



***Taking Up Residence!
Empowered by the
Mystery of the Holy
Spirit's Presence***

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

**JUNE 18, 2023
8:30 AM
STEPHENSON HALL
*First Presbyterian Church of Tulsa
Born by grace in 1885***

Third Sunday after Pentecost

Stephenson Hall, 8:30 a.m.

Words of Preparation

First of all, who can listen to the Spirit's titles and not be lifted up in his soul?...All things thirsting for holiness turn to Him; everything living in virtue never turns away from Him. He waters them with His life-giving breath and helps them reach their proper fulfillment. He perfects all other things, and Himself lacks nothing; He gives life to all things, and is never depleted. He does not increase by additions, but is always complete, self-established, and present everywhere. He is the source of sanctification, spiritual light, who gives illumination to everyone using His powers to search for the truth – and the illumination He gives is Himself.

St. Basil the Great, *On the Holy Spirit*

Prelude

Morning by Morning

Daily, daily I surrender; grace for today is all that I need. Surprised by a mercy that's new every morning. Awaken my soul to sing. Oh, awaken my soul to sing.

I will trust where You lead. I will trust when I can't see. Morning by morning, great is Your faithfulness to me.

Breath by breath, overtaken by wonder. One step at a time when I'm overwhelmed. Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow. Awaken my soul to sing. Awaken my soul to sing.

I will trust where You lead. I will trust when I can't see. Morning by morning, great is Your faithfulness to me. I will trust with all my heart, You are good, You always are. Morning by morning, great is Your faithfulness to me.

All fear be reminded, my future is secure. My Father has spoken and He keeps His every word. *Refrain*

Welcome & Call to Worship (Psalm 100)

Rev. Dan Hutchinson

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!

Serve the Lord with gladness! Come into his presence with singing!

Know that the Lord, he is God!

It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise!

Give thanks to him; bless his name!

For the Lord is good;

His steadfast love endures forever, his faithfulness to all generations.

Song of Praise May the Peoples Praise You

You have called us out of darkest night, into Your glorious light, that we may sing the wonders of the risen Christ. May our every breath retell the grace that broke into our strife, with boundless love and deepest joy, with endless life.

May the peoples praise You; let the nations be glad! All Your blessing comes that we may praise, may praise the Name of Jesus.

This our holy privilege to declare Your praises and Your name, to every nation, tribe and tongue Your church proclaim. *Refrain*

Holy, Holy is the Lord Almighty; worthy, worthy is the Lamb who was slain. Holy, Holy is the Lord Almighty; all creation praise Your glorious Name. *Refrain*

First Reading

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17, 28-32

Elder Urbanus Masaku

Prayer of Confession

Lord God Almighty, our Heavenly Father, you know our sin and our shame; what we have done, and what we have left undone. You know the hardness of our hearts. Yet you tell us that all who

call upon the name of the Lord will be saved. So we take you at your word. In faith we turn to you, calling upon the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and savior. For his sake, we ask that you would forgive us our sins and cleanse us from within by your Spirit's presence so that we might turn to you with our whole heart. Hear us now as we pray...(in silence)

Response to Confession

Yet Not I but Through Christ In Me

What gift of grace is Jesus my redeemer, there is no more for heaven now to give. He is my joy, my righteousness, and freedom. My steadfast love, my deep and boundless peace. To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus, for my life is wholly bound to His. Oh, how strange and divine, I can sing "all is mine," yet not I, but through Christ in me.

The night is dark but I am not forsaken, for by my side, the Savior, He will stay. I labor on in weakness and rejoicing, for in my need His power is displayed. To this I hold, my Shepherd will defend me; through the deepest valley he will lead. Oh, the night has been won and I shall overcome, yet not I, but through Christ in me.

No fate I dread, I know I am forgiven. The future sure, the price it has been paid, for Jesus bled and suffered for my pardon, and He was raised to overthrow the grave. To this I hold, my sin has been defeated; Jesus now and ever is my plea. Oh, the chains are released. I can sing I am free, yet not I, but through Christ in me.

With every breath I long to follow Jesus, for He has said that he will bring me home. And day by day I know He will renew me, until I stand with joy before the throne. To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus. All the glory evermore to Him. When the race is complete, still my lips shall repeat, yet not I, but through Christ in me.

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!**

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.

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Offering Only a Holy God

Who else commands all the hosts of heaven? Who else could make every king bow down? Who else can whisper and darkness trembles? Only a Holy God.

What other beauty demands such praises? What other splendour outshines the sun? What other majesty rules with justice? Only a Holy God.

Come and behold Him, the One and the Only. Cry out, sing holy, forever a Holy God. Come and worship the Holy God.

What other glory consumes like fire? What other power can raise the dead? What other name remains undefeated? Only a Holy God. *Refrain*

Who else could rescue me from my failing? Who else would offer His only Son? Who else invites me to call Him Father? Only a Holy God. Only my Holy God. *Refrain*

Second Reading Jeremiah 31:31-34

Sermon The Spirit and the New Covenant

For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the Lord. Jeremiah 31:33a.

Sacrament of Communion

Words of Institution

Prayer of Blessing

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer

Song of Sending Graves into Gardens

I searched the world but it couldn't fill me. Man's empty praise and treasures that fade are never enough. Then You came along and put me back together, and every desire is now satisfied here in Your love.

Oh, there's nothing better than You. There's nothing better than You. Lord, there's nothing, nothing is better than You.

I'm not afraid to show You my weakness. My failures and flaws, Lord, You've seen them all and You still call me friend. 'Cause the God of the mountain is the God of the valley, and there's not a place Your mercy and grace won't find me again. *Refrain*

You turn mourning to dancing. You give beauty for ashes. You turn shame into glory; You're the only one who can. You turn graves into gardens. You turn bones into armies. You turn seas into highways; You're the only one who can. *Refrain*

Charge and Benediction

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Today

Our *Letter of Blessing* goes to Kerry Wiley, on the death of her husband, Bruce.

The flowers that beautify the Sanctuary today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Rachell and Tom Deane, Jack Curtis and Jim Curtis by Sandy and Bob Curtis and 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.



Glimpses of Grace today – 9:30 in the sanctuary! Elder Solomon Tsuma shares ways in which the Lord has intervened in his life. Next Sunday, we hear from Anna Milligan. These stories will encourage all of us and enrich our faith.

This Week

Mid-Week Pastor's Class continues: Wednesdays, 11:30 to 12:30.

Dr. Miller leads on significant essays by C.S. Lewis.

College Update for June and July – All College Students are invited to join us this summer for UKirk Bible Study on Tuesday nights from 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. Dinner is provided as we enjoy fellowship and engage in conversation about faith and scripture. Follow us [@ukirktulsa](https://twitter.com/ukirktulsa) for more information or contact Rev. Julia Metcalf at jmetcalf@firstchurchtulsa.org.

Precept Summer Bible Study – Denise Rounds leads a 6-session study entitled *Breaking Free from Fear*. Join us this Tuesday in E100, from 9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m., through July 18 (excluding July 4). For more information contact Laura Stevens at lstevens@firstchurchtulsa.org.

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

Mark Your Calendar

MUSIC LOVERS!! You're invited to a very special occasion on Friday, June 30, at 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. The Tulsa Chapter of the American Guild of Organists is hosting a Regional Convention which is expected to draw nearly 200 attendees from all over the USA; First Church was chosen as the venue for the closing event which will feature two organists, Ken Cowan and Bradley Hunter Welch, two outstanding performers with international credentials. This concert open to all and there is no charge for entry. Invite your friends.

“Faith & Film” – An All-Church, summer Sunday School class that will explore how faith intersects culture on the silver screen. In July we will examine secular movies and search out Christian themes that emerge. 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. Stay tuned for more information.

Spiritual Retreat at Camp Loughridge – Save the date for a rich experience: Saturday, July 15, 9:00 a.m. at Camp Loughridge. Adults and families (with children of all ages) will have two separate paths of

retreat through the morning. After lunch, the Aquatics Center opens for families — while adults without children will continue in the lodge through the afternoon. For more information or to register please contact lstevens@firstchurchtulsa.org or click on the QR code below.



First Church has a serious teaching ministry. This fall we welcome Rebecca McLaughlin, author of many books, including: *Confronting Christianity: 12 Hard Questions for the World's Largest Religion*. Consider putting this on your summer book list in preparation for a Saturday night with Rebecca (September 17)!

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 Sunday mornings for a brief rehearsal at 10:15 a.m. in the Choir Room. If you've always wanted to give it a try, here's your opportunity – please join us! For more information, please contact Gretchen Bashforth at 918-301-1012/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.

Special Needs Ministry is growing! We need volunteers to work with our young people who need a little extra help. If you are interested in serving at 9:30 or 11:00 a.m. once a month or more, please contact Jackson Seibert at Jseibert@firstchurchtulsa.org.

Parish Register

Prayers for Healing: Jane Azlin, Linda Barnett, Pat Brown, Roy Cail, Dwight Creveling, 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, Rosemary Priest, Lyle Proffitt, Helen Quiring, Carly Rivers, Mary Ruddle, Robert Shaw, Jane Sneed, Cissy Ssettimba, Marcia Tromp and Susan Waldie.

The Celebration of Christian Marriage: Caitlin Russell married Nick Conetta on June 10.

With gratitude and joy we welcome our newest members! May the Lord bless each of these –and make them a blessing!

Profession of Faith

*Keith Jones

Reaffirmation of Faith

Dr. Bob Bruce	Esther Mbaka
Jan Bruce	Dennis Koori Mugambi
Tara Brumble	Frances Njau Mathea
Sam Grosso	Ruth Njau
Jenna Grosso	Nick Njau
Ron Hull	Trecy Njau
Michael Kauskey	Alice Nakimbugwe
Taylor Law	Dennis Powon

Certificate of Transfer

Dr. Deb Beeson	Paddy Sandefur
Pattie Gross	Judy Start
Eric Sandefur	

*Pending Baptism

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 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.

THIS WEEK

TODAY 6/18

- 8:00 am Worship: Kerr Chapel
- 8:30 am Worship: Stephenson Hall
- 9:30 am Glimpses of Grace, Sanctuary: Solomon Tsuma
Gatherings and Classes
- 11:00 am Worship: Sanctuary, Stephenson, Great Hall

Wednesday 6/21

- 11:30 am Pastor's Study, E104
- 11:30 am Downtown Theological Roundtable, 206

Saturday 6/24

- 8:45 am Before the Rooster Crows, E103

COME, GROW YOUR FAITH!

TODAY: All 9:30 Adult Classes will gather for Glimpses of Grace in the Sanctuary except for Morning Glory, The Covenantors and The Vine classes.