>Class of 2024</u> | <u>Class of 2025</u> |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <i>Maxwell Asare</i> | <i>Laurel Baird</i> | <i>Brett Crane</i> |
| <i>Dacia Bird</i> | <i>Allison Biggs</i> | <i>Elizabeth DeVore</i> |
| <i>Janine Burlin</i> | <i>Mark Brown</i> | <i>John Harper</i> |
| <i>Debbie Favell</i> | <i>Larry Ewing</i> | <i>Jessica John-Bowman</i> |
| <i>Rusty Gaddy</i> | <i>Stephanie Madsen</i> | <i>Jeanette Kern</i> |
| <i>Patrick Kirunda</i> | <i>Urbanus Masaku</i> | <i>Jaclyn Metcalf</i> |
| <i>Elisa Mangesho</i> | <i>Steve Metcalf</i> | <i>Eric Olson</i> |
| <i>Anne McCoy</i> | <i>Paul Mungai</i> | <i>Jacob Thompson</i> |
| <i>Amy Russell</i> | <i>Denise Rounds</i> | <i>Solomon Tsuma</i> |
| <i>Jim Scheiper</i> | <i>Karen Woolman</i> | <i>Faith Wambugu</i> |

Currently Serving Deacons

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| <p><u>Class of 2023</u> Sheri Allen Keith Campbell Michael Homan Cindy Johnson Lucy Kamande Clint McQueen Dylan Seibert Ed Slier Julie Steiner Shannon Thomas</p> | <p><u>Class of 2024</u> Tina Aruna Bette Cromer Sandy Curtis Quentin Franklin Carter Mathews Buddy Neal Valentine Ndunga Dan Richmond Grace Shelton Scott Swanson</p> | <p><u>Class of 2025</u> Anita Anthony Tyler Bird Nancy Blocker Beryl Bolo Brandon Evans Jeremy Foon Nick McMillan Janet Mercer Gladys Njino Cissy Ssettimba</p> |
|--|--|--|

Currently Serving Trustees

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| <p><u>Class of 2023</u> Todd Schuster Robert Pielsticker Bill Lawson</p> | <p><u>Class of 2024</u> Steve Caldwell Jane Crain Pam Farris</p> | <p><u>Class of 2025</u> Dr. John Frame Ken McQueen Barrett Powers</p> |
|---|---|--|