



PENTECOST
Come, Holy Spirit!

MAY 28, 2023
8:30 AM
STEPHENSON HALL
First Presbyterian Church of Tulsa
Born by grace in 1885

Pentecost Sunday

Stephenson Hall, 8:30 a.m.

Words of Preparation

Without the Holy Spirit, God is distant, Christ is merely a historical figure, the Gospel is a dead letter, the Church is just an organization, authority is domination, mission is propaganda, liturgy is only nostalgia, and the work of Christians is slave labor. But with the Holy Spirit, Christ is risen and present, the Gospel is a living force, the Church is a communion in the life of the Trinity, authority is a service that sets the people free, mission is Pentecost, the liturgy is memory and anticipation, and the labor of Christians is divinized. *Ignatius of Laodicea, Bishop, 390 CE*

Prelude

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*

Welcome and Call to Worship

Rev. Julia Metcalf

As they gathered to hear the Word proclaimed on that first Pentecost,

so too, we gather today to celebrate the coming of the Spirit.

Awe came upon the community of faith as they encountered the living Lord.

Make us aware, Holy Spirit, of the majesty and awe of God's continuing presence.

Let us stand together,
and let us worship God!

Song of Praise

Hymn of the Holy Spirit

Holy Spirit, guide my vision, help me see the way You see. Always Jesus, ever Jesus, Christ in all as Christ in me. Holy Spirit guide my speaking, words of grace and truth abound. Let my lips be filled with stories of the mercy that I've found.

*You're the light. You're my path. You're the Shepherd of my soul.
All I am, all I have, Holy Spirit, lead me on.*

Holy Spirit, guide my hearing, wake my ears to words You speak. In the thunder, in the stillness, let Your voice be clear to me. Let Your voice be clear to me. *Refrain*

Holy Spirit, lead me onward, walking through the great unknown. Trusting, leaning, holding, clinging, 'til the day You lead me home. *Refrain*

First Reading

Joel 2:28-32

Elder Patrick Kirunda

Prayer of Confession

Light a Fire

Restore in me the joy of my salvation. Take me back to where it all began, where all I ever wanted was Your presence. How I long to be there once again.

Light a fire that the world can't burn out. Fan the flame 'til nothing between us remains; my life is an altar to You. Breathe again on the embers that burn in my heart, a love taken back to the start; my life is an altar to You.

Renew in me a pure and willing spirit. Take me back to where it all began before it all became so complicated. How I long to be there once again. *Refrain*

God, I'm sorry. Please forgive me for when I've gone cold. Lord, I need you; how I need you to awake my soul. *Refrain*

Assurance of Pardon

The good news and blessed truth is this: God's Spirit is already here and at work in each of us personally and communally. Even now our mistakes and pretenses have fallen away, and we are seen by God and claimed as God's own beloved. Friends, hear and trust the good news:

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

Affirmation of Faith *from A Declaration of Faith, PC(USA)*

We affirm that the Holy Spirit is the Lord and Giver of life, the Renewer and Perfecter of God's people, the One who makes real in us what God has done for us. ... We believe that by the power of the same Spirit, the church can be set on its way again, even when it seems beyond hope of renewal. We are grateful heirs of reformations and awakenings. We are faithful to the reformers of the past when we hold ourselves open in the present to the reforming and renewing work of the Spirit. ... We testify that today this same Holy Spirit makes us able to respond in faith to the gospel and leads us into the Christian community. The Spirit brings us out of death into life, out of separation into fellowship. ...The Spirit impels us to make the unity of Christians visible to a divided world and assures us that we shall be one.

Passing of the Peace

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

Offering O Church, Be Filled with the Power of God!

O church, be filled with the power of God, as from the day of your birth. Every nation and tribe and tongue He's called to declare throughout the Earth; His Kingdom is coming, the Bride He's adorning, He's called us out of the grave. O church, be filled with the power of God, for He is mighty to save.

The room was filled with tongues of fire and the world was never the same. The Spirit of God, come to dwell within, so that we can bear His name. For His Kingdom is coming, His people He's calling to share God's love in His name. O church, be filled with the power of God, for He is coming to reign.

O let's preach good news to the poor and freedom to all the enslaved. There's liberty and healing for all; we're set free in Jesus' name.

Once dead in sin, now alive in Christ; baptized in water and fire. The Spirit of God fills His church within and sends us out into the mire. For His Kingdom is coming, this race we are running, fixing our eyes on our King. O church, be filled with the power of God. For our joy and His glory we sing. *Refrain*

Second Reading Acts 2:1-21

Sermon The Kingdom of God

...in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit. Acts 1:5b

Sacrament of Communion

Words of Institution

Prayer of Blessing

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

The Lord's Prayer

Joys and Concerns of the Church and the Prayers of the People

Song of Sending Lift High the Name of Jesus

Lift high the name of Jesus, of Jesus our King. Make known the power of His grace, the beauty of His peace. Remember how His mercy reached and we cried out to Him. He lifted us to solid ground, to freedom from our sin.

Oh, sing my soul, and tell all He's done, till the earth and heavens are filled with His glory!

Lift high the name of Jesus, of Jesus our Lord. His power in us is greater than, is greater than this world. To share the reason for our hope, to serve with love and grace, that all who see Him shine through us might bring the Father praise! *Refrain*

Lift high the name of Jesus, of Jesus our Light. No other name on earth can save, can raise a soul to life. He opens up our eyes to see the harvest He has grown. We labor in His fields of grace as He leads sinners home! *Refrain*

Charge and Benediction

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We move this morning from Eastertide to Pentecost! As the Holy Spirit took up residence with the earliest followers of Jesus, so we pray His presence here will awaken us to joy, worship, and service in Christ's name!

Pentecost launches us on a new eight-week sermon series focused on the Person and work of the Holy Spirit —His transformative presence and empowering blessing.

Our Letter of Blessing today goes to Tonye Briscoe who in June from her position on staff —after almost 38 years of service to the Lord and His Church. We celebrate with a reception for Tonye on Sunday, June 11.

Today

First Family Pentecost Dinner – Join us today in the Stephenson Hall and the courtyard for food and fellowship following the 11:00 service. Meals are \$9 for adults, \$5 for children, and \$22 per family.

Mark Your Calendar

Glimpses of Grace – Beginning next Sunday (and every Sunday in June) you're invited to catch a glimpse of the Lord's work in the lives of First Church members. We gather at 9:30 in the sanctuary. Next Sunday, Mr. David Osterhold shares his story of how Jesus has been at work in and through his life. These stories will encourage you and enrich our faith.

College Update for June and July – All College Students are invited to join us this summer for UKirk Bible Study on Tuesday nights, starting this Tuesday, June 6 from 6:30 - 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 Rev. Wambugu at his home for an in-depth Summer Backyard Bible Study to review and discuss the sermon series each Wednesday beginning on June 7 - August 9 at 6:30 p.m. Contact Laura Stevens at lstevens@firstchurchtulsa.org for more information.

First Church has a serious teaching ministry. This fall we welcome Rebecca McLaughlin, author of many books, including: *Confronting Christianity: 12 Hard Questions for the World's Largest Religion*.

Consider putting this on your summer book list in preparation for a Saturday night with Rebecca (September 17)!

Precept Summer Bible Study - This is a 6-session study entitled *Breaking Free from Fear*. We will meet in E100, from 9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m., June 6 through July 18, excluding July 4. For more information contact Laura Stevens at lstevens@firstchurchtulsa.org.

Spiritual Retreat at Camp Loughridge – Save the date for a rich experience: Saturday, July 15, 9:00 a.m. at Camp Loughridge. Adults and families (with children of all ages) will have two separate paths of retreat through the morning. After lunch, the Aquatics Center opens for families — while adults without children will continue in the lodge through the afternoon. For more information or to register please contact lstevens@firstchurchtulsa.org.

Ministry Opportunities

The Summer Choir Welcomes You! You are invited to add your voice to the Summer Choir for the 11:00 a.m. Sanctuary service. The only time requirement is 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 – please join us! 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.facebook.com/fpcyoungadults), or contact Rev. Julia Metcalf at 918-301-1030.

Special Needs Ministry is growing! We need volunteers to work with our young people who need a little extra help. If you are interested in serving at 9:30 or 11:00 a.m. once a month or more, please contact Jackson Seibert at jseibert@firstchurchtulsa.org.

Parish Register

Prayers for Healing: Jane Azlin, Linda Barnett, Pat Brown, Roy Cail, Dwight Creveling, Marilyn Davis, Donna Droege, Cecil Drummond, David Dunning, Mary Ann Elliott, Gaye Graeler, Cynthia Hill-Meriwether, Meg Hubler, Warren Hubler, Jeannie Dickey Kelsay, Joyce Kunkel, Carmelitti LeFlore, Amy Lesh, Ann McKellar, Jan Miller, David Osterholt, Larry Osterhout, Rosemary Priest, Lyle Proffitt, Helen Quiring, Carly Rivers, Mary Ruddle, Robert Shaw, Jane Sneed, Cissy Ssettimba, Marcia Tromp and Susan Waldie.

The Sacrament of Baptism: Nora Ann Schneberger, daughter of Bonnie and Adam Schneberger, was baptized on May 21.

With Gratitude for the Resurrection: Marsue Gent, a member since 1960, died on May 18.

Worship Notes

The flowers that beautify the Sanctuary today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Joe and Katie Jewell by Judith and Joe Land and family.

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*.

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.



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.

THIS WEEK

TODAY 5/28

- 8:00 am Worship: Kerr Chapel
- 8:30 am Worship: Stephenson Hall
- 9:30 am Glimpses of Grace, Sanctuary: David Osterhold
Gatherings and Classes
- 11:00 am Worship: Sanctuary, Stephenson, Great Hall
- 12:15 p.m. Pentecost Luncheon, Stephenson and Courtyard

Wednesday 5/31

- 11:30 am Pastor’s Study, E104
- 11:30 am Downtown Theological Roundtable, 206

Saturday 6/3

- 8:45 am Before the Rooster Crows, E103

COME, GROW YOUR FAITH!

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

Cornerstone	<i>Apostles’ Creed</i>	E102
Covenanters	<i>Mere Christianity</i>	E101
Faith and Family	The Heidelberg Catechism	Prayer Room
Forum	<i>Soul Keeping</i>	E200
Morning Glory	Mastering Your Emotions	B318
Reflections	<i>King David</i>	E103
Shepherds	<i>Study of Elijah</i>	E203
Sojourners	<i>Study of James</i>	E204
UKirk	New Testament Overview	E104
The Vine	<i>Study of Jonah</i>	E100
Westminster	<i>The Greatest Commandment</i>	Tower Room
Young Adults	New Testament Overview	E104