



***O Lord,
How Shall I Meet You?***

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

March 19, 2023
Kerr Chapel, 8:00 AM

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

Fourth Sunday of Lent

The Words of Preparation

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Romans 15:13

The Welcome

Dr. Miller

The Introit

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

arr. Dale Wood

Lucy Donohue, soloist

My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Calvary, Savior divine.
Now hear me while I pray, take all my guilt away, O let me from
this day be wholly thine! May thy rich grace impart strength to my
fainting heart, my zeal inspire; as thou hast died for me, O may my
love to thee pure, warm, and changeless be, a living fire! While
life's dark maze I tread, and griefs around me spread, be thou my
guide; bid darkness turn to day, wipe sorrow's tears away, nor let
me ever stray from thee aside.

The Call to Worship

Those who've gone before us encourage us to run to Jesus in faith, run to the Lamb of Calvary –no matter the circumstances. And the psalmist tells us there is good reason:

The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want; He makes me lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside still waters; He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness –for His name's sake.

But what happens when life unravels, when trauma and tragedy take center-stage?

Even when I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil --for the Lord is with me. His rod and His staff, they comfort me. He prepares a table before me in the presence of my enemy; He anoints my head with oil. My cup runs over!

This must give strength and courage –in the midst of any circumstance. But what do you see as you look ahead into the uncertain future?

Surely, goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life –and I will dwell in the House of the Lord, forever!

The Great, Good Shepherd is present right here this morning -- ready with His sustaining grace and redeeming blessings! The King of Love, this Shepherd is! Let's stand in honor, lift our hearts, and sing His praise!

Alleluia! Amen!

◆ **The Hymn** 171 The King of Love My Shepherd Is ST. COLUMBA

◆ **The Prayer of Adoration** Elder Janine Burlin

The Old Testament Reading Psalm 103:1-14

The Prayer of Confession

Meet us in our deepest needs, dear Christ. Meet us in our brokenness, our hurts, our helplessness, our sin. Meet us when we wander from the path that leads to Life. By your grace and in your mercy, bring us Home; draw us close and hold us tight. Cause us to be born again by the power of your Spirit, that we might serve you joyfully and faithfully. Anchor our hearts deep in the ocean of your redemptive love. Good Shepherd, in your mercy, hear our prayers...*(in silence)*

The Assurance of Pardon

Undaunted by sin, stronger than death, binding us to the good news of the empty tomb –this Love is incarnate in Jesus, the crucified and risen Messiah!_The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; His mercies never come to an end. Friends, embrace this good news with all of your hearts: *in Jesus Christ there is forgiveness –for all who call upon Him!* **Alleluia, Amen!**

◆ **The Response** O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus

O the deep, deep love of Jesus: vast, unmeasured, boundless, free,
rolling as a mighty ocean in its fullness over me! Underneath me, all
around me, is the current of Thy love; leading onward, leading
Homeward --to Thy glorious rest above!

O the deep, deep love of Jesus! Spread His praise from shore to
shore; how He loveth, ever loveth, changeth never, nevermore!
How He watches o'er His loved ones, died to call them all His own;
how for them He intercedeth, watcheth o'er them from the throne!

◆ **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 Hymn of Preparation 293 This is My Father's World TERRA BEATA

The New Testament Reading John 10:1-11

The Sermon Journey to the Holy Land Dr. John Frame, M.D.
Feed my sheep; follow me. John 21

The Invitation to the Table

The Words of Institution
The Prayer of Dedication
The Sharing of the Elements

The Prayers of the People

- ◆ **The Lord's Prayer** (*sung by congregation*)
- ◆ **The Charge and Benediction**
- ◆ **The Postlude**

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First Church Updates

Our Letter of Love is directed to: Sally and Tom Hughes.

There will be no adult Sunday School classes today! The entire First Church family is invited to the Congregational Meeting at 9:30 a.m. in Stephenson Hall.

This Week

It's time to sign up for the All-Church Retreat: this Friday and Saturday, March 24-25, 2023, at New Life Ranch Frontier Cove. We welcome our keynote speaker, Dr. Wes Vander Lugt, and his family. Reserve your place. Sign up at the table in the Atrium today or contact Laura Stevens at 918-301-1019 –by noon tomorrow!

Stay Close to the Master: Wednesday nights during Lent, Wednesdays, in Stephenson Hall, 6:15 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. We gather for a time of worship followed by discussion around the tables. Dr. John Ortberg, who will preach here on the Sunday after Easter, offers a ten-minute video devotional, followed by questions and conversations at the tables.

Mark Your Calendar

Dr. Wes Vander Lugt will be preaching next Sunday at 11:00 in the sanctuary. The 11:00 a.m. Stephenson Hall worshipping community will join hearts and voices in the sanctuary next Sunday.

Easter Lilies – On Easter Sunday, bright white lilies will adorn the church building. As each flower silently trumpets the resurrection, it also serves to remind us of the life of someone who was, or is, special to a church member. If you wish to honor someone by contributing to the lily fund, click the link below or go to www.firstchurchtulsa.org/EasterLily23 by March 20.



Informational meeting for the Petra Kids Ministry Mission trip to Uganda is next Sunday, March 26 at 12:15 p.m., in room E101.

H2O Project – Beginning next Sunday, the congregation is invited to participate in the *H2O Project* by fasting from all beverages but water -- and giving generously to our partners in the H2O Project, Marion Medical Mission. The mission works with local villagers in Malawi, Tanzania and Zambia by digging wells for their villages and teaching them how to maintain them. The cost per well (serving 120 people) is \$450. We have supported this effort since 2009. Our goal this year is \$13,500 for 30 wells, which brings our total to 275 wells. You can make your gift at the atrium table on Sundays, March 26 – April 9; or online.

The Board of Deacons organizes a brunch for the singers, ringers and instrumentalists participating in the Easter morning worship services. Food is brought in by members of the congregation on Easter morning between 7:30 and 8:45 a.m. To sign up to bring a dish, which should be in a disposable container and serve at least 8, please come by the table in the atrium on March 19 or 26, use the QR code below or contact Kathy Wilson at 918-301-1029 or kwilson@firstchurchtulsa.org.



Ongoing Ministry Opportunities

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 Dan Hutchinson at 918-301-1040.

Presbyterian Women's March Mission project benefits the Lindsey House. They are collecting money to make Easter baskets for the children who live at Lindsey House, which provides transitional housing and programs to help newly homeless mothers with children get back on their feet and achieve financial independence. There will be an acrylic collection box at the reception desk for contributions.

Parish Register

Prayers for Healing: Jane Azlin, Linda Barnett, Beth Campbell, Dwight Creveling, Marilyn Davis, Donna Droege, Cecil Drummond, David Dunning, Mary Ann Elliott, Gaye Graeler, Cynthia Hill-Meriwether, Linda Hopkins, Mike Hopkins, Elaine Horkey, Meg Hubler, Warren Hubler, Jeannie Dickey Kelsay, Joyce Kunkel, Carmelitti LeFlore, Amy Lesh, Ann McKellar, Jan Miller, David Morgan, Anne Nunnelee, David Osterholt, Shari Postier, Rosemary Priest, Carly Rivers, Zach Rivers, Mary Ruddle, Robert Shaw, Jane Sneed, Cissy Ssettimba, Sally Stewart, Cat Thompson, Mike Tidwell, Susan Waldie, and Carolyn Wilcott.

The Sacrament of Baptism: Annabelle Kay Dericks, daughter of April and Richard Dericks, was baptized on March 12.

Worship Notes

The flowers in today's Sanctuary worship are given to the glory of God and in memory of David and Sally Cordell, by Carol Cordell Mullins and David R. Cordell.

Services are broadcast and 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.

Do you believe in the power of prayer? The Guild of Intercessors is a group of FPC members who believe there is great power in prayer. If you would appreciate prayer for yourself, a loved one, or a friend, please call Paula Peterson, Guild Chairman at 918-296-5548, text her at 918-688-2163 or email her at *mandppeterson@msn.com*. Requests are shared with the Guild members and pastors.

With gratitude for those whom the Lord has added to our number, we offer a warm and heartfelt welcome!

Certificate of Transfer

Charlotte Callis

Rachel and Greg Berkhouse

April and Richard Dericks

Carol and Robert Parker

*Lynn and Bill Peacher

Linda and Fred Swanda

Reaffirmation of Faith

Britani Di Santi

*Pending Session Confirmation

THIS WEEK

TODAY 3/19

- 8:00 am Worship, Kerr Chapel
- 8:30 am Worship, Stephenson Hall
- 9:30 am Gatherings and Classes
- 11:00 am Worship, Sanctuary, Stephenson Hall and Great Hall

Monday 3/20

- 11:30 am Monday School, Kirkland Library
- 11:45 am Guy's Monday Bible Study, E103

Tuesday 3/21

- 9:30 am Precepts, E100

Wednesday 3/22

- 11:30 am Pastor's Study, E104
- 11:30 am Downtown Theological Roundtable, 204
- 12:00 pm Pathways to Hope, 206
- 5:15 pm Wednesday Night Dinner, Stephenson Hall
- 6:00 pm Awana, Children's Area, POW, Amass Exodus, Powerhouse
- 6:15 pm Various Adult Classes
- 6:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room

Friday 3/24

- All-Church Retreat, New Life Ranch

Saturday 3/25

- 8:45 am Before the Rooster Crows, E103
- All-Church Retreat, New Life Ranch

COME, GROW YOUR FAITH!

No Adult Sunday School Classes today, join us at 9:30 a.m. in Stephenson Hall for the Annual Congregational Meeting