

*A Celebration of  
Christmas*



*Five o'clock in the Afternoon  
December 24, 2022*

*Sanctuary*

*First Presbyterian Church  
Tulsa, OK*

# *A Celebration of Christmas*

December 24, 2022

Five o'clock in the Afternoon

## **The Words of Preparation**

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

John 3:16

## **The Prelude**

Miniatures for Christmas

Dale Wood

*Ron Pearson, organist*

## **The Welcome**

Dr. Jim Miller

◆ **The Carol** 9 O Come, O Come Emmanuel VENI EMMANUEL

## **The Lighting of the Christ Candle**

Light of the World Prologue

Mark Patterson

*Isla Bristow and Abigail Estes, candle lighters*

## **The Anthem**

Jesus, Light of the World

Mark Patterson

Jesus, light of the world, hope and salvation for all the earth; Jesus, light of the world, from every nation we come to celebrate your birth. *Gloria, Gloria, Gloria in excelsis. Gloria, Gloria, Gloria in excelsis Deo.* For unto us a child is born, to us a son is given; Wonderful Counselor, mighty God, the Prince of Peace. Jesus, light of the world, hope and salvation for all the earth; Jesus, light of the world, from every nation we come to celebrate your birth. (*Gloria, Gloria, Gloria in excelsis. Gloria, Gloria, Gloria in excelsis Deo.*) Jesus, light of the world, we come to celebrate your birth.

## SCENE 1: THE PROPHECY

*For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. (Isaiah 9:6)*

### The Anthem

Will You Be Ready?

Mark Patterson

*Caleb Shelton, Abigail Estes, Addisyn Chaney,  
Lorraine, Heston and Reaves Hawkins, soloists*

People who walk in darkness have seen a great light. The light will shine upon them; may it shine brightly tonight. *Will you be ready for the light, ready for the light to shine upon you? Will you be ready for the light, ready for the light to shine? Will you be watching? Will you be listening? Will you hear the angels sing? Will you be waiting? Will you be searching for a Savior and a King? Refrain.* People keep watching, true light is coming, look for a bright star in the East. Look for the Christ Child, born in a manger, there you will find the Prince of Peace. *Refrain.* Will you be ready, ready for the light to shine? Ready for the light to shine, shine? Will you be ready?

## SCENE 2: THE ANGEL APPEARS TO MARY AND TO JOSEPH

*And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus."*

*(Luke 1:30-31)*

*...an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.*

*She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” (Matthew 1:20-21)*

**The Carol** 44 O Little Town of Bethlehem ST. LOUIS

### **THE STABLE**

*And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child.*

*(Luke 2:4-5)*

**The Carol** Away in a Manger MUELLER

*Pendo Matee and Abigail Kanyeki, soloists*

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed, the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head. The stars in the sky looked down where he lay, the little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the poor baby wakes, but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes. I love thee, Lord Jesus, look down from the sky, and stay by my side until morning is nigh.

*Congregation joins:*

**Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay close by me forever and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear children in thy tender, care, and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.**

### **SCENE 3: THE ANGEL APPEARS TO THE SHEPHERDS**

*And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear.*

*(Luke 2:9)*

**SCENE 4: THE SHEPHERDS SEARCH**

*And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph,  
and the baby lying in a manger. (Luke 2:16)*

**The Anthem** Rise Up, Shepherd and Follow arr. Mark Patterson  
*Lucy Donohue, Eden Bristow, and Sam Donohue, soloists*

Rise up, rise up, rise up, shepherd and follow. Rise up, rise up,  
rise up, shepherd and follow. Rise up, rise up, rise up and  
follow that star. There's a star in the East on Christmas morn.  
*Rise up, shepherd and follow.* It will lead to the place where  
Christ was born. *Rise up, shepherd and follow.* Follow, follow,  
*rise up, shepherd and follow.* Follow the star of Bethlehem,  
*rise up, shepherd and follow.* Leave your sheep and leave your  
lambs. *Rise up, shepherd and follow.* Leave your ewes and  
leave your rams. *Rise up, shepherd and follow.* Follow, follow,  
*rise up, shepherd and follow.* Follow the star of Bethlehem,  
*rise up, shepherd and follow.* *Rise up, shepherd and follow.*  
Rise up, rise up, rise up, follow that star!

**SCENE 5: THE MAGI**

*Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of  
Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to  
Jerusalem, saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the  
Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to  
worship him." (Matthew 2:1-2)*

**The Carol**      We Three Kings of Orient Are      THREE KINGS OF ORIENT

We three kings of Orient are, bearing gifts we travel so far,  
field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder  
star.

*O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty  
bright; westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy  
perfect light!*

Glorious now behold him arise, King and God and sacrifice,  
Alleluia, Alleluia sounds through the earth and skies. *Refrain.*

**SCENE 6: LET HIS LIGHT SHINE**

*You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden.  
Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a  
stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let  
your light shine before others, so that they may see your good  
works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.*

*(Matthew 5:14-16)*

**The Time for Children**

Rev. Julia Metcalf

*(Children are invited to come forward if they wish.)*

**The Offertory**

Take This Light

Mark Patterson

*Take this light into all the world; let it shine so clear and  
bright. Take this light into all the world; let it shine, let it  
shine, for love has come tonight. Let this light shine for all  
the world to see that Christ has come, our King of kings.  
Let the news now be told throughout the earth; go share  
the joy of Jesus' birth. Refrain. Let it shine, let it shine, for  
love has come tonight. Love has come tonight!*

## Sharing the Light

Rev. Dan Hutchinson

### The Anthem

Peace, Peace

Sylvia Powell

*Lucy Donohue, soloist*

Peace, peace, peace on earth and good will to all. This is a time for joy, this is a time for love. Now let us all sing together of peace, peace, peace on earth.

### The Carol

Silent Night

STILLE NACHT

Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright, 'round yon virgin mother and child! Holy infant, so tender and mild, sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight, glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing: "Alleluia; Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born."

Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light radiant beams from Thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

### The Carol 40

Joy to the World!

ANTIOCH

## The Charge and Benediction

### The Postlude

In Dulci Jubilo

J. S. Bach

*Please extinguish candles and return them to the receptacles at the doors of the sanctuary.*

## **Acknowledgments**

Narration and anthems are excerpts from the Christmas musical, *Light of the World*, written and composed by Mark Patterson.  
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### ***Nativity Cast***

*(in order of appearance)*

#### **Narrators: Prologue**

James Donohue, Eden Bristow, Lucy Donohue

#### **Candlelighters**

Isla Bristow, Abigail Estes

#### **Narrators: Scene 1**

Lucy Donohue, Kamryn Chaney, James Donohue

#### **Prophets**

Heston Hawkins, Caleb Shelton

#### **Narrators: Scene 2**

Justice McIntosh, James Doverspike, Eden Bristow

#### **Angel Gabriel**

Abigail Kanyeki

#### **Mary**

Nora Marshall

#### **Joseph**

Bradly DeLozier

#### **Donkey**

Hank Foon

#### **Innkeeper**

Addisyn Chaney

#### **Cows**

Aurora Campbell, Amara Mugo

**Narrators: Scene 3**

Eden Bristow, Jacob Case, Samuel Donohue

**Shepherds**

Charlotte Foon, Reaves Hawkins, Molly McCracken, Caleb Shelton

**Sheep**

Joyanne Baird, Henry Campbell, Barnabas Estes, Luke McCracken,  
Magnolia Perceful, Olivia Seibert

**Angels**

Brady Barnhart, Isla Bristow, James Case, Abigail Estes, Lorraine Hawkins,  
Will Marshall, Colin McCracken, Kynlee Wilberforce

**Narrators: Scene 4**

Justice McIntosh, Lucy Donohue, James Doverspike

**Narrators: Scene 5**

Kamryn Chaney, Lucy Donohue, Eden Bristow

**Magi**

Heston Hawkins, Jasmine Kamande, Pendo Matee, James McQueen

**Camels**

Jelani Kamande, Hannah McQueen, Allie Olson, Cora Seibert

**Stars of Bethlehem**

Mary Nell Foon, Obadiah Estes, Luke Olson

**Narrators: Scene 6**

James Donohue, Jacob Case, Samuel Donohue

**Youth Choir**

Eden Bristow, Jacob Case, Kamryn Chaney, James Donohue, Lucy Donohue,  
Samuel Donohue, James Doverspike, Lucy Doverspike, Ivy Kariuki,  
Sky Kenneth, Justice McIntosh, Michael Shelton

## ***Nativity Leadership Team***

<b>Managing Director</b>	Gretchen Bashforth
<b>Children's Acting Director</b>	Sarah Savage
<b>Children's Music Directors</b>	Gretchen Bashforth, Carol Tipton
<b>Youth Director</b>	Breana McIntosh
<b>Stage Managers</b>	Erin Barnhart, Rachael Tsuma
<b>Costume Assistant</b>	Juddy Kanyeki
<b>Organ/Piano</b>	Ron Pearson
<b>Sound/Lights</b>	Mike Vickery
<b>Livestream/Video</b>	Cedric Smith
<b>Cameras</b>	Sheila Atkinson, Henry Savage

### **Christmas Day Worship!**

*Tomorrow: 11:00 a.m.*

Refreshments following worship in the Atrium.

### **Welcome to the First Church community!**

Merry Christmas! We welcome you on this holy night; your presence adds to our joy!

Jesus established the Church –and if you don't have a home congregation, we warmly invite you to explore the spiritual DNA of this church family -- represented here. We're a local expression of the Body of Christ, a Reformed and Evangelical Presbyterian Church, seeking to be faithful to the Lord of the Church and the apostolic tradition that we have received.

Consider worshipping with us each Sunday morning! Look at the service times (below) and resolve to lift up your heart and voice each week. Consider the opportunities to cultivate faith and friendships here. Check out the ways you might serve the common good in Jesus' name. We're glad you're here and we pray every blessing upon you and those precious to you!

## **Sunday Morning Worship**

- 8:00 a.m. Kerr Chapel (weekly communion)
- 8:30 a.m. Stephenson Hall (informal worship, weekly communion)
- 11:00 a.m. Sanctuary (Traditional, with choir)
- 11:00 a.m. Stephenson Hall (Contemporary, with praise band, weekly communion)
- 11:00 a.m. Great Hall, Bernsen Center (Tulsa International Fellowship).

### **Our 11:00 o'clock Sanctuary Service:**

Broadcast, Cox Channel 3, live at 11:00 a.m.,

Rebroadcast, 5:00 and 10:00 p.m.

Streamed on Facebook, Youtube, *FirstChurchTulsa.org/YouTube*,  
*and the FPC Website: www.firstchurchtulsa.org*

## **Growing Your Faith!**

### **Adult Discipleship**

- Sunday mornings: 9:30 a.m. --fifteen Sunday morning classes
- Weekday Bible studies.
- KGroups – Home-based fellowship groups.
- Wednesday Night Downtown – Full programing for all ages.  
Optional Dinner 5:30, Stephenson Hall for all
- 6:00 AWANA Clubs for children through grade 4
- 6:15 Middle School (Pathfinders), High School (Exodus)
- 6:15 Adult Classes
  
- Pastors' Studies  
Dr. Jim Miller, Wednesdays at 11:30 and 6:15,  
Sundays, 9:30  
Rev. Dan Hutchinson, Sundays, 9:30  
Rev. Wambugu Gachungi, Wednesdays 6:15

- Quarterly spiritual retreats and other opportunities for prayer and spiritual formation

**Tulsa International Fellowship** – Join with others from across the world for a time of worship and fellowship each Sunday at 11:00 a.m. in the Great Hall, Bernsen Center.

**Young Adults** – First Church is committed to providing a place for Young Adults to connect with one another and with the larger church. Find us on Facebook and Instagram at *Young Adult Ministries@FPC* or contact Dan Hutchinson at 918-301-1040.

**Inquirers' Class** – An “No-strings-attached” opportunity to explore what it means to say “Yes” to Jesus, embracing His Church, learning about this particular family of faith. Questions are invited. Friendships are formed. Our next class begins Sunday, January 15, 9:15 a.m. (for four weeks). To register, contact Patricia Hall at 918-301-1028.

**Presbyterian Women** – Monthly fellowship and Bible study meetings.

### **Serving the Master!**

**Helping Hand Ministry** – Helping to prevent evictions and keep the utilities on, Helping Hand Ministry provides funds to those in needs of a hand up. Come and see the good being done any Monday or Tuesday from 9-noon.

**Guild of Intercessors** – Intercessory prayer group that believes prayer is powerful and life-changing.

**Faith Partners** – A ministry offering compassion, resources, education and hope for those affected by addiction.

**Deacons** serving those in need – to the sick, the isolated and lonely, to any who may be overwhelmed or distressed – both within and beyond this community of faith.

**Hope is Alive** – Join the deacons in one of eight annual visits with the residents of Hope is Alive community. Come witness God’s power, quietly forging radical life transformation in those suffering from addiction.

**Global Mission Trips** – Serve Christ in the world through mission partnerships around the world. 2023 partner visits include a journey to Ireland in June and Kenya in July. For details, email Hannah ([hdamron@firstchurchtulsa.org](mailto:hdamron@firstchurchtulsa.org)).

**Works of HeART** – Weekly art class for clients at the Day Center for the Homeless.

**Masterwork Academy For Faith and Fine Arts** – Training K-5th grade students, daily after school, in the joys of music, visual art, ballet, theater, fitness, and Bible study.

**Marion Anderson Elementary School** – There is always a way to be a blessing at Anderson, our partner in education school: be a weekly lunch buddy, help in the classroom, read to a student, or serve at a community night.

**Children’s Ministries** – Serve with us in the church’s Nursery/Preschool/Elementary ministries by teaching, planning, or rocking babies!

**Telecare** – Help us keep in touch with homebound members and those who need encouragement.

## **Music Ministries!**

First Church strives to glorify God across the broad spectrum of musical language. From children’s worship arts and seasonal youth ensembles to the adult Chancel Choir, Contemporary Worship Team, and TIF band, plus a handbell choir, and Gloria women's choir, there is a place for you to use your musical gifts at First Church.

## **Next Generation Ministries!** *(Cradle to College)*

**Children's Ministries** - We are committed to coming alongside families as they raise their children in the faith of Jesus Christ. We focus on Spiritual Education, Worship, Service, and Fellowship by offering Sunday morning programming, Awana, VBS, and special events throughout the year.

**FPC Youth** - A community of Middle School (5<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup>) and High School (9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup>) students who seek to grow in their relationship with Christ; encouraging one another in the day-to-day, and living as the Church here and now!

**University Ministries** – Designed to reach, teach, and love college-aged students throughout Tulsa so they may be life-long followers of Jesus Christ. Find us on Instagram at *@ukirtulsa* for more information.

*For more information on any of the above, please contact the church office at 918-584-4701 or [www.firstchurchtulsa.org](http://www.firstchurchtulsa.org).*