



***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.*

**JULY 9, 2023
8:30 AM
STEPHENSON HALL
*First Presbyterian Church of Tulsa
Born by grace in 1885***

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Stephenson Hall, 8:30 a.m.

Words of Preparation

The fruit of the Spirit simply is the inner character of Jesus himself that is brought about in us through the process of Christian spiritual formation. It is the outcome of spiritual formation. It is Christ formed in us. Dallas Willard

Through Christ and by the Spirit, we are being transformed, so as to bear the likeness which we were intended at the beginning. One takes the Spirit lightly in Pauline theology and Christian experience at great risk. For herein lies the glory, that by the Spirit, we not only come to know God, but come to live in his presence in such a way to constantly be renewed into God's image. Gordon Fee

Prelude

Finally Free

Your mercy rains from heaven, like confetti at a wedding, and I am celebrating in the downpour. Your heart is wild with color, like a never-ending summer; You burn away the winter of my cold and weary heart.

My soul cries out, "Holy! Holy!" My heart is lost in Your beauty. All hope is found in Your mercy. You paid the price now I am finally free!

Your grace, O God's the anchor that's holding me forever; come trouble or high water I am steadfast. You lift me when I'm sinking, like the swell of mighty oceans; the power of redemption, it gives me wings to soar. *Refrain*

We'll cast our crowns before Him, like the rusting leaves of autumn, now every chain lies broken, and finally we're free!
Refrain

Welcome and Call to Worship

Song of Praise 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*

First Reading 2 Corinthians 3 Elder Steve Metcalf

Prayer of Confession

Response to Confession There is Hope

There is hope in grace unceasing, You withhold your wrath from me, poured it out upon my Saviour on the cross of Calvary. There is hope now for the hopeless, there is victory all can know, for the tomb lies bare and broken, and death's power is overthrown.

Jesus Christ my hope forever, hope unlike the world can bring, Your steadfast love beyond all measure; there is hope in Christ my King.

There is hope for sons and daughters who have wandered on their own. Hear the songs of joy from heaven as the lost are welcomed home. *Refrain*

Hallelujah! Hope of heaven, precious treasure of my life, all my joy is in your presence. I am yours and you are mine.

I will wait until I see Him, though the twilight turns to night, for my hope is not defeated, it will greet His dawning light. *Refrain*

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!**

Offering Simple Kingdom

Your kingdom is simple, as simple as love; You welcomed the children, You stopped for the one. We want to see people the way Jesus does. Your kingdom is simple, Lord teach it to us.

Your kingdom is humble, as humble as death: His King is a savior who gave His last breath. So, may we die daily, our pride laid to rest; His kingdom is humble and the broken are blessed.

Hallelujah! Hallowed be Your name! May we live and breathe Your praise. Hallelujah! Let all creation say, "Oh the King of heaven reigns."

Your kingdom is coming, Your kingdom is here, alive in our waiting, at work in our tears. So, come to us quickly, forever our prayer; Your kingdom is coming, Lord Jesus, come near. *Refrain*

Your kingdom is backwards, it flows in reverse. What You call a treasure this world calls a curse. The small become great and the last become first. Your kingdom is backwards; Lord, teach us to serve. As it is with Your kingdom let it be with Your church.

Refrain

Gospel Reading Galatians 5:13-23

Sermon Transformed by the Spirit Rev. Julia Metcalf

For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another.

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 Build Your Kingdom Here

Come set Your rule and reign in our hearts again. Increase in us we pray; unveil why we're made. Come set our hearts ablaze with hope, like wildfire in our very souls; Holy Spirit come invade us now. We are Your church; we need Your power in us.

We seek Your kingdom first; we hunger and we thirst; refuse to waste our lives, for You're our joy and prize. To see the captives 'hearts released, the hurt, the sick, the poor at peace; we lay down our lives for heaven's cause. We are Your church; we pray revive this earth.

Build Your kingdom here; let the darkness fear. Show Your mighty hand; heal our streets and land. Set Your church on fire; win this nation back. Change the atmosphere; build Your kingdom here, we pray!

Unleash Your kingdom's power, reaching the near and far, no force of hell can stop Your beauty changing hearts. You made us for much more than this, awake the kingdom seed in us; fill us with the strength and love of Christ. We are Your church; we are the hope on earth! *Refrain.*

Charge and Benediction

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Today

Our Letter of Blessing goes to the Voice of Hope.

The flowers that beautify the Sanctuary today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Teddy Woolman, by his 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 – Stranger Than Fiction
- July 16 – 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 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 will meet on Tuesday, July 25, dinner at 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 Ping Pong Tournament - August 20 following the 11:00 worship services. All ages are welcome to participate. There will also be a cookout.

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! 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.

Parish Register

Prayers for Healing: Jane Azlin, Linda Barnett, 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, and Susan Waldie.

With Gratitude for the Resurrection: Patricia Wheeler, a member since 1965, died on June 30.

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.

COME, GROW YOUR FAITH!

TODAY 7/9

- 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 7/11

- 9:30 am Precept Bible Study, E100

Wednesday 7/12

- 11:30 am Pastor's Study, E104
- 11:30 am Downtown Theological Roundtable, 206
- 6:30 pm Summer Backyard Bible Study, Rev. Wambugu's Home

Saturday 7/15

- 8:45 am Before the Rooster Crows, E103