



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

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

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March 26, 2023  
Kerr Chapel, 8:00 AM

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

## ***Fifth Sunday of Lent***

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

### **The Words of Preparation**

I can't. God can. I think I'll let Him.

Dr. John Ortberg

(The first three steps of Alcoholics Anonymous)

### **The Welcome**

Dr. Miller

### **The Call to Worship**

The glorious mystery of new life, says the Apostle Paul, is "*Christ in me* –the hope of glory! (Col. 1:27) "I am crucified with Christ -- nevertheless I live, yet not I, but Christ who lives in me."

**"The life I now live in the flesh I live by the faith in the Son of God --who loves me, and gave Himself for me."** (Gal. 2:20)

In despair I have hope; in weakness, I am strong; in grief I find joy  
**–yet not I, but through Christ in me!**

Calm amid gale-force winds, confident when all around me is giving way,

**–yet not I, but through Christ in me!**

When the race is complete, still my lips shall repeat

**–yet not I, but through Christ in me!**

My hope is built on nothing less than this: Jesus' blood, His righteousness!

**Alleluia! Amen!**

◆ **The Hymn** 379 My Hope is Built on Nothing Less SOLID ROCK

◆ **The Prayer of Adoration**

**The Preparation for Confession** Surely He Hath Borne Our Grievs

*Gloria Choir, Gretchen Bashforth, Director*

Healey Willan

Surely He hath borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities.

All we like sheep have gone astray, and the Lord hath laid on Him  
the iniquity of us all. Isaiah 53:4-6

**The Old Testament Reading** Isaiah 53:1-6 Elder Brett Crane

### **The Prayer of Confession**

Lord Jesus, all we like sheep have gotten lost; we've turned to our own way. But you have paid the price of our waywardness and sin. You've borne our griefs and carried our sorrows. The iniquities of us all were laid upon you –and you carried them straight to hell. Forgive our apathy to all of this. Forgive our “ho-hum” response. Come, and call us to back to Life, dear Christ. By your Spirit, bind our hearts to you, awaken our will, and draw us into your jet-stream of grace, serving others in your Name. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayers ...*(in silence)*

### **The Assurance of Pardon**

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised: mighty in mercy, Life-giving in grace, abounding in steadfast love! Lift up your hearts and sing His praise! **Alleluia, Amen!**

### ◆ **The Response**

O, for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise,  
the glories of my God and king, the triumphs of His grace!

He breaks the power of reigning sin, He sets the prisoner free; His  
blood can make the sinful clean, His blood availed for me.

He speaks and listening to His voice, new life the dead receive!  
The mournful, broken hearts rejoice, the humble poor believe!

Glory to God, and praise and love be ever, ever given --by saints  
below and saints above, the church in earth and heaven!

◆ **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 New Testament Reading**      John 11:1-44

**The Sermon**    Not When I Want, But Always at the Right Time

Dr. Wesley Vander Lugt

*Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.    John 11:21*

**The Invitation to the Table**

The Words of Institution

The Prayer of Dedication

The Sharing of the Elements

**The Joys and Concerns of the Church**

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

◆ **The Hymn**      Lord, We Sing our Alleluias!      ODE TO JOY

Lord, we sing our alleluias, hear us as we lift our praise: for the gift of Resurrection, Life in Christ, abundant grace! By your great redemptive power, you defeat our deadly foes; Jesus, you are Resurrection, deep and wide your mercy flows!

As you spoke to those still weeping, so you say to us this day: "I am Life and Resurrection! Why not welcome Me today?" To all those

entombed in sadness, take the stone of doubt away; call forth joy and special gladness, grant abundant Life, we pray!

With the saints and choirs of angels and the church in every place, we sing of your gifts of mercy, Triune God of love and grace!  
Demons routed, death now vanquished, through the One who trumped the grave; deadly sin has lost all power, thanks to Christ who came to save!

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit: God, we magnify your name!  
Yesterday, today, forever, always ever yet the same; faithful, steadfast, is your mercy; unrelenting is your love; sing we now our alleluias with the saints who live above!

- ◆ **The Charge and Benediction**
- ◆ **The Postlude**

## **First Church Updates**

*Our Letter of Blessing is directed to: Bill and Cat Thompson.*

### **Today**

**We're glad to welcome Dr. Wes Vander Lugt** and his family back to First Church! Wes led our All-Church Retreat this weekend; he and Stephanie came with their three beauties: Eden, Beata, and Chalmer!

**Dr. Vander Lugt speaks today at our 9:30 Pastor's Class** in the Stephenson Hall on the subject of "Prayer and Health in an Age of Science".

**This afternoon, you're invited to share a couple of hours** with the Vander Lugt family at the Gathering Place (near the Patio): 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

**H2O Project** – Beginning today, you’re invited to participate in the *H2O Project* by 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. Please make your gift at the table in the atrium table today, or online --through April 9.

**Informational meeting for the Petra Kids Ministry Mission trip to Uganda** today at 12:15 p.m., in room E101.

## **This Week**

**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.

**Downtown Theological Roundtable** – Consider joining the Downtown Theological Roundtable for a discussion of C. S. Lewis’ *The Abolition of Man*. The discussion starts this Wednesday, March 29, from 11:30 - 12:30 in room 206. Please purchase your own book. For further information, please contact Phillip Bowman at 918-630-1786.

## **Mark Your Calendar**

**Holy Week Prayer Vigil – Maundy Thursday, April 6 at 9:00 p.m. through Easter Sunday, April 9 at 7:00 a.m.** Sign-up for a 30 minute slot to ensure an unbroken prayer chain by clicking on the QR code below, or at the atrium tables today and next Sunday.



**Interested in providing some good breakfast food for the singers, ringers and instrumentalists who will serve musically all Easter morning? Food is brought in by members of the congregation on Easter morning between 7:30 and 8:45 a.m. To sign-up, please visit the table in the atrium today or next Sunday, or use the QR code below, or contact Kathy Wilson at 918-301-1029 or [kwilson@firstchurchtulsa.org](mailto:kwilson@firstchurchtulsa.org).**



**Spring Festival - Saturday, April 1:** Children love the Spring Festival! Note the location: Courtyard/Stephenson Hall from 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

### **Holy Week Worship Schedule**

**April 2:** Palm Sunday: regular hours and locations

**April 6:** Maundy Thursday: 7:30 p.m., Sanctuary

**April 7:** Good Friday worship: noon, Kerr Chapel

**April 9:** Easter:

6:30 a.m. Sunrise service at Camp Loughridge;

8:00 and 11:00 a.m., Sanctuary (identical services);

8:30 and 11:00 a.m., Stephenson Hall;

11:00 a.m. Tulsa International Fellowship, Great Hall

## 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 Rev. Julia Metcalf at 918-301-1030.

**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 atrium desk for contributions.

**Faith Partners Addiction Ministry** - Faith Partners provides intervention, education, and recovery support to individuals and families suffering from addiction. If you are in need of help, resources, or if you have further questions, please call the Church and leave your number. A Faith Partners team member will return your call. All contact is confidential.

## 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.

## Worship Notes

**The flowers in today's Sanctuary worship** are given to the glory of God and in memory of Chris Traband, by the Traband family.



**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.

**The Guild of Intercessors** is a group of FPC members who are dedicated to praying for the needs both within and outside of this congregation. If you'd appreciate prayer for yourself, a loved one, or a friend, please call Paula Peterson, Guild Chairman at 918-296-5548. Requests are shared with the Pastors and Guild members.

**We will resume passing offering plates** at each service on Easter Sunday. There are other ways, of course, to give. See the QR code below:



**THIS WEEK**

**TODAY 3/26**

- 8:00 am Worship, Kerr Chapel
- 8:30 am Worship, Stephenson Hall
- 9:30 am Gatherings and Classes
- 11:00 am Worship, Stephenson joins in Sanctuary  
(TIF in Great Hall)

**Monday 3/27**

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

**Tuesday 3/28**

- 9:30 am Precepts, E100

**Wednesday 3/29**

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

**Saturday 4/1**

- 8:45 am Before the Rooster Crows, E103

**COME, GROW YOUR FAITH!**

**TODAY: Adult Classes, 9:30 a.m.**

Cornerstone	Minor Prophets	E102
Covenanters	<i>Renovated: God, Dallas, &amp; the Church That Transforms</i>	E101
Faith and Family	<i>Neuroscience: The Impact of Technology on Our Kids: "Faith"</i>	Prayer Room
Forum	<i>All the Places to Go</i>	E200
Harbingers	<i>The Me I Want to Be</i>	E202
Morning Glory	Mastering Your Emotions	B318
New Parents	Theology and Parenting	E205
Pastor's Study 1	Prayer and Health in an Age of Science	Stephenson
Pastor's Study 2	New Testament Overview	E104
Reflections	<i>Judges</i>	E103
Shepherds	<i>Study of Ruth</i>	E203
Sojourners	The Life of Christ as Told in Music	E204
UKirk	New Testament Overview	E104
The Vine	Ortberg Lenten Video Study	E100
Westminster	<i>The Book of Easter</i>	Tower Room
Young Adults	New Testament Overview	E104