



***Embracing the Mystery:
God's Great Drama
and the Church's Role***

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

**JANUARY 9, 2022
8:30 AM
STEPHENSON HALL**

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

Baptism of the Lord

Stephenson Hall, 8:30 a.m.

Words of Preparation

The interpretation of this dream was not accomplished in Joseph for the important reason that his mother had died many years before he saw the dreams. We truly believe that this was fulfilled in our Lord and Savior, for we read that blessed Joseph, blessed Mary and the eleven apostles worshiped him. That the apostles possessed the light of the stars our Lord himself tells us in the Gospel: "You are the light of the world." Caesarius of Arles

Prelude

Father's House

Sometimes on this journey I get lost in my mistakes. What looks to me like weakness is a canvas for Your strength. My story isn't over; my story's just begun. Failure won't define me 'cause that's what my Father does. Failure won't define me 'cause that's what my Father does.

Oo, lay your burdens down. Oo, here in the Father's house. Check your shame at the door 'cause it ain't welcome anymore. Oo, you're in the Father's house.

Arrival's not the endgame; the journey's where You are. You never wanted perfect, You just wanted my heart. And the story isn't over if the story isn't good. Failure's never final when the Father's in the room. Failure's never final when the Father's in the room. *Refrain*

Prodigals come home, the helpless find hope, love is on the move when the Father's in the room. Prison doors fling wide, the dead come to life, love is on the move when the Father's in the room. Miracles take place, the cynical find faith, love is breaking through when the Father's in the room. Jericho walls are quaking,

strongholds now are shaking, love is breaking through when the Father's in the room. Love is breaking through when the Father's in the room. *Refrain*

Welcome

Songs 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.

May the seeds of mercy grow in us for those who have not heard; may songs of praise build lives of grace to spread Your Word. 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*

Christ the Sure and Steady Anchor

Christ the sure and steady anchor in the fury of the storm, when the winds of doubt blow through me and my sails have all been torn. In the suffering, in the sorrow, when my sinking hopes are few, I will hold fast to the anchor; it shall never be removed.

Christ the sure and steady anchor, while the tempest rages on, when temptation claims the battle and it seems the night has won. Deeper still then goes the anchor, though I justly stand accused, I will hold fast to the anchor; it shall never be removed.

Christ the sure and steady anchor through the floods of unbelief,
hopeless, somehow, O my soul now, lift your eyes to Calvary. This
my ballast of assurance, see His love forever proved. I will hold
fast to the anchor, it shall never be removed.

Christ the sure and steady anchor as we face the wave of death,
when these trials give way to glory, as we draw our final breath.
We will cross that great horizon, clouds behind and life secured,
and the calm will be the better for the storms that we endured.
Christ the shore of our salvation, ever faithful ever true. We will
hold fast to the anchor; it shall never be removed.

Prayer of Confession

Good and gracious God, our hearts are so clouded and confused
that we have trouble knowing what a blessed life really looks like.
With think that to be secure, comfortable and confident; full, busy
and impervious to attacks of fortune, fiend, or fashion. And yet
you tell us that those is such a state are not the ones you call
blessed—not the lives upon which our hope and ambition should
be fixed. In this season when we celebrate your birth, help us to
really buy into the downward mobility of the incarnation, to hope
for glory to God in the lowest...(silence)

The Response Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus

O soul, are you weary and troubled? No light in the darkness you
see? There's light for a look at the Savior, and life more abundant
and free!

*Turn your eyes upon Jesus, look full in His wonderful face, and the
things of earth will grow strangely dim, in the light of His glory
and grace.*

Thro' death into life everlasting, He passed, and we follow Him
there; O'er us sin no more hath dominion— for more than
conquerors we are! *Refrain*

His Word shall not fail you—He promised; believe Him, and all will be well: then go to a world that is dying, His perfect salvation to tell! *Refrain*

The Assurance of Pardon

Believe the good news! God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. In Jesus Christ there is forgiveness for all who call upon Him.

Alleluia! Amen!

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 Gospel Reading Genesis 37:5-28

Sermon A Dream, a Dungeon, and a Blind-Date with Destiny Rev. Estes
*It was fitting that he should make the founder of their salvation
perfect through suffering. Hebrews 2:10*

The Celebration of Communion

Words of institution

Prayer of Blessing

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Joys and Concerns of the Church

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Closing Song 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.

Charge and Benediction

Worship Notes

The flowers in today's Sanctuary worship are given to the glory of God and in loving honor of Dorothy Gibbons, by the Gibbons Family.

Services are broadcast on the FPC Facebook page, and on Cox channel 3 (each Sunday) at 11:00 a.m., 5:00 and 10:00 p.m.

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.

Parish Register

Prayers for Healing: Prayers for Healing: Jeanette Anderson, Jane Azlin, Johanna Boshuizen, Billy Boyd, Pat Brown, Dwight Creveling, Marilyn Davis, Donna Droege, Wandie and Mary Fitzpatrick, Pat Ford, Debi Foster, Luke Fravel, Gary Gilliam, Glenda Goodwin, Gaye Graeler, Cynthia Hill-Meriwether, Mike Hopkins, Meg Hubler, Caroline Fravel Jones, Jeannie Dickey Kelsay, Ray Kenney, Joyce Kunkel, Annelle Lanford, Carmelitti LeFlore, Amy Lesh, Laurence Mansur, Ann McKellar, Jan Miller, Rosemary Priest, David Osterholt, David Raybourn, Tom Reynolds, Carly Rivers, Zach Rivers, Mary Ruddle, Susan Shults, Robert Shaw, Helen Marie Sisler, Jane Sneed, Cissy Ssettimba, Sally Stewart, Shannon Thomas, Terry Thomas, Mary Lee Torbert, Quendy Veatch, Dayne Weierbach, Bill Weinrich, and Jack Williams.

Sympathy and Prayers to: Linda Barry Hopkins on the death of her mother, Emily Barry on January 2.

With Gratitude for the Resurrection: Ardis Manning, a member since 1961, died on January 1.

First Church Updates

We're glad to be together in worship today. May the Lord's presence cause joy in each of us –remembering His mighty works and trusting in His promises!

Thank you for your faithful giving to support the ministries of this congregation! Your gifts, energy and devotion are expressions of the presence of Christ in the world He loves. The Session of First Church is at work on the 2022 budget. Your commitment cards will greatly assist them in their work.

Wednesday Night Downtown

Dinner at 5:15 p.m. and classes at 6:15 p.m.

Contemporary Challenges Facing the Church led by pastors and friends, will meet in Stephenson Hall. This class will feature topics such as medical ethics, human sexuality, science and faith, and more. This Wednesday: *Medical Ethics* led by Dr. John Frame and Rev. Wally Johnson.

Aging with Attitude, an 8-week resistance exercise class led by Randy Barnard, a professional trainer, will meet in the Bernsen Reception Room. Come and enjoy fellowship while improving your strength, balance and energy level. The cost for the class is \$20. Register online at FirstChurchTulsa.org/WNDT.

Seekers with Rev. Wambugu will meet in room E104 for a verse-by-verse study over the sermon series for Spring 2022.

Epiphany plunge and bonfire today at 5:00 p.m. at Camp Loughridge (outside by Lake Parthenia). There will be a homily, gingerbread cookies and hot cider/cocoa.

Pastors' Class:

Mere Christianity, led by Dr. Miller, begins again on Sunday, January 16, at 9:30 a.m. in Stephenson Hall.

Old Testament Survey, led by Rev. Hutchinson, begins today, at 9:30 a.m. in E104.

January Series, a simulcast from Calvin University, the January Series introduces us to remarkable stories and gifted speakers from all over the world. It begins tomorrow (and each weekday until the 28th) in Stephenson Hall at 11:15 a.m. Admission is free, with an optional lunch for \$6. To register for lunch click on QR code below.



Presbyterian Women's January Mission project is the students at Anderson Elementary School. The school is requesting boxes of Kleenex, pencils, crayons, erasers, copy paper, white construction paper, disinfectant wipes and individual bottles of hand sanitizer. Place donations in the Presbyterian Women's collection bin in the Atrium.

Save the Date for the next Inquirers Class! Every Sunday, starting at 9:30 a.m., January 16 through February 6: come and ask questions, make new friends and meet our pastors. For more information please contact Patricia Hall 918-301-1028, phall@firstchurchtulsa.org or use the QR code below to sign up:



Monday School begins on January 31 at noon in the Kirkland Library.

Join Dr. Wes Vander Lugt in *Slow Faith: A Study in the Psalms*.

In our fast-paced world, there is an urgent need for a rooted, attentive, unhurried spiritual life. As the church's inspired prayer book, the Psalms are the preeminent guide for this kind of slow faith, inviting us to participate in a slow story of a slow God.

Pilgrimage to Israel (May 28 – June 14) information meeting: Sunday, January 16, 4:00 p.m. in E104. Please RSVP your interest to Dionna at 918-301-1015. A \$500 deposit will secure your place (capped at 30). First Church members have priority.

Today is Dorothy Gibbons' 100th Birthday! Presbyterian Women invites you to stop by their table in the Atrium today and sign the letter that celebrates this amazing woman's milestone birthday.

COME, GROW YOUR FAITH!

Adult Classes for NEXT Sunday, 9:30 a.m.

On Site:

Bible Walk	Joseph – Dreamer, Prisoner, Leader, Redeemer	E101
Cornerstone	Wesley Bible Curriculum	E102
Covenanters	<i>Making Sense of the Bible</i> by Adam Hamilton	E205
Faith and Family	Old Testament Survey	E104
Forum	<i>Minor Prophets</i>	E200
Harbingers	<i>If You Want to Walk on Water</i> by John Ortberg	E202
Pastor's Study	not meeting	Stephenson Hall
Reflections	<i>Watts Up? The Power of God!</i>	E103
Sojourners (All Ages)	<i>Christless Christianity</i>	E204
UKirk Grow	Bible Study	KRC
Upper Room	Bible Study	E313
Young Adults (20's and 30's)	Old Testament Survey	E104

On Site and Zoom:

Shepherds	Pillars of Orthodoxy	E203
The Vine (Singles/couples)	<i>The Good and Beautiful God</i>	E100

EVENTS THIS WEEK

Today 1/9/22

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

Monday 1/10/22

- January Series 11:15 a.m., Stephenson Hall
- Guy's Monday Bible Study 11:45 a.m., Room E103
- Monday School 12:00 p.m., KRC
- Little Lambs 10:00 a.m.

Tuesday 1/11/22

- Precepts 9:30 a.m., E100
- January Series 11:15 a.m., Stephenson Hall

Wednesday 1/12/22

- January Series 11:15 a.m., Stephenson Hall
- Youth Praise Band 5:00 p.m., Powerhouse
- WNDT Dinner 5:15 p.m., Stephenson Hall
- AWANA 6:00 p.m.
- POW and Amass Exodus 6:00 p.m., Powerhouse
- Adult Classes 6:15 p.m., Various Locations
- Choir Rehearsal 6:30 p.m., Choir Room

Thursday 1/13/22

- January Series 11:15 a.m., Stephenson Hall

Friday 1/14/22

- January Series 11:15 a.m., Stephenson Hall

Saturday 1/15/21

- Before the Rooster Crows 8:45 a.m., E103

January 9, 2022
8:30 Stephenson Hall

Please help us with contact tracing and attendance by filling out the information below and leaving this page on your seat as you leave.

Name _____

Email _____

Phone _____

Member _____ or Guest _____

or

going to the link: bit.ly/fpcregister;

or

using the QR code below.



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