



***God's Covenant
Faithfulness:
In Season and Out of
Season***

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

MARCH 24, 2024
8:00 AM
KERR CHAPEL

*First Presbyterian Church of Tulsa
Born by grace in 1885*

Palm Sunday

8:00 a.m., Kerr Chapel

The Words of Preparation

When fishes flew and forests walked and figs grew upon thorn, some moment when the moon was blood then surely I was born. With monstrous head and sickening cry and ears like errant wings, the devil's walking parody on all four-footed things. The tattered outlaw of the earth, of ancient crooked will; starve, scourge, deride me: I am dumb, I keep my secret still. Fools! For I also had my hour; one far fierce hour and sweet: there was a shout about my ears, and palms before my feet.

G. K. Chesterton, *The Donkey*

The Welcome

Rev. Dan Hutchinson

(Please sign, pass, and return the blue friendship register.)

The Introit

The Holy City

Stephen Adams

Brad Morgan, soloist

Last night I lay a-sleeping, there came a dream so fair; I stood in old Jerusalem, beside the temple there. I heard the children singing, and ever as they sang, I thought the voice of angels from heaven in answer rang. *Jerusalem, Jerusalem! Lift up your gates and sing, Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna to your King!* And then I thought my dream was changed, the streets no longer rang, hushed were the glad Hosannas the little children sang. The sun grew dark with mystery, the morn was cold and chill, as the shadow of a cross arose upon a lonely hill. *Refrain.* And once again the scene was changed, new earth there seemed to be! I saw the Holy City beside the tideless sea; the light of God was on its streets, the gates were open wide, and all who would might enter, and no one was denied. No need of moon or stars by night, or sun to shine by day; it was the new Jerusalem that would not pass away. Jerusalem, Jerusalem! Sing, for the night is o'er, Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna forever more.

The Call to Worship

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem!
**Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he,
humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.**

(Zechariah 9:9)

Behold, the Lord has proclaimed to the end of the earth: Say to the daughter of Zion, "Behold, your salvation comes; behold, his reward is with him, and his recompense before him."

And they shall be called The Holy People, The Redeemed of the Lord; and you shall be called Sought Out, A City Not Forsaken. (Isaiah 62:11-12)

Friends, rejoice! For the King has come to seek and to save the lost!

All glory, laud, and honor to our Redeemer King!

Come! Let us stand in honor,

And let us worship God!

- ◆ **The Opening Hymns** 88 All Glory, Laud, and Honor VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN
89 Hosanna, Loud Hosanna ELLACOMBE

- ◆ **The Prayer of Adoration** Elder Allison Biggs

The First Reading Matthew 21:1-11

The Prayer of Confession Rev. James Estes

Lord God Almighty, we confess that we have sinned against you. Like the crowds that welcomed Jesus into Jerusalem, we are often quick to praise you with our lips while our hearts are far from you. We declare you as King with our mouths, yet our actions betray our allegiance to the things of this world that can neither satisfy nor give life. We fail to give you the glory you deserve, and we are too often unaware of your presence in our midst. Lord, we humbly confess our sin and ask for your forgiveness. For the sake of Christ pardon and restore us. Fill us with your Spirit that we might glorify you in thought, word, and deed. Hear us now as we pray...*(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** 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 Sharing of Joys and Concerns

The Prayers of the People

The Offering 91 Ride On! Ride On in Majesty! DUKE STREET

The Second Reading Numbers 27:12-23

The Sermon God's Salvation Foreseen Rev. Dan Hutchinson

The Celebration of Communion

The Words of Institution

The Prayer of Blessing

The Sharing of the Bread and Cup

The Prayers of Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer

The Closing Hymn

The Power of the Cross

Oh, to see the dawn of the darkest day: Christ on the road to Calvary. Tried by sinful men, torn and beaten, then nailed to a cross of wood.

This, the power of the cross: Christ became sin for us, took the blame, bore the wrath: we stand forgiven at the cross.

Oh, to see the pain written on Your face bearing the awesome weight of sin; every bitter thought, every evil deed crowning Your bloodstained brow. *Refrain.*

Now the daylight flees, now the ground beneath quakes as its Maker bows His head. Curtain torn in two, dead are raised to life; 'Finished!' the victory cry. *Refrain.*

Oh, to see my name written in the wounds, for through Your suffering I am free. Death is crushed to death, life is mine to live, won through Your selfless love. This, the power of the cross: Son of God, slain for us. What a love! What a cost! We stand forgiven at the cross.

◆ The Charge and Benediction

The Postlude

Improvisation on the tune ELLACOMBE

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Greetings in Christ! We are so glad to have you worshipping with us this morning. 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! Please contact Patricia Hall (918-301-1028 or phall@firstchurchtulsa.org). For general information, you can follow the QR code.



Parish Register

Prayers for Healing: Jane Azlin, Adelle Beathe, Joy Brewer, Steve Brill, Pat Brown, Roy Cail, Lara Elias-Campbell, Neil Cluck, Randy Corelli, Dwight Creveling, Marilyn Davis, B. J. Dollahon, Judy Doyle, Donna Droege, Cecil Drummond, Gaye Graeler, Rita Graeler, Cynthia Hill-Meriwether, Elaine Horkey, Joyce Kunkel, Judith Land, Carmelitti LeFlore, Amy Lesh, Ann McKellar, Jon Mercer, Jan Miller, Jim Miller, Shari Postier, Lyle Proffitt, Helen Quiring, Carly Rivers, Mary Ruddle, Cyndi Russell, Jane Sneed, Cissy Ssettimba, Bob Swofford, Larry Tromp, Marcia Tromp, Susan Waldie, and Dayne Weierbach.

Worship Notes

For those who have already taken the Mission Study survey, we thank you! If you haven't had the chance to take the survey yet, we encourage you to do so. Your input is valuable to us, and we want to ensure everyone has an opportunity to share their thoughts. The survey will be closing on March 31. Keep an eye out for one final email this week containing instructions and the survey link. We're eager to hear your story and appreciate your participation.

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 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.

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 the Lamberton family.

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.



First Church Updates

The Mission Study Team will be in the Bride's Parlor today to help those who have not already taken the CAT Survey. If you haven't already taken the survey, please do so before the end of March! (*See the last page of the bulletin.*)

Pastoral Prayer: Join us as we pray for the pastoral transition. To receive a weekly prayer prompt, please text *@pastorfpc* to "81010".

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* or contact Rev. Julia Metcalf at 918-301-1030.

Introducing First Church Family Lounges

Available on Sundays near all of our worship areas

Did you know that if your child needs to take a break during a worship service, we have specially-designed lounges for your family to use? The family lounges provide a comfortable space for you and your children. In addition, the lounges have TVs streaming the service, so you won't miss the message or the music. Look for signs on the elevators directing you to these spaces.

Sanctuary worship service - Patterson Family Lounge is on the first floor in the Children's area and can be accessed by using the Narthex elevator or by going down the stairs from the Atrium.

Stephenson Hall worship service - Stephenson Hall Family Lounge is on the second floor in Room 207 overlooking Stephenson Hall.

Tulsa International Fellowship worship service - Great Hall Family Lounge is located directly across from the Great Hall.

Presbyterian Women's March mission project is supporting Presbytery Disaster Assistance by collecting items for hygiene kits. They will be collecting the following: hand towels, wide-tooth combs, nail clippers, individual bars of soap, toothbrushes, (single) and band-aids. Please place your gifts in the donation box in the atrium on Sundays or mail your check to the church, payable to Presbyterian Women.

Calling all Greeters and those interested in being a Greeter! Our Greeter Chair, Tamra Bird, is gearing up for Holy Week and we need your help! Please contact Patricia Hall phall@firstchurchtulsa.org or 918-310-1028 if you are interested in serving.

Interested in Ushering? An Usher has the spirit and heart to serve people. They help the service run smoothly by presenting a joyful and courteous attitude, making others feel welcome and comfortable; they provide visitors with help finding restrooms, nurseries; they hand out bulletins, and provide other information regarding the church. If this is you, please contact Dick Campbell at rlcampbell@cox.net or Scott Swanson at rscottswanson@gmail.com.

The Board of Deacons organizes a brunch for the singers, ringers and instrumentalists participating in the Easter morning worship services. Food is dropped off at the atrium entrance by members of the congregation on Easter morning between 7:30 a.m. and 8:45 a.m. To sign up to bring food, which should be in a disposable container and serve at least eight, please visit the table in the atrium on March 10 or 17 or use the QR code. For more information or questions, please contact Kathy Wilson at 918-301-1029 or kwilson@firstchurchtulsa.org.



Events This Week

Maundy Thursday Seder Dinner: On Thursday, March 28 we will gather in Stephenson Hall for a Seder dinner. This meal will be a child-friendly celebration of God delivering His people out of bondage, and an experience offering us clearer understanding of the Last Supper in the context of the Passover meal. **We will begin promptly at 5:00 p.m. and will end by 7:00 p.m. Advance registration and pre-payment is required by no later than TODAY, March 24.** Childcare will be available for infants to two-years old.

Please use the QR code below to register and pre-pay for your meal(s) and indicate if childcare is needed. You can also register at the table in the atrium on March 17 and 24. The cost is \$10 for adults, \$6 for children, and \$25 for a family.



Holy Week Prayer Vigil: Thursday, March 28 at 9:00 p.m. through Easter Sunday, March 31 at 7 a.m. The prayer vigil is a continuous chain of prayer that begins on Maundy Thursday and continues until sunrise on Easter Sunday. Sign up for a thirty-minute slot to ensure an unbroken prayer chain by clicking on the QR code below. A registration table will also be in the atrium on March 17 and 24.



Dr. Charles W. Kerr Display: Dr. Charles W. Kerr was a dynamic and passionate leader who served as pastor of First Church from 1900 to 1941. During his tenure, which featured explosive church growth, Dr. Kerr dedicated three church buildings, including the current Sanctuary. An exhibit of Dr. Kerr's personal ministry tools, curated by History and Archives, is on view now in the Miller Library.

Holy Week

This week we follow our Lord Jesus Christ straight to the cross and the hope of resurrection! Invite someone to join you, and let's worship together!

Palm Sunday, Today

8:00 a.m. Kerr Chapel

8:30 a.m. Stephenson Hall

11:00 a.m. Great Hall

11:00 a.m. Sanctuary and Stephenson Hall will meet in the Sanctuary

Maundy Thursday, March 28

5:00 p.m. Seder Meal, Stephenson Hall

7:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service, Sanctuary

Good Friday, March 29

Noon "Seven Last Words of Jesus" service, Kerr Chapel

Easter, Sunday, March 31

6:30 Sunrise Service Camp Loughridge, Chapel

8:00 a.m. service Sanctuary

8:30 a.m. service Stephenson Hall

11:00 a.m. services Sanctuary, Stephenson Hall, and Great Hall

Prayer in the Chapel: Join together from 10:40-10:55 on the second Sunday of each month for prayer during this time of pastoral transition.

Upcoming Events

Wednesday Night Downtown - April 3 – May 1, 6:15 – 7:30 p.m.:

Seekers Bible Study: Rev. Wambugu Gachungi leads an in-depth study of the Sunday morning sermon scriptures. Come enjoy praying together, studying the Bible, and engaging in lively questions and discussions.

Rupture and Repair: God’s story in every human relationship: Join Rev. James R. Estes and Dr. Tom Philp for a four-week exploration of the ways we hurt and heal in the context of relationship. Each week will consider a Biblical narrative through the lens of rupture and repair while exploring the invitation to vulnerability, grace and truth in the context of every day relationships. As always, this course will include robustly validated relational insights, and weekly “relationship hacks” to help move any relationship from surviving to thriving.

The Enneagram, A Tool for Transformation led by certified Enneagram teacher, Liz Decker. How would your life change if you could better understand how God created you uniquely? Drawing from scripture, interviews, and visuals to help explain the nine basic personality types, we will discover the core motivations that explain what makes us who we are and learn acceptance and compassion for ourselves and others. Registration is required, click QR code below.



Tolkien and the Christian Life, continued: What does Middle Earth have to do with Jesus? Join Rev. Dan Hutchinson for a continued exploration into the biblical and theological themes that arise from the world and writings of J.R.R. Tolkien. No prior knowledge of Lord of the Rings is required.

How To Read the Bible (Hermeneutics): Learning to study, understand, and embrace the Word of God is an essential adventure for every follower of Jesus Christ. John Shelton teaches an inductive methodology that emphasizes studying books of the Bible as wholes and context. Participants will gain confidence to approach all genres of scripture and to see the plain meaning of the text.

Downtown Theological Roundtable: On Wednesday, April 10 at 11:30 a.m. in room 206 we begin a new book *Prodigal God* by Timothy Keller. If you would like to join us or if you have questions, please contact Jessica Bowman at jessicajohnbowman@gmail.com.

Inquirers Class – If you're interested in learning more about First Church, please join us on Sundays, April 14, 21, 28 and May 4 from 9:15 - 10:40 a.m. in the Miller Library. This an opportunity to also meet some of the Pastors at First Church and others on a similar journey! Registering for the class is very helpful; use the QR code below or contact Patricia Hall at phall@firstchurchtulsa.org or 918-301-1028.



COME, GROW YOUR FAITH!

TODAY 3/24

- 8:00 am Worship: Kerr Chapel
- 8:30 am Worship: Stephenson Hall
- 11:00 am Worship: Sanctuary, Great Hall

Monday 3/25

- 10:00 am Little Lambs, Wiseman Hall
- 12:00 pm Men's Monday Bible Study, E103

Tuesday 3/26

- 9:30 am Precepts Bible Study, E100
- 4:00 pm Men's Bible Study, E313

Wednesday 3/27

- 10:00 am Watercolor Through Lent, Tower Room
- 5:15 pm Wednesday Night Dinner, Stephenson Hall
- 6:00 pm Awana, POW, Amass Exodus
- 6:15 pm Adult Classes

Thursday 3/28

- 9:30 am Hearts for the Lord Bible Study, E313
- 5:00 pm Seder Dinner, Stephenson Hall
- 7:30 pm Maundy Thursday Service, Sanctuary

Friday 3/29

- 12:00 pm Good Friday Service, Kerr Chapel

Saturday 3/23

- 8:30 am Before the Rooster Crows, E103

Adult Sunday School Classes for NEXT Sunday, 3/31 at 9:30 a.m.

<i>Cornerstone</i>	<i>The Story</i>	E102
<i>Covenanters</i>	<i>Drive Thru History: Acts to Revelation</i>	E101
<i>Faith and Family</i>	<i>14 Talks by Age 14</i>	Tower Room
<i>Forum</i>	<i>Study on Luke</i>	E200
<i>Foundations</i>	<i>Romans</i>	E104
<i>Morning Glory</i>	<i>Prayer and Fasting</i>	B318
<i>Reflections</i>	<i>Characteristics of Christian Love</i>	E103
<i>Shepherds</i>	<i>Soul Keeping</i>	E203
<i>Sojourners</i>	<i>Light of Christ</i>	E204
<i>The Vine</i>	<i>24 Hours that Changed the World</i>	E100
<i>Westminster</i>	<i>Study on Luke</i>	E200
<i>Young Adults/Ukirk</i>	<i>Discovery Bible Study</i>	E201
<i>Young Parents</i>	<i>Book Study: For Better or For Kids</i>	E205

The First Church Pastors

Daniel Hutchinson, M. Div., *Interim Senior Pastor*

James Estes, M. Div., *Associate Pastor*

Wambugu Gachungi, M. Div., *Associate Pastor*

Julia Metcalf, M. Div., *Associate Pastor*