



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

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

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**MARCH 26, 2023  
8:30 AM  
STEPHENSON HALL  
*First Presbyterian Church of Tulsa  
Born by grace in 1885***

# ***Fifth Sunday of Lent***

*Stephenson Hall, 8:30 a.m.*

## **Words of Preparation**

A wizard is never late, Frodo Baggins, nor is he early. He arrives precisely when he means to. Gandalf

## **Prelude**

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*

## **Welcome and Call to Worship**

Rev. Dan Hutchinson

## **Song of Praise**

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*

## **Old Testament Reading**

Isaiah 43:1-3a

Elder Mark Brown

## **Prayer of Confession**

Rev. Julia Metcalf

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, you have redeemed us, and You have called us by name in love. You are the Holy one of Israel and our Savior. Yet we confess that we are slow to trust you. We are slow to believe your promises. You have called us by name, but we turn our backs on you, pursuing other things that cannot save or give life. Lord, forgive us. Turn our hearts back to you in love. Fill us with your Spirit that we might live as those who belong to you...*(in silence)*

## **Confession Response** 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.

### **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** (Heidelberg Catechism, Q & A 1)

Q. What is your only comfort in life and in death?

**A. That I am not my own, but belong—body and soul, in life and in death—to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven; in fact, all things must work together for my salvation. Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.**

## **Joys and Concerns and the Prayers of the People**

### **Song of Preparation**      O You Bring

O you bring hope to the hopeless, and light to those in the darkness, and death to life –now I'm alive! O you give peace to the restless, and joy to homes that are broken, I see you now; in you I'm found!

And you opened the door for me, and you laid down your life to set me free! All that I am will serve you, Lord.

O you fill those who are empty, and rescue those in the valley, and through it all you calm my soul. O now, you find me in my weakness and heal the wounds of my heartache, I worship you in spirit and truth!

*And you opened the door for me, and you laid down your life to set me free! All that I am will serve you, Lord. And you opened my eyes to see all the wonder and awe of Christ in me. Jesus, you're everything I need.*

All honor, all glory, all praise to you. All honor, all glory, all praise to you. All honor, all glory, all praise to you. *Refrain*

### **Gospel Reading**      John 11:1-44

### **Sermon**      Signs of Things to Come

Jesus said with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out." (John 11:43b)

### **The Celebration 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** Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee, God of glory, Lord of love; hearts unfold like flowers before Thee, opening to the sun above. Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away; Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.

All thy works with joy surround Thee, earth and heaven reflect thy rays, stars and angels sing around Thee, center of unbroken praise; field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea, chanting bird and flowing fountain, call us to rejoice in Thee.

Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest, Well-spring of the joy of living, ocean-depth of happy rest. Thou our Father, Christ our brother, all who live in love are thine; teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine.

Mortals, join the mighty chorus, which the morning stars began; love divine is reigning o'er us, brother love binds man to man. Ever singing, march we onward, victors in the midst of strife; joyful music leads us sunward in the triumph song of life.

## **Benediction**

### **First Church Updates**

***Our Letter of Blessing*** is directed to: *Bill and Cat Thompson.*

### **Today**

**We're glad to welcome Dr. Wes Vander Lugt** and his family back to First Church! Wes led our All-Church Retreat this weekend; he and Stephanie came with their three beauties: Eden, Beata, and Chalmer!

**Dr. Vander Lugt speaks at our 9:30 Pastor's Class** in the Stephenson Hall on the subject of "Prayer and Health in an Age of Science".

**This afternoon, you're invited to share a couple of hours** with the Vander Lugt family at the Gathering Place (near the Patio): 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. Bring your children!

**H2O Project** – Beginning today, you're invited to participate in the *H2O Project* by 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. Please make your gift at the table in the atrium table today, or online --through April 9.

**Informational meeting for the Petra Kids Ministry Mission trip to Uganda** today at 12:15 p.m., in room E101.

### **This Week**

**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.

**Downtown Theological Roundtable** – If you are interested in theological discussions, please join the Downtown Theological Roundtable for a discussion of C. S. Lewis' *The Abolition of Man*. The discussion will start this Wednesday, March 29, from 11:30 - 12:30 in room 206. You will be responsible for purchasing the book. For further information or to register, please contact Phillip Bowman at 918-630-1786 or [pbowman@firstchurchtulsa.org](mailto:pbowman@firstchurchtulsa.org).

### **Mark Your Calendar**

**Holy Week Prayer Vigil - Thursday, April 6 at 9:00 p.m. through Easter Sunday, April 9 at 7:00 a.m.** -The prayer vigil begins on Maundy Thursday and continues until sunrise on Easter Sunday. You can

sign-up for a 30 minute slot to ensure an unbroken prayer chain by clicking on the QR code below, or at the atrium tables on Sunday, March 26 and April 2.



**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 visit the table in the atrium on March 19 or 26, or use the QR code below, or contact Kathy Wilson at 918-301-1029 or [kwilson@firstchurchtulsa.org](mailto:kwilson@firstchurchtulsa.org).



**Spring Festival - Saturday, April 1:** Children love the Spring Festival! Note the location: Courtyard/Stephenson Hall from 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

### **Holy Week Worship Schedule**

**April 2:** Palm Sunday: regular hours and locations

**April 6:** Maundy Thursday: 7:30 p.m., Sanctuary

**April 7:** Good Friday worship: noon, Kerr Chapel

**April 9:** Easter:

6:30 a.m. Sunrise service at Camp Loughridge;

8:00 and 11:00 a.m., Sanctuary (identical services);

8:30 and 11:00 a.m., Stephenson Hall;

11:00 a.m. Tulsa International Fellowship, Great



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

**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 atrium desk for contributions.

**Faith Partners Addiction Ministry** - Faith Partners provides intervention, education, and recovery support to individuals and families suffering from addiction. If you are in need of help, resources, or if you have further questions, please call the Church and leave your number. A Faith Partners team member will return your call. All contact is confidential.

## 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.

## Worship Notes

**The flowers in today's Sanctuary worship** are given to the glory of God and in memory of Chris Traband, by the Traband family.

**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.

**The Guild of Intercessors** is a group of FPC members who are dedicated to praying for the needs both within and outside of this congregation. If you'd appreciate prayer for yourself, a loved one, or a friend, please call Paula Peterson, Guild Chairman at 918-296-5548. Requests are shared with the Pastors and Guild members.

Ways to give other than the offering plate: Call the Business Office at 918-584-4701, mail a check to the Business Office, or click on the QR code below.



## THIS WEEK

### TODAY 3/26

- 8:00 am      Worship, Kerr Chapel
- 8:30 am      Worship, Stephenson Hall
- 9:30 am      Gatherings and Classes
- 11:00 am     Worship, Sanctuary (11:00 SH will meet in the Sanctuary and TIF will meet in the Great Hall)

### Monday 3/27

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

### Tuesday 3/28

- 9:30 am      Precepts, E100

### Wednesday 3/29

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

### Saturday 4/1

- 8:45 am      Before the Rooster Crows, E103

## COME, GROW YOUR FAITH!

**TODAY: Adult Classes, 9:30 a.m.**

Cornerstone	Minor Prophets	E102
Covenanters	<i>Renovated: God, Dallas, &amp; the Church That Transforms</i>	E101
Faith and Family	<i>Neuroscience: The Impact of Technology on Our Kids: "Faith"</i>	Prayer Room
Forum	<i>All the Places to Go</i>	E200
Harbingers	<i>The Me I Want to Be</i>	E202
Morning Glory	Mastering Your Emotions	B318
New Parents	Theology and Parenting	E205
Pastor's Study 1	Faith and Physics	Stephenson Hall
Pastor's Study 2	New Testament Overview	E104
Reflections	<i>Judges</i>	E103
Shepherds	<i>Study of Ruth</i>	E203
Sojourners	The Life of Christ as Told in Music	E204
UKirk	New Testament Overview	E104
The Vine	Ortberg Lenten Video Study	E100
Westminster	<i>The Book of Easter</i>	Tower Room
Young Adults	New Testament Overview	E104