



# ***Discipleship: Catching God's Vision***

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

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**JULY 30, 2023  
8:00 AM  
KERR CHAPEL**  
*First Presbyterian Church of Tulsa  
Born by grace in 1885*

# ***Ninth Sunday after Pentecost***

*Kerr Chapel, 8:00 a.m.*

## **The Words of Preparation**

That we are made in the image of God could and does mean many things; but the fact that the God in whose image we are made is specifically the triune God of love has repercussions that echo all through Scripture. Made in the image of this God, we are created to delight in harmonious relationship, to love God, to love each other. Thus Jesus taught us that the first and greatest commandment in the law is to love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind, and the second is to love your neighbor as yourself. That is what we are created for.

Michael Reeves, *Delighting in the Trinity*

## **The Welcome**

*(Please sign, pass, and return the blue Friendship Register)*

### **◆ The Call to Worship**          Psalm 8

O Lord, our Lord,

**How majestic is your name in all the earth!**

You have set your glory above the heavens.

**Out of the mouth of babies and infants, you have established strength because of your foes, to still the enemy and the avenger.**

When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place,

**What is man that you are mindful of him, and the son of man that you care for him?**

Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honor.

**You have given him dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under his feet...**

O Lord, our Lord,

**How majestic is your name in all the earth!**

Let us join our voices in song!

**And let us worship God!**

◆ **The Hymn** 467                      How Great Thou Art                      O STORE GUD

◆ **The Prayer of Adoration**    Elder Anne McCoy

**The First Reading**                      Colossians 3:1-17

### **The Prayer of Confession**

Most Gracious and Holy God, we come before you this morning in repentance and humility. You call us to seek the things that are above, yet we confess that our focus is all too often on the things of this world. We are slow to put to death that which in us is earthly. We place our own desires on the throne of our hearts, and we continue to walk in the way of sin. Lord, we ask that for the sake of Christ, you would forgive us all our sin and that by the power of your Holy Spirit, you would continue to renew us in your image. Hear us now as we pray...*(in silence)*

**The Confession Response**                      Is He Worthy?                      Andrew Peterson  
*Breana McIntosh, soloist*

Do you feel the world is broken? **We do.**  
Do you feel the shadows deepen? **We do.**  
But do you know that all the dark won't stop the light from getting through? **We do.**  
Do you wish that you could see it all made new? **We do.**

Is all creation groaning? **It is.**  
Is a new creation coming? **It is.**  
Is the glory of the Lord to be the light within our midst? **It is.**  
Is it good that we remind ourselves of this? **It is.**

*Is anyone worthy? Is anyone whole?  
Is anyone able to break the seal and open the scroll?  
The Lion of Judah who conquered the grave,  
He is David's Root and the Lamb who died to ransom the slave.  
Is He worthy? Is He worthy? Of all blessing and honor and glory?*

*Is He worthy of this? **He is.***

Does the Father truly love us? **He does.**

Does the Spirit move among us? **He does.**

And does Jesus our Messiah hold forever those He loves? **He does.**

Does our God intend to dwell again with us? **He does.**

*Is anyone worthy? Is anyone whole? Is anyone able to break the seal and open the scroll? The Lion of Judah who conquered the grave, He is David's Root and the Lamb who died to ransom the slave. From ev'ry people and tribe; every nation and tongue; He has made us a kingdom and priests to God to reign with the Son. Is He worthy? Is He worthy? Of all blessing and honor and glory? Is He worthy? Is He worthy? Is He worthy of this? **He is! Is He worthy? Is He worthy? He is! He is!***

## **The Assurance of Pardon**

Friends, hear and believe the good news of the gospel:

Jesus Christ is worthy of all blessing and honor and glory! He is the Lamb that was slain for the sins of the world. He is the Lion of Judah who conquered the grave. And there is indeed forgiveness for all who call upon His name. **Alleluia, Amen!**

### ◆ **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 Offertory**                      Steal Away                      Spiritual, arr. H.T. Burleigh  
*Steal away, steal away, steal away to Jesus! Steal away, steal away home, I ain't got long to stay here! My Lord calls me, He calls me by the thunder; the trumpet sounds within-a my soul; I ain't got long to stay here. Refrain. Green trees are bending, poor sinner stands a-trembling; the trumpet sounds within-a my soul, I ain't got long to stay here. Refrain.*

**The Second Reading**                      Genesis 1:26-31

**The Sermon**    Called to Cultivate and Collaborate    Rev. Dan Hutchinson  
And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion..." (Genesis 1:28)

### **The Celebration of Communion**

The Words of Institution  
The Prayer of Consecration  
The Sharing of the Bread and Cup

### **The Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer**

- ◆ **The Closing Hymn** 101 When I Survey the Wondrous Cross    HAMBURG
- ◆ **The Charge and Benediction**
- ◆ **The Postlude**

### **Today**

**A heartfelt welcome to each and all** as we gather to worship in this *House of Prayer*. If you're here for the first time, we pray you'll sense the presence of Christ and the warmth of this congregation.

**Our *Letter of Blessing* today goes to Bob Biederman.**

**The flowers that beautify the Sanctuary today** are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Virginia R. and Thomas E. Matson, Beulah and George C. Matson, George C. Matson, Jr. and Barbara and Herbert Twaddle by the Thomas E. Matson 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](http://firstchurchtulsa.org), text 405-276-4141 or by using the QR code below.



**Helping Hand Ministry** - As of June 30, 2023, Helping Hand Ministries have disbursed \$271,268 that helped 1,776 Tulsa County residents through a difficult time in their lives. If you would like to donate, please go to the *website helpinghandministry918.com*.

**Today! “Faith & Film” – An all-church, summer Sunday School class gathering at 9:30 a.m. in the library.** We’ll explore how faith intersects culture on the silver screen. In July, Dan Hutchinson and John Shelton present popular movies and search out Christian themes that emerge.

- Today – Star Wars Series

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.

Aug. 6	Episode 1 – I Have Called You by Name	
	Episode 2 – Shabbat	Dr. Miller
Aug. 13	Episode 3 – Jesus Loves the Little Children	Rev. Metcalf
	Episode 4 – The Rock on Which It Is Built	

Aug. 20	Episode 5 – The Wedding Gift	Elder Jacob Thompson
	Episode 6 – Indescribable Compassion	
Aug. 27	Episode 7 – Invitations	Elder Jacob Thompson
	Episode 8 – I Am He	
Sept. 3	Pilot – The Shepherd	Rev. Hutchinson
	Closing Discussion of Entire Series	

**Dr. Miller’s 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, September 16, at 6:30 p.m.

**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**

**Volunteers needed for Camp Sunshine** - Saturday, August 5, 11.00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. at Camp Loughridge. This annual event sponsored by the Board of Deacons offers a day camp experience for children fighting cancer. Volunteers are needed; the 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 Hannah Damron at 918-301-1039.



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

## Mark Your Calendar

**Annual FPC Ping-Pong Tournament (including cookout!)** – Sunday, August 20, following the 11:00 worship services. All ages are welcome to participate.

**Monday School** begins on Monday, September 11 in the Kirkland Library; lunch at 11:30 a.m. with the lesson starting at 12:00 p.m. Justin Schell will be teaching the *Studies on the Kingdom of God*.

***Four Things Christians Must Reclaim*** - Join us on Saturday, September 16 at 6:30 p.m. in Stephenson Hall to hear guest speaker Dr. Rebecca McLaughlin. Rebecca has always been fascinated by the power of words and the message of the gospel. Her first book, *Confronting Christianity: 12 Hard Questions for the World's Largest Religion* was named "Book of the Year" by Christianity Today.

**Helping Hand Golf Tournament** will be on Monday, September 18 at 8:30 a.m. at the Meadowbrook Country Club.

## 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 on Sunday mornings for a brief rehearsal at 10:15 a.m. in the Choir Room. For more information, please contact Gretchen Bashforth at 918-301-1012/[gbashforth@firstchurchtulsa.org](mailto: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.

## Parish Register

**Prayers for Healing:** Jane Azlin, Pat Brown, Roy Cail, Carol Caldwell, Dwight Creveling, Beverly Dale, 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, Sarah Smith, Jane Sneed, Cissy Ssettimba, Shannon Thomas, 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 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.

**First Church Cancer List** – Do you or a loved one have cancer? Members of the Guild of Intercessors pray every day for those on the Guild's Cancer List. If you would like to add yourself, a loved one, or a friend or colleague to this confidential list, please contact Paula Peterson at 918-296-5548/*mandppeterson@msn.com* or Monte Prater at 918-605-9719/*monteprater@aol.com*.

## COME, GROW YOUR FAITH!

### **TODAY 7/30**

- 8:00 am      Worship: Kerr Chapel  
8:30 am      Worship: Stephenson Hall  
9:30 am      Christian Apologetics, led by Dr. Miller, E104  
                Faith in Film, Miller Library  
                Faith and Family, Prayer Room  
                Morning Glory Class, B318  
                Reflections, E103  
                Shepherds, E203  
                Sojourners, E204  
                Westminster Class, Tower Room  
11:00 am     Worship: Sanctuary, Stephenson, Great Hall

### **Wednesday 8/2**

- 11:30 am     Pastor's Study, E104  
6:30 pm      Summer Backyard Bible Study, Rev. Wambugu's Home

### **Saturday 8/5**

- 8:45 am      Before the Rooster Crows, E103