



Discipleship: Catching God's Vision

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

**JULY 23, 2023
8:30 AM
STEPHENSON HALL
*First Presbyterian Church of Tulsa
Born by grace in 1885***

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Stephenson Hall, 8:30 a.m.

Words of Preparation

Deuteronomy 10:12-22 is unquestionably one of the richest texts in the Hebrew Bible, exalted and poetic in its language, comprehensive and challenging in its message. It purposely tries to “boil down” the whole theological and ethical content of the book into memorable phraseology, packed and pregnant, rich and resonant of all the surrounding preaching. Indeed, there are not many dimensions of the “OT theology,” that are not directly expressed or indirectly echoed in this mini-symphony of faith and life.

Christopher J. H. Wright, *Deuteronomy*

Prelude

God is on the Throne

Why should I worry? Why should I fear? Why should I run when Jesus is here? I'm safe in His arms. Safe in His heart. Nothing can take me away from His love.

God is on the throne. He reigns forevermore. Just think about it. Just think about it. God is always good. He loves like a father should. Just think about it. Just think about it.

When I am anxious, when I'm afraid, I find strength when I call on His Name. I'm safe in His arms. Safe in His heart. Nothing can take me away from His love. He's the King of power. The King of kings. He is the Lord over everything. To Him be the glory, the honor and praise, forever and ever, amen, always. *Refrain*

Hallelujah, He reigns. Hallelujah, He saves. Hallelujah, always. He's never gonna let me down. *Refrain*

Welcome and Call to Worship

Song of Praise

Be Thou My Vision

Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart. Naught be all else to me,
save that Thou art. Thou my best thought by day or by night.
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.

Be Thou my wisdom, Be Thou my true Word. I ever with Thee and
Thou with me Lord. Thou, my great Father, and I Thy true son;
Thou in me dwelling and I with Thee one.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise. Thou mine inheritance,
now and always. Thou and Thou only, first in my heart. High King
of heaven, my treasure Thou art.

High King of heaven, when victory is won. May I reach heaven's
joys, O bright heaven's Sun. Heart of my own heart, whatever
befall, still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

First Reading

Psalm 24

Elder Eric Olson

Prayer of Confession

Lord, Have Mercy

For what we have done and left undone, we fall on Your countless
mercies. For sins that are known and those unknown, we call on
Your name so holy.

For envy and pride, for closing our eyes, for scorning our very
neighbor; in thought word and deed we've failed You, our King,
how deeply we need a Savior!

Lord, have mercy, Christ, have mercy, Lord, have mercy on us!

*Lord, have mercy, Christ, have mercy, Lord, have mercy on us. Lord
have mercy on us.*

For what You have done, Your life of love, You perfectly lived, we
praise You! Though tempted and tried, You fixed Your eyes; You
finished the work God gave You!

And there on the tree, A King among thieves, You bled for a world's betrayal; You loved to the end, our merciful Friend, how pure and forever faithful! *Refrain*

For hearts that are cold for seizing control, for scorning our very Maker; in thought word and deed, we've failed You our King, how deeply we need a Savior!

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 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.

Passing of the Peace

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

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Offering My Worth Is Not in What I Own

My worth is not in what I own; not in the strength of flesh and bone; but in the costly wounds of love, at the cross. My worth is not in skill or name; in win or lose, in pride or shame; but in the blood of Christ that flowed, at the cross.

I rejoice in my Redeemer; Greatest Treasure; Wellspring of my soul. I will trust in Him, no other; my soul is satisfied in Him alone.

As summer flowers, we fade and die; fame youth and beauty hurry by; but life eternal calls to us, at the cross. I will not boast in wealth or might, or human wisdom's fleeting light; but I will boast in knowing Christ, at the cross. *Refrain*

Two wonders here that I confess; my worth and my unworthiness; my value fixed, my ransom paid, at the cross. *Refrain*

Second Reading Deuteronomy 10:22-22

Sermon Owner or Steward? Rev. Dan Hutchinson
Behold, to the Lord your God belong heaven and the heaven of heavens, the earth with all that is in it. (Deuteronomy 10:14)

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 You Have Called Me Higher

I could just sit; I could just sit and wait for all Your goodness, hope to feel Your presence. And I could just stay; I could just stay right where I am and hope to feel You; hope to feel something again.

But You have called me higher; You have called me deeper and I'll go where You will lead me Lord. You have called me higher; You have called me deeper, and I'll go where You will lead me Lord; where You lead me.

I could hold on; I could hold on to who I am and never let You change me from the inside. I could be safe; oh I could be safe here in Your arms and never leave home; never let these walls down. *Refrain*

I will be Yours; oh, I will be Yours for all my life. I will be Yours; oh, I will be Yours for all my life. *Refrain*

Charge and Benediction

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Today

A heartfelt welcome to each and all as we gather to worship in this *House of Prayer*. If you're here for the first time, we pray you'll sense the presence of Christ and the warmth of this congregation.

Our *Letter of Blessing* today goes to Kim Flanagan and family.

The flowers that beautify the Sanctuary today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Lila Smith and her love for Christ and the children of the world.

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 – 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.

Aug. 6	Episode 1 – I Have Called You by Name Episode 2 – Shabbat	Dr. Miller
Aug. 13	Episode 3 – Jesus Loves the Little Children Episode 4 – The Rock on Which It Is Built	Rev. Metcalf
Aug. 20	Episode 5 – The Wedding Gift Episode 6 – Indescribable Compassion	Elder Jacob Thompson
Aug. 27	Episode 7 – Invitations Episode 8 – I Am He	Elder Jacob Thompson
Sept. 3	Pilot – The Shepherd Closing Discussion of Entire Series	Rev. Hutchinson

Dr. Miller's 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, September 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

Session meets this Tuesday, July 25: dinner, 5:15 p.m. and Session meeting at 6:15 p.m. in room E104.

College Update for July – All College Students are invited to join us this summer for UKirk Bible Study on Tuesday nights from 6:00 - 7:30 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 at 6:30 p.m. through August 9. Contact Laura Stevens at lstevens@firstchurchtulsa.org for more information.

Mark Your Calendar

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.

Volunteers needed for Camp Sunshine - Saturday, August 5, 11.00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. at Camp Loughridge. This annual event sponsored by the Board of Deacons, offers a day camp experience for children fighting cancer. Volunteers are needed; the minimum age to volunteer is 14. If you can spend a few hours helping to supervise an activity, assist with crafts or food, or help with set up or clean up, please sign up using this QR code, clicking the link on the church's web calendar, or call Hannah Damron at 918-301-1039.



Annual FPC Ping-Pong Tournament (including cookout!) – Sunday, August 20, following the 11:00 worship services. All ages welcome to participate.

Four Things Christians Must Reclaim - Join us on Saturday, September 16 at 6:30 p.m. in Stephenson Hall to hear guest speaker Dr. Rebecca McLaughlin. Rebecca has always been fascinated by the power of

words and the message of the gospel. Her first book, *Confronting Christianity: 12 Hard Questions for the World's Largest Religion* was named "Book of the Year" by Christianity Today.

Helping Hang Golf Tournament will be on Monday, September 18 at 8:30 a.m. at the Meadowbrook Country Club.

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.

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, 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, Sarah Smith, Jane Sneed, Cissy Ssettimba, Shannon Thomas, and Susan Waldie.

The Joy of New Life! We welcome: Asa Mark Smith, son of Sarah and Alex Smith, was born on July 16.

The Sacrament of Baptism: Jonah Nathaniel Sloup, Jr., son of Adrianna and Jonah Sloup, was baptized on July 16.

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 you have 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.

First Church Cancer List – Do you or a loved one have cancer? Members of the Guild of Intercessors pray every day for those on the Guild's Cancer List. If you would like to add yourself, a loved one, or a friend or colleague to this confidential list, please contact Paula Peterson at 918-296-5548/*mandppeterson@msn.com* or Monte Prater at 918-605-9719/*monteprater@aol.com*.

COME, GROW YOUR FAITH!

TODAY 7/23

- 8:00 am Worship: Kerr Chapel
8:30 am Worship: Stephenson Hall
9:30 am Christian Apologetics, led by Dr. Miller, E104
 Faith in Film, Miller Library
 Faith and Family, Prayer Room
 Morning Glory Class, B318
 Reflections, E103
 Shepherds, E203
 Sojourners, E204
 Westminster Class, Tower Room
11:00 am Worship: Sanctuary, Stephenson, Great Hall

Tuesday 7/25

- 5:15 pm Session Dinner, E104
6:00 pm Session Meeting, E104

Wednesday 7/26

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

Saturday 7/29

- 8:45 am Before the Rooster Crows, E103