



***O Lord,
How Shall I Meet Thee***

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

**MARCH 19, 2023
8:30 AM
STEPHENSON HALL
*First Presbyterian Church of Tulsa
Born by grace in 1885***

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Stephenson Hall, 8:30 a.m.

Words of Preparation

A sinner whose heart God has enlightened and changed by his grace is not easily known again. He is no longer the same man.

Pasquier Quesnel in Dale Bruner's, *The Gospel of John*

Prelude

In The Light

I keep trying to find a life on my own apart from You. I am the king of excuses; I've got one for every selfish thing I do. Tell me what's going on inside of me; I despise my own behavior. This only serves to confirm my suspicions that I'm still a man in need of a Savior.

I wanna be in the Light as You are in the Light. I wanna shine like the stars in the Heavens. Oh, Lord be my light and be my Salvation, 'cause all I want is to be in the Light. All I want is to be in the Light.

This disease of self runs through my blood; it's a cancer fatal to my soul. Every attempt on my behalf has failed to bring this sickness under control. Tell me what's going on inside of me; I despise my own behavior. This only serves to confirm my suspicions that I'm still a man in need of a Savior. *Refrain*

Welcome and Call to Worship (Psalm 146:1-2 & 5-10)

Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD, O my soul!

I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being...

Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD his God,

**Who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them,
who keeps faith forever;**

Who executes justice for the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry.

The LORD sets the prisoners free; the LORD opens the eyes of the blind.

The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.

The LORD watches over the sojourners; he upholds the widow and the fatherless, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

The LORD will reign forever, your God, O Zion, to all generations.

Praise the LORD!

Song of Praise

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*

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 42:1-9

Elder Jessica Bowman

Prayer of Confession

Rev. James Estes

Confession Response Come As You Are

Come out of sadness from wherever you've been. Come broken-hearted, let rescue begin. Come find your mercy, O sinner come kneel. Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal. Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal.

Lay down your burdens, lay down your shame; all who are broken lift up your face. O wanderer come home, you're not too far. So lay down your hurt, lay down your heart, come as you are.

There's hope for the hopeless and all those who've strayed. Come sit at the table, come taste the grace. There's rest for the weary, rest that endures; Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't cure.

Refrain

Come as you are. Fall in His arms. Come as you are.

There's joy for the morning, O sinner be still; Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal. Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal. *Refrain*

The 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!**

Passing of the Peace

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

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.

Joys and Concerns of the Church

Song of Preparation I Will Wait For You

Lord, from the depths I call to you; Lord, hear me from on high and give attention to my voice when I for mercy cry.

Out of the depths I cry to You, in darkest places I will call; incline Your ear to me anew, and hear my cry for mercy, Lord. Were you to count my sinful ways, how could I come before Your throne? Yet full forgiveness meets my gaze; I stand redeemed by grace alone.

I will wait for You, I will wait for You; on Your word I will rely. I will wait for You, surely wait for You, till my soul is satisfied.

So put your hope in God alone; take courage in His power to save. Completely and forever won by Christ's emerging from the grave.

Refrain.

Now He has come to make a way, and God himself has paid the price, that all who trust in Him today find healing in His sacrifice.

Refrain.

I wait, my soul waits, for the Lord; my hope is in His Word. More than the watchman waits for dawn, my soul waits for the Lord.

Gospel Reading John 9:1-7

Sermon Who is the Blind One? Rev. Dan Hutchinson

Jesus said, "For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind." (John 9:39)

The Celebration of Communion

Words of Institution

Prayer of Blessing

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

The Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer

Song of Sending

Rescuer

There is good news for the captive; good news for the shamed.
There is good news for the one who walked away. There is good
news for the doubter, the one religion failed, for the good Lord
has come to seek and save.

*He's our Rescuer. He's our Rescuer. We are free from sin
forevermore. Oh, how sweet the sound. Oh, how grace abounds.
We will praise the Lord our Rescuer.*

He is beauty for the blind man; riches for the poor. He is
friendship for the one the world ignores. He is pasture for the
weary; rest for those who strive. Oh, the good Lord is the way the
truth the life. Yes, the good Lord is the way the truth the life.

Refrain

So come and be chainless; come and be fearless; come to the foot
of Calvary. There is redemption for every affliction, here at the
foot of Calvary. So come and be chainless; come and be fearless;
come to the foot of Calvary. There is redemption for every
affliction, here at the foot of Calvary. *Refrain*

Charge and Benediction

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First Church Updates

Our Letter of Love is directed to: Sally and Tom Hughes.

There will be no adult Sunday School classes today! The entire First Church family is invited to the Congregational Meeting at 9:30 a.m. in Stephenson Hall.

This Week

It's time to sign up for the All-Church Retreat: this Friday and Saturday, March 24-25, 2023, at New Life Ranch Frontier Cove. We welcome our keynote speaker, Dr. Wes Vander Lugt, and his family. Reserve your place. Sign up at the table in the Atrium today or contact Laura Stevens at 918-301-1019 –by noon tomorrow!

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.

Mark Your Calendar

Dr. Wes Vander Lugt will be preaching next Sunday at 11:00 in the sanctuary. The 11:00 a.m. Stephenson Hall worshipping community will join hearts and voices in the sanctuary next Sunday.

Easter Lilies – On Easter Sunday, bright white lilies will adorn the church building. As each flower silently trumpets the resurrection, it also serves to remind us of the life of someone who was, or is, special to a church member. If you wish to honor someone by contributing to the lily fund, click the link below or go to www.firstchurchtulsa.org/EasterLily23 by March 20.



Informational meeting for the Petra Kids Ministry Mission trip to Uganda is next Sunday, March 26 at 12:15 p.m., in room E101.

H2O Project – Beginning next Sunday, the congregation is invited to participate in the *H2O Project* by fasting from all beverages but water -- and 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. We have supported this effort since 2009. Our goal this year is \$13,500 for 30 wells, which brings our total to 275 wells. You can make your gift at the atrium table on Sundays, March 26 – April 9; or online.

The Board of Deacons organizes a brunch for the singers, ringers and instrumentalists participating in the Easter morning worship services. Food is brought in by members of the congregation on Easter morning between 7:30 and 8:45 a.m. To sign up to bring a dish, which should be in a disposable container and serve at least 8, please come by the table in the atrium on March 19 or 26, use the QR code below or contact Kathy Wilson at 918-301-1029 or kwilson@firstchurchtulsa.org.



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](https://www.instagram.com/fpcyoungadults), or contact Dan Hutchinson at 918-301-1040.

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 reception desk for contributions.

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.

The Sacrament of Baptism: Annabelle Kay Dericks, daughter of April and Richard Dericks, was baptized on March 12.

Worship Notes

The flowers in today's Sanctuary worship are given to the glory of God and in memory of David and Sally Cordell, by Carol Cordell Mullins and David R. Cordell.

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.

Do you believe in the power of prayer? The Guild of Intercessors is a group of FPC members who believe there is great power in prayer. If you would appreciate prayer for yourself, a loved one, or a friend, please call Paula Peterson, Guild Chairman at 918-296-5548, text her at 918-688-2163 or email her at *mandppeterson@msn.com*. Requests are shared with the Guild members and pastors.

With gratitude for those whom the Lord has added to our number, we offer a warm and heartfelt welcome!

Certificate of Transfer

Charlotte Callis
Rachel and Greg Berkhouse
April and Richard Dericks
Carol and Robert Parker
*Lynn and Bill Peacher
Linda and Fred Swanda

Reaffirmation of Faith

Britani Di Santi

*Pending Session Confirmation

THIS WEEK

TODAY 3/19

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

Monday 3/20

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

Tuesday 3/21

- 9:30 am Precepts, E100

Wednesday 3/22

- 11:30 am Pastor's Study, E104
- 11:30 am Downtown Theological Roundtable, 204
- 12:00 pm Pathways to Hope, 206
- 5:15 pm Wednesday Night Dinner, Stephenson Hall
- 6:00 pm Awana, Children's Area, POW, Amass Exodus, Powerhouse
- 6:15 pm Various Adult Classes
- 6:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room

Friday 3/24

All-Church Retreat, New Life Ranch

Saturday 3/25

- 8:45 am Before the Rooster Crows, E103
- All-Church Retreat, New Life Ranch

COME, GROW YOUR FAITH!

No Adult Sunday School Classes today, join us at 9:30 a.m. in
Stephenson Hall for the Annual Congregational Meeting