



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

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

July 16, 2023
Stephenson Hall, 8:30 a.m.

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

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Stephenson Hall, 8:30 a.m.

Words of Preparation

Holiness is not a mystical condition experienced in relation to God but in isolation from human beings. You cannot be good in a vacuum, only in the real world of people. John Stott, *The Message of Ephesians*

Prelude

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*

Welcome and Call to Worship (Ephesians 1:3-7)

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places,

Even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him.

In love he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ,

According to the purpose of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved.

In him we have redemption through his blood,

The forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace,

So let us join our voices,

And let us worship God!

Songs of Praise

Who You Say I Am

Who am I that the highest King would welcome me? I was lost but He brought me in; Oh, His love for me. Oh, His love for me.

Who the Son sets free, O is free indeed; I'm a child of God, Yes I am! Free at last, He has ransomed me; His grace runs deep. While I was a slave to sin, Jesus died for me. Yes, He died for me.

Who the Son sets free, O is free indeed; I'm a child of God, yes I am! In my Father's house there's a place for me; I'm a child of God, yes I am!

I am chosen, not forsaken; I am who You say I am. You are for me, not against me; I am who You say I am. *Refrain*

First Reading

Isaiah 63:7-14

Elder Paul Mungai

Prayer of Confession

Rev. James Estes

Lord, Have Mercy

For what we have done and left undone, we fall on Your countless mercies. For sins that are known and those unknown, we call on Your name so holy.

For envy and pride, for closing our eyes, for scorning our very neighbor; in thought word and deed we've failed You, our King, how deeply we need a Savior!

*Lord, have mercy, Christ, have mercy, Lord, have mercy on us!
Lord, have mercy, Christ, have mercy, Lord, have mercy on us. Lord
have mercy on us.*

For what You have done, Your life of love, You perfectly lived, we
praise You! Though tempted and tried, You fixed Your eyes; You
finished the work God gave You!

And there on the tree, A King among thieves, You bled for a
world's betrayal; You loved to the end, our merciful Friend, how
pure and forever faithful! *Refrain*

For hearts that are cold for seizing control, for scorning our very
Maker; in thought word and deed, we've failed You our King, how
deeply we need a Savior!

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 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.

Passing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you! **And also with you!**

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Offering

His Mercy is More

What love could remember no wrongs we have done?

Omniscient, all knowing, He counts not their sum. Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore, our sins they are many, His mercy is more.

Praise the Lord! His mercy is more. Stronger than darkness, new every morn; our sins they are many, His mercy is more.

What patience would wait as we constantly roam? What Father so tender is calling us home? He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor. Our sins they are many His mercy is more. *Refrain*

What riches of kindness He lavished on us. His blood was the payment, His life was the cost. We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford; our sins they are many, His mercy is more. *Refrain*

Second Reading

Ephesians 4:17-32

Sermon

The Spirit's Grieving Love

Rev. Dan Hutchinson

And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. (Ephesians 4:30)

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

In Christ Alone

In Christ alone, my hope is found; He is my light, my strength, my song. This Cornerstone, this solid Ground; firm through the fiercest drought and storm. What heights of love, what depths of

peace; when fears are stilled, when strivings cease? My Comforter, my All in All; here, in the love of Christ, I stand.

In Christ alone, who took on flesh; fullness of God in helpless babe. This gift of love and righteousness; scorned by the ones He came to save. 'Til on that cross, as Jesus died, the wrath of God was satisfied; for every sin on Him was laid; here, in the death of Christ, I live.

There, in the ground, His body lay; light of the world by darkness slain. Then bursting forth in glorious day, up from the grave He rose again! And, as He stands in victory, sin's curse has lost its grip on me; for I am His and He is mine; bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death; this is the power of Christ in me. From life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny. No power of hell, no scheme of man can ever pluck me from His hand; 'til He returns or calls me home; here, in the power of Christ, I'll stand.

Charge and Benediction

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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 Larry and Zenoma Osterhout.

The flowers that beautify the Sanctuary today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Kathleen Reynolds, by Tom Reynolds 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.



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 Hutchison and John Shelton consider popular movies and search out Christian themes that emerge.

- Today – The Mission
- July 23 – Arrival
- July 30 – 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. Stay tuned for more information.

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, Sept. 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

College Update for 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* for more information or contact Rev. Julia Metcalf at *jmetcalf@firstchurchtulsa.org*.

Summer Backyard Bible Study - Join at the Wambugu 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

Session meets on Tuesday, July 25: dinner, 5:15 p.m. and Session meeting at 6:15 p.m. in room E104.

Inquirers' Class – Sundays, August 6 – 27 at 9:15 a.m., in the Miller Library. If you are interested in joining First Church, please contact Patricia Hall at 918-301-1028.

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

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. 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*, or contact Rev. Julia Metcalf at 918-301-1030.

Parish Register

Prayers for Healing: Jane Azlin, Pat Brown, Roy Cail, Carol Caldwell, 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, Shari Postier, Rosemary Priest, Lyle Proffitt, Helen Quiring, Carly Rivers, Mary Ruddle, Robert Shaw, Jane Sneed, Cissy Ssettimba, Shannon Thomas and Susan Waldie.

The Celebration of Christian Marriage: Morgan Wilson married James Williams on July 8.

Sympathy and Prayers to: Lisa Berry on the death of her father, Buddy Spencer, on May 26.

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.

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 7/16

- 8:00 am Worship: Kerr Chapel
- 8:30 am Worship: Stephenson Hall
- 9:30 am Faith and Film, Miller Library
- Morning Glory Class, B318
- Christian Apologetics, led by Dr. Miller, E104
- Westminster Class, Tower Room
- 11:00 am Worship: Sanctuary, Stephenson, Great Hall

Tuesday 7/18

- 9:30 am Precept Bible Study, E100

Wednesday 7/19

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

Saturday 7/22

- 8:45 am Before the Rooster Crows, E103