



# Prison Reflections:

To Live is Christ!

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

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JULY 31, 2022  
11:00 AM STEPHENSON HALL  
*First Presbyterian Church of Tulsa  
Born by grace in 1885*

# ***Eighth Sunday after Pentecost***

*Stephenson Hall, 11:00 am*

## **Words of Preparation**

The success is not my own, but His who has given me strength. Paul's great affirmation should not be taken out of context. It does not mean, "I can do anything whatever- whether handling dangerous snakes, jumping from the top of the Empire State Building without injury, or working my way up to the position of CEO of my company- as long as I invoke Christ as the source of my strength." Rather, it means that Christ empowers us for, and sustains us in, a life of service and witness to the gospel, whatever obstacles we may face.

Daniel Migliore

## **Prelude**

### **My Roving Heart**

Let worldly minds the world pursue, it has no charms for me.  
Once I admired its trifles too, but grace has set me free.  
Its pleasure now no longer please; no more content afford.  
Far from my heart be the joys like these; now I have seen the Lord.

As by the light of opening day the stars are all concealed, so  
earthly pleasures fade away when Jesus is revealed. Creatures no  
more divide my choice, I bid them all depart. His name, His love,  
His gracious voice, have fixed my roving heart.

Now Lord, I will be Thine alone and wholly live to Thee, but I may  
hope that You will own a worthless soul like me. Yes, though of  
sinners I am the worst, I cannot doubt Thy will. For if Thou had  
not loved me first, I had refused Thee still.

Creatures no more divide my choice, I bid them all depart. His  
name, His love, His gracious voice, have fixed my roving heart.

## **Welcome and Call to Worship**

Rev. Wally Johnson

## Songs of Praise

### Come, People Of the Risen King

Come, people of the Risen King, who delight to bring Him praise, come all and tune your hearts to sing to the Morning Star of grace. From the shifting shadows of the earth we will lift our eyes to Him, where steady arms of mercy reach to gather children in.

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Let every tongue rejoice! One heart; one voice; O Church of Christ, rejoice!*

Come those whose joy is morning sun and those weeping through the night; come those who tell of battles won and those struggling in the fight. For His perfect love will never change and His mercies never cease, but follow us through all our days with the certain hope of peace. *Refrain*

Come young and old from every land, men and women of the faith; come those with full or empty hands, find the riches of His grace. Over all the world His people sing; shore to shore we hear them call the Truth that cries through every age, "Our God is all in all!" *Refrain*

### Simple Kingdom

Your kingdom is simple, as simple as love; You welcomed the children, You stopped for the one. We want to see people the way Jesus does. Your kingdom is simple, Lord teach it to us.

Your kingdom is humble, as humble as death: His King is a savior who gave His last breath. So, may we die daily, our pride laid to rest; His kingdom is humble and the broken are blessed.

*Hallelujah! Hallowed be Your name! May we live and breathe Your praise. Hallelujah! Let all creation say, "oh The King of heaven reigns."*

Your kingdom is coming, Your kingdom is here, alive in our waiting, at work in our tears. So, come to us quickly, forever our prayer; Your kingdom is coming, Lord Jesus come near. *Refrain*

Your kingdom is backwards, it flows in reverse. What You call a treasure this world calls a curse. The small become great and the last become first. Your kingdom is backwards; Lord teach us to serve. As it is with Your kingdom let it be with Your church.  
*Refrain*

## **First Reading**

Psalm 63:1-8

Elder Steve Metcalf

## **Prayer of Confession**

### **Response**

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*

## **Assurance of Pardon**

Friends, embrace this good news with all of your hearts:  
in Jesus Christ there is forgiveness for all who call upon Him!  
**Alleluia! Amen!**

## **Passing of the Peace**

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

## **Affirmation of Faith** (Heidelberg Catechism, Q & A 1)

Q. What is your only comfort in life and in death?

**A. That I am not my own, but belong—body and soul, in life and in death—to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven; in fact, all things must work together for my salvation. Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.**

## **Blessing of the Young Disciples**

## **Joys and Concerns of the Church**

## **Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer**

## **Song of Preparation**      More than Conquerors

When my hope and strength is gone, You're the One who calls me on; You are the life; You are the fight that's in my soul. Oh, Your resurrection power burns like fire in my heart. When waters rise I lift my eyes up to Your throne.

*We are more than conquerors through Christ. You have overcome this world this life. We will not bow to sin or to shame; we are defiant in Your name. You are the fire that cannot be tamed; You are the power in our veins, our Lord, our God, our conqueror.*

I will sing into the night, "Christ is risen and on high." Greater is He, living in me than in the world. No surrender, no retreat, we are free and we're redeemed. We will declare, over despair, You are the hope. *Refrain*

Nothing is impossible, every chain is breakable, with You, we are victorious. You are stronger than our hearts; You are greater than the dark. With You we are victorious. *Refrain*

**Scripture**                      Philippians 4:8-14

**Sermon**                         Cracking the Contentment Code

### **The Celebration of Communion**

Words of institution

Prayer of Blessing

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

**Closing Song**                Act Justly, Love Mercy, Walk Humbly

It all comes down to this, what you require of me; love my neighbor as myself and You above all things.

*Act justly, love mercy, walk humbly with You, God. In all things, in all ways, walk humbly with You, God.*

It all comes down to this, to be Your hands and feet, good news to all the world. The truth will set us free. *Refrain.*

It's beauty for ashes. It's mourning to dancing. It's closer and closer, the Kingdom of heaven.

Years from now we'll see the fruit our hands have sown. Faith just like a seed, the only way it grows. *Refrain.*

## **Charge and Benediction**

### **Worship Notes**

**The flowers in today's Sanctuary worship** are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Dr. John Campbell, by Linda Campbell.

**Services are broadcast** on the FPC Facebook page, and on Cox channel 3 (each Sunday) at 11:00 a.m., 5:00 and 10:00 p.m.

**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](mailto: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.

### **First Church Updates**

**A heartfelt welcome to worship!** We pray that you'll sense the presence of Christ here —and the warmth of this community.

**Don't forget: First Family Summer Swim** happens every Sunday, 1:45 – 5:00 p.m. at Camp Loughridge. Everybody's welcome!

**The Summer Choir Welcomes You!** You're 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](mailto:gbashforth@firstchurchtulsa.org).

**Young Adult Summer Gatherings (20's – early 30's)** Join us on Monday evenings throughout the summer. For more information contact Elizabeth DeVore at [eldevore7@gmail.com](mailto:eldevore7@gmail.com).

**Helping Hand is almost out of Bibles.** If you would like to donate Bibles to people in need, please drop them by the welcome center in the Atrium.

**A taste of Masterwork Academy:** Sundays, July 31 through August 28, 12:30 – 1:30 p.m., 2022; Bernsen Center. Have you ever wondered what takes place at a Masterwork Academy class? Now is your chance. Every Sunday at noon, Masterwork Academy is opening their doors to facilitate a free one-hour arts experience for all interested adults. Experience the joy of music, the freedom of dance, and the creativity of visual art through classes led by Masterwork Academy Instructors. Please join us and allow the arts to awaken your imagination while connecting with your community!

**Global Leadership Summit:** GLS is an online event, August 4-5, that will allow you to gather with a global community of change-driven, growth-minded, hope-filled people like you. Discover how to voice your vision for a better future. Please visit our events calendar for more information.

**Do you yearn for a quiet day to draw close to the Lord?** Next Saturday, August 6, slip away to the historic lodge at Camp Loughridge for a spiritual retreat that allows time for prayer, reflection, and rich conversation with fellow Christians growing in their faith. The retreat will be led by Julia Metcalf, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Breakfast and lunch are provided, \$10. For more information, contact Duff Points at 918-301-1018 or [dpoints@firstchurchtulsa.org](mailto:dpoints@firstchurchtulsa.org).

**Inquirers' Class** Interested in learning more about First Church? The Inquirers' Class is a perfect place to come meet others, get to know our pastors and ask your questions. Join us every Sunday, August 7-28 at 9:30 a.m. Contact Patricia Hall at [phall@firstchurchtulsa.org](mailto:phall@firstchurchtulsa.org) or 918-301-1028.

**Equipping your Marriage for the End Times Conference**, on August 12-13 in Stephenson Hall. Our Tulsa International Fellowship (TIF) is hosting a marriage conference with guest speakers, Pastors Charity and Carl Taylor of Higher Life Outreach Ministries. The fee is \$30 per person. Contact Britani Di Santi by email at [bdsanti@firstchurchtulsa.org](mailto:bdsanti@firstchurchtulsa.org).

**Camp Sunshine**, Saturday, August 13, 11.00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. at Camp Loughridge. This annual event is sponsored by the Board of Deacons, offers a day camp experience for children fighting cancer. Medical personnel are on site to provide any support needed. The Deacons need thirty FPC cheerleaders from the congregation to help. Minimum age to volunteer is 14. If you can spend a few hours helping to supervise an activity, assist with crafts or food, or help with set up or clean up, please sign up using this QR code, clicking the link on the church's web calendar, or call Kathy Wilson at 918-301-1029.



**Women of First Church:** Enjoy fellowship, refreshments, and encouragement as we find connection and transformation together.

**Monday, August 22**, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. - Nicole Pugh will encourage us to be involved in the life of our church.

**Reservations are required for childcare.** For more information, contact Sarah Savage at [ssavage@firstchurchtulsa.org](mailto:ssavage@firstchurchtulsa.org) or Julia Metcalf at [jmetcalf@firstchurchtulsa.org](mailto:jmetcalf@firstchurchtulsa.org).

**Called to Serve? First Church is seeking a part-time ministry assistant for Discipleship and Congregational Life.** This role works with pastors, teachers, and lay leaders to coordinate and resource our classes, Bible studies, small groups. For more information, please go to [firstchurchtulsa.org/about/employment](http://firstchurchtulsa.org/about/employment) or call Duff Points at 918-584-4701. To apply, send your resume to Tonye Briscoe, [tbriscoe@firstchurchtulsa.org](mailto:tbriscoe@firstchurchtulsa.org).

**Mission Partners, Ireland: Oct. 14-24: A First Church** mission team, led by Rev. James Estes and Eric Baird, is headed to Discovery Church, IR and Donemana Presbyterian Church, Northern IR. You can learn all about it by following the QR code below. Anyone over the age of 18 and minors accompanied by an adult are welcome! Deadline to signup: next Sunday, July 31. Meetings in preparation begin on Sunday, August 7. Please contact Britani Di Santi by email at [bdisanti@firstchurchtulsa.org](mailto:bdisanti@firstchurchtulsa.org).



**Matson Cup:** Save the date for the Helping Hand Golf Tournament on Monday, September 19 with a shotgun start at 9:00 a.m. There will be a putting contest and new events for ladies this year. Please visit our website for more information by using the QR Code.



## Parish Register

**Prayers for Healing:** Jane Azlin, Rob Berry, Billy Boyd, Nick Broline, Dwight Creveling, Marilyn Davis, Donna Droege, David Dunning, Mary Fitzpatrick, Debi Foster, Glenda Goodwin, Gaye Graeler, Cynthia Hill-Meriwether, Mike Hopkins, Elaine Horkey, Meg Hubler, Jeannie Dickey Kelsay, Claudia King, Joyce Kunkel, Susan Lawence, Carmelitti LeFlore, Amy Lesh, Ann McKellar, Clint McQueen, Jan Miller, David Osterholt, Shari Postier, Rosemary Priest, David Raybourn, Carly Rivers, Zach Rivers, Mary Ruddle, Susan Shults, Robert Shaw, Tom Sherrill, Helen Marie Sisler, Bill Smith, Jane Sneed, Cissy Ssettimba, Sally Stewart, Terry Thomas, Larry Tromp, Susan Waldie, and Carolyn Wilcott.

### THIS WEEK

#### **Today 7/31/22**

9:30 am Gatherings and Classes

11:00 am Worship, Sanctuary, Stephenson Hall, and Great Hall

#### **Tuesday 8/2/22**

9:30 am Precepts, E100

#### **Wednesday 8/3/22**

6:30 pm TIF Backyard Bible Study, Wambugu's residence

#### **Saturday 8/6/22**

8:45 am Before the Rooster Crows, E103

**COME, GROW YOUR FAITH!**  
**NEXT SUNDAY Adult Classes, 9:30 a.m.**

#### **On Site:**

Covenanters	<i>Evangelical Theology</i>	E205
Faith and Family	Raising a Modern Day Jospheh	Prayer Room
Reflections	<i>Paul's Letter to the Galatians</i>	E103
Shepherds	<i>The Case for Heaven</i>	E203
Sojourners (All Ages)	The Book of Esther	E204
The Vine (singles/couples)	Revelation Bible Study	E100
Westminster	<i>Theology Brewed in an African Pot</i>	Tower Room
Young Adults (20's and 30's)	Philippians	E201

**July 31, 2022**  
**11:00 Stephenson Hall**

Please register your attendance by filling out the information below and leave this page on the chair as you leave.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Member \_\_\_\_\_ or Guest \_\_\_\_\_

go to the link: [bit.ly/fpcregister](https://bit.ly/fpcregister);  
or  
using the QR code below.



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