



***Taking Up Residence!
Empowered by the
Mystery of the Holy
Spirit's Presence***

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

**JULY 2, 2023
11:00 AM
STEPHENSON HALL
*First Presbyterian Church of Tulsa
Born by grace in 1885***

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Stephenson Hall, 11:00 a.m.

Words of Preparation

He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose.

Jim Elliot, Missionary and Martyr

Prelude

Yet Not I but Through Christ in Me

What gift of grace is Jesus my redeemer, there is no more for heaven now to give. He is my joy, my righteousness, and freedom. My steadfast love, my deep and boundless peace. To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus, for my life is wholly bound to His. Oh, how strange and divine, I can sing "all is mine", yet not I, but through Christ in me.

The night is dark but I am not forsaken, for by my side, the Savior, He will stay. I labor on in weakness and rejoicing, for in my need His power is displayed. To this I hold, my Shepherd will defend me; through the deepest valley he will lead. Oh, the night has been won and I shall overcome, yet not I, but through Christ in me.

No fate I dread, I know I am forgiven. The future sure, the price it has been paid, for Jesus bled and suffered for my pardon, and He was raised to overthrow the grave. To this I hold, my sin has been defeated; Jesus now and ever is my plea. Oh, the chains are released. I can sing I am free, yet not I, but through Christ in me.

With every breath I long to follow Jesus, for He has said that he will bring me home. And day by day I know He will renew me, until I stand with joy before the throne. To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus. All the glory evermore to Him. When the race is complete, still my lips shall repeat, yet not I, but through Christ in me.

Welcome and Call to Worship

Rev. James Estes

Songs of Praise

Rescuer

There is good news for the captive; good news for the shamed.
There is good news for the one who walked away. There is good
news for the doubter, the one religion failed, for the good Lord
has come to seek and save.

*He's our Rescuer. He's our Rescuer. We are free from sin
forevermore. Oh, how sweet the sound. Oh, how grace abounds.
We will praise the Lord our Rescuer.*

He is beauty for the blind man; riches for the poor. He is
friendship for the one the world ignores. He is pasture for the
weary; rest for those who strive. Oh, the good Lord is the way the
truth the life. Yes, the good Lord is the way the truth the life.

Refrain

So come and be chainless; come and be fearless; come to the foot
of Calvary. There is redemption for every affliction, here at the
foot of Calvary. So come and be chainless; come and be fearless;
come to the foot of Calvary. There is redemption for every
affliction, here at the foot of Calvary. *Refrain*

Jesus Strong and Kind

Jesus said that if I thirst, I should come to Him. No one else can
satisfy; I should come to Him.

Jesus said, if I am weak, I should come to Him. No one else can be
my strength. I should come to Him.

*For the Lord is good and faithful. He will keep us day and night.
We can always run to Jesus; Jesus, strong and kind.*

Jesus said that if I fear, I should come to Him. No one else can be
my shield; I should come to Him. *Refrain*

Jesus said, if I am lost, He will come to me. And He showed me on that cross, He will come to me. *Refrain*

First Reading

Jeremiah 20:7-12

Simeon Estes, Grade 5

Prayer of Confession

Most Merciful 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 not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name...*(in silence)*

Response to Confession

Boldly I Approach

By grace alone, somehow I stand where even angels fear to tread; invited by redeeming love, before the throne of God above. He pulls me close with nail-scarred hands, into His everlasting arms.

When condemnation grips my heart and Satan tempts me to despair, I hear the voice that scatters fear; The Great I Am, The Lord, is here. O, praise the One who fights for me and shields my soul eternally.

Boldly, I approach Your throne; blameless now, I'm running home; by Your blood I come, welcomed as Your own, into the arms of Majesty.

Behold the bright and risen Son, more beauty than this world has known; I'm face to face with Love Himself; His perfect spotless righteousness. A thousand years, a thousand tongues are not enough to sing His praise. *Refrain*

This is the art of celebration, knowing we're free from condemnation; O praise the One; praise the One, who made an end to all my sin! *Refrain*

Assurance of Pardon and Affirmation of Faith

The Second Helvetic Confession

Now it is most certain that all of us are by nature sinners and godless, and before God's judgment-seat are convicted of godlessness and are guilty, but that, solely by the grace of Christ, and not from any merit of ours or consideration for us, we are justified, that is, absolved from sin and death by God the Judge. For what is clearer than what Paul said: "Since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, they are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus".

Romans 3:23

Passing of the Peace

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

Blessing of the Young Disciples

Grace Shelton

Offering

Light a Fire

Restore in me the joy of my salvation. Take me back to where it all began, where all I ever wanted was Your presence. How I long to be there once again.

Light a fire that the world can't burn out. Fan the flame 'til nothing between us remains; my life is an altar to You. Breathe again on the embers that burn in my heart, a love taken back to the start; my life is an altar to You.

Renew in me a pure and willing spirit. Take me back to where it all began before it all became so complicated. How I long to be there once again. *Refrain*

God, I'm sorry. Please forgive me for when I've gone cold. Lord,
I need you; how I need you to awake my soul. *Refrain*

Gospel Reading

Acts 4:13-31

Sermon

A Shaking Church

*Whether it is right in God's sight to listen to you rather than to God,
you must judge...*

Acts 4:19

Sacrament of Communion

Words of Institution

Prayer of Blessing

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer

Song of Sending

Facing a Task Unfinished

Facing a task unfinished, that drives us to our knees; a need that,
undiminished, rebukes our slothful ease. We, who rejoice to
know Thee, renew before Thy throne the solemn pledge we owe
Thee – to go and make Thee known.

Where other lords beside Thee hold their unhindered sway;
where forces that defied Thee, defy Thee still today. With none to
heed their crying for life, and love, and light, unnumbered
souls are dying and pass into the night.

*We go to all the world, with kingdom hope unfurled. No other
name has power to save but Jesus Christ the Lord.*

We bear the torch that, flaming, fell from the hands of those who
gave their lives proclaiming that Jesus died and rose. Ours is the
same commission, the same glad message ours; fired by the
same ambition, to Thee we yield our powers. *Refrain.*

O Father who sustained them, O Spirit who inspired, Savior, whose love constrained them to toil with zeal untired. From cowardice defend us, from lethargy awake! Forth on Thine errands send us to labor for Thy sake. *Refrain.*

Charge and Benediction

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Today

Our Letter of Blessing goes to the Pat Wheeler family.

The flowers that beautify the Sanctuary today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Frances and Dr. John Scott, by John Scott, Jeff Scott and Barbara Albritton.

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.



Watermelon, anyone? Celebrate in the Courtyard today: the joy of heritage and the 4th of July -- following the 11:00 a.m. service!

Today! "Faith & Film" – An all-church, summer Sunday School class gathering at 9:30 in the Library! We'll explore how faith intersects culture on the silver screen. In July, Dan Hutchison and John Shelton consider popular movies and search out Christian themes that emerge.

- Today – Mary Poppins
- July 9 – Stranger Than Fiction
- July 16 – The Mission
- July 23 – Star Wars Series
- July 30 – Arrival

In August, we will dive into Season 1 of The Chosen and review how scripture is messaged and depicted through this series. Pastors and lay teachers will lead our conversations in the Miller Library at 9:30 a.m. Stay tuned for more information.

Summer Swim – Cool off this summer, bring your family to Camp Loughridge, today and every Sunday –1:30 - 4:45 p.m. through September 3.

This Week

Dr. Miller launches his summer session on Christian apologetics – today at 9:30 (and Wednesdays at 11:30) in E104. We're reviewing Rebecca McLaughlin's book, *Confronting Christianity: 12 Hard Questions for the World's Largest Religion*. Rebecca will be speaking in Stephenson Hall on Saturday night, Sept. 16, at 6:30 p.m.

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

Mark Your Calendar

Spiritual Retreat at Camp Loughridge – Save the date for a rich experience: Saturday, July 15, 9:00 a.m. at Camp Loughridge. Adults and families (with children of all ages) will have two separate paths of retreat through the morning. For more information or to register please contact lstevens@firstchurchtulsa.org or click on the QR code below.



Ministry Opportunities

The Summer Choir Welcomes You! Why not add your voice to the Summer Choir during the 11:00 a.m. Sanctuary service? Join us Sunday mornings for 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! 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.instagram.com/fpcyoungadults), or contact Rev. Julia Metcalf at 918-301-1030.

Special Needs Ministry is growing! We need volunteers to work with our young people who need a little extra help. If you are interested in serving at 9:30 or 11:00 a.m. once a month or more, please contact Jackson Seibert at Jseibert@firstchurchtulsa.org.

Parish Register

Prayers for Healing: Jane Azlin, Linda Barnett, Pat Brown, Carol Caldwell, Roy Cail, Dwight Creveling, Marilyn Davis, Donna Droege, Cecil Drummond, David Dunning, Mary Ann Elliott, Gaye Graeler, Gena Gray, Dana Grogan, Cynthia Hill-Meriwether, Meg Hubler, Warren Hubler, Jeannie Dickey Kelsay, Joyce Kunkel, Carmelitti LeFlore, Amy Lesh, Ann McKellar, Jon Mercer, Jan Miller, David Osterholt, Larry Osterhout, Bill Peacher, Shari Postier, Rosemary Priest, Lyle Proffitt, Helen Quiring, Carly Rivers, Mary Ruddle, Robert Shaw, Jane Sneed, Cissy Ssettimba, and Susan Waldie.

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 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*.

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.

COME, GROW YOUR FAITH!

TODAY 7/2

8:00 am Worship: Kerr Chapel
8:30 am Worship: Stephenson Hall
9:30 am Faith and Film, Miller Library
Morning Glory Class, B318
Christian Apologetics, led by Dr. Miller, E104
11:00 am Worship: Sanctuary, Stephenson, Great Hall

Tuesday 7/4 Church offices are closed.

Wednesday 7/5

11:30 am Pastor's Study, E104
11:30 am Downtown Theological Roundtable, 206
6:30 pm Summer Backyard Bible Study, Rev. Wambugu's Home

Saturday 7/8

8:45 am Before the Rooster Crows, E103