



**The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**September 7, 2025**  
11 a.m. worship, Sanctuary

**First Presbyterian Church of Tulsa**

Called to make fully-devoted followers of Christ, inwardly strong and outwardly focused.

# Christ the True and Better Adam

## The Words of Preparation

The central miracle asserted by Christians is the Incarnation. They say that God became Man. Every other miracle prepares for this, or exhibits this, or results from this...In the Christian story God descends to re-ascend. He comes down; down from the heights of absolute being into time and space, down into humanity... But He goes down to come up again and bring the ruined world up with Him.

C. S. Lewis, *Miracles*

### THE WELCOME

Rev. Dan Hutchinson

*Please sign, pass, and return the blue friendship register. Visitors, please fill out a welcome guest card from the pew back and drop it in the offering plate to receive our E-News updates, and fellowship opportunities.*

### THE INTROIT

**Lord Jesus, My Savior**

Dale Wood

Lezleigh Holloway, soloist

Lord Jesus, my Savior, with you I am blest, my life and salvation, my joy and my rest. Your name is my theme, and to you I belong; your grace shall inspire both my heart and my song. Lord Jesus, my Savior, you suffered for me, and purchased my pardon on Calvary's tree. My heart shall rejoice 'til the end of my days, for yours is the glory, and yours is the praise!

### THE CALL TO WORSHIP

**2 Corinthians 5:16-21**

From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer.

**Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.**

All this is from God,

**Who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation;**

That is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.

**Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us.**

We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

**For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.**

Therefore, let us stand in honor!

**And let us worship God!**

### ◆ THE OPENING HYMN 376

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

HYFRYDOL

### ◆ THE PRAYER OF ADORATION

Jon Scheiper

### THE FIRST READING

**Romans 5:12-21**

## THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. James Estes

Lord God Almighty, our Heavenly Father, we confess that we have sinned against You. You have given to us the free gift of life in Christ; a gift of sheer grace. Yet we admit that all too often, we continue to live as those who belong to death and sin. We follow in the footsteps of Adam, forsaking Your will and rejecting Your goodness. We seek to be the masters of our domain, believing that we are the final authority on what is good and evil. Forgive us, O Lord for the sake of Christ. Forgive our pride and our lack of faith. Cleanse us. Make us new. Fill us with Your Holy Spirit so that grace might reign through righteousness, leading to eternal life in Christ. Hear us now, as we pray...*(in silence)*

## THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death.

Therefore, 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!**

## ♦ THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

## ♦ THE RESPONSE OF GRATITUDE

The Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below; praise Him above, you heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. **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 BLESSING OF THE YOUNG DISCIPLES

## THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Joel Donohue, Clerk of Session

Anne Marie Claire Holk, daughter of Clay and Jen Holk  
Kennedy Lane Powers, daughter of Barrett and Carly Powers

## THE HYMN OF PREPARATION

Christ the True and Better Adam

Christ, the true and better Adam; Son of God and Son of Man. Who, when tempted in the garden, never yielded, never sinned. He, who makes the many righteous brings us back to life again. Dying, He reversed the curse; then Rising, crushed the serpent's head.

*(Congregation join)*

Christ, the true and better Isaac; humble son of sacrifice, who would climb the fearful mountain, there to offer up his life. Laid with faith upon the altar, Father's joy and only son; there salvation was provided, O what full and boundless love.

*Amen, amen, from beginning to end. Christ the story, His the glory; Alleluia, Amen!*

Christ, the true and better Moses, called to lead a people home; standing bold to earthly powers, God's great glory to be known. With his arms stretched wide to heaven, see the waters part in two; see the veil is torn forever, cleansed with blood we pass now through.  
*Refrain*

Christ, the true and better David; lowly shepherd, mighty king. He the champion in the battle; where, O death, is now thy sting? In our place He bled and conquered; crown Him Lord of majesty. His shall be the throne forever; we shall e'er His people be. *Refrain*

## THE SECOND READING

Genesis 3:6-8

## THE SERMON

Christ the True and Better Adam

Rev. Dan Hutchinson

## THE OFFERING

The New Creation

Michael Bedford

*Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: the old has gone, the new is here!*

All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation. And God brought us together in Christ, and God forgave us all our sins through Christ.  
*Refrain.*

2 Corinthians 5:17-19

## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

### ◆ THE CLOSING HYMN 487

When Morning Gilds the Skies

LAUDES DOMINI

### ◆ THE CHARGE AND THE BENEDICTION

## THE POSTLUDE

Improvisation on the tune HYFRYDOL

◆ Please stand

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## Greetings in Christ!

We are glad to welcome you to worship! We are a community that seeks to lift high the name of Jesus and to serve the common good. If you are here for the first time, we pray that you will sense the presence of Christ and the warmth of this congregation. If you do not have a church home, we would love to welcome you; if this is your first time worshipping with us, please fill out a *Welcome Guest Card*, or contact Emma Myatt at 918-857-5652 or [emyatt@firstchurchtulsa.org](mailto:emyatt@firstchurchtulsa.org).

**Fall Sermons Series:** Our new series, *Christ the True and Better*, will look at the lives of Old Testament figures, the events and action of God in their lives, and how each of these individuals point us to Christ and find fulfillment in His life and work.

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## PARISH REGISTER

**Prayers for Healing:** Lisa Angleton, Jane Azlin, Joy Brewer, Steve Brill, Pat Brown, Roy Cail, Beth Campbell, Gary Casteel, Randy Corelli, Teresa Corelli, B. J. Dollahon, Debi Foster, Jim Goodwin, Gaye Graeler, Rita Graeler, Cynthia Hill-Meriwether, Brenda Johnson, Don Johnson, Joyce Kunkel, Amy Lesh, Barbara Mace, Margaret Martinson, Ann McKellar, Jon Mercer, David Osterholt, David Perkins, Penny Steinkuehler-Perkins, Carolyn Perryman, Joe Robson, Mary Ruddell, Kathy Sengel, Bob Shipman, Alex Smith, Andrea Smith, Jane Sneed, Sally Stewart, Ginny Talley, Marcia Tromp, Ralph Veatch, Gretchen Wagner, Susan Waldie, Norma Wallace, Barbara Wiedenmann and Margo Williams.

**The Sacrament of Baptism:** Ismael Ahadi Lopez, son of Cathrine and Edgar Lopez, and Zora Ozioma Wema Ekwempu, son of Phyllis and Somto Ekwempu, were baptized on August 31.

**The Joy of Christian Marriage:** Courtney Gill and Andrew Baumann were married on August 30.

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## 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](http://FirstChurchTulsa.org/YouTube).

**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.

**Our Letters of Blessing** today go to Gaye Graeler, and Alex and Sarah Smith.

**The flowers that adorn the Sanctuary** today are given to the glory of God and in honor of Grandparents Day and Presbyterian Women locally and worldwide, by the Presbyterian Women of First Church.

**Thank you for your faithful support:** Weekly tithes and offerings to the Lord may be given electronically at [firstchurchtulsa.org](http://firstchurchtulsa.org), text 405-276-4141 or by using the QR code.



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## FIRST CHURCH UPDATES

**A congregational meeting** has been called by the Session and set for Sunday, September 14, immediately following the 11:00 service in the Sanctuary. The Nominating Committee will present a new slate of officers (elders, deacons, trustees) and the congregation will vote upon it.

**Pastoral Prayer:** Join us as we pray for the pastoral transition. To receive a weekly prayer prompt, please text @pastorfpc to "81010".

**Need a Pastoral Visit?** If you or someone whom you know is in the hospital or in need of a pastoral visit, please contact Kathy Wilson at [kwilson@firstchurchtulsa.org](mailto:kwilson@firstchurchtulsa.org) or 918-201-1029. We no longer receive information from hospitals, so we rely on you to let us know.

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## HAPPENING TODAY

**First Friends in the Pews:** Meet at the Atrium coffee bar 15 minutes before each worship service.

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## EVENTS THIS WEEK

**Lunch and Learn:** Join this group of retirement aged people tomorrow at noon in room E104. Joanne Pearson will be giving an overview of the church's Helping Hand Ministry. To reserve lunch (\$7.00), please contact Kathy Wilson at 918-301-1029 or [kwilson@firstchurchtulsa.org](mailto:kwilson@firstchurchtulsa.org) or use the QR code.



**Fall Classes: Beginning the week of September 8:** (for more information contact Elizabeth Devore at [edevore@firstchurchtulsa.org](mailto:edevore@firstchurchtulsa.org).)

**Men's Monday Bible Study:** 12:00 – 1:00 p.m., E103, an informal fellowship of men who want to grow in their understanding and application of God's word. Over lunch they will read a book of the Bible and follow with a Bible study.

**Precept Bible Study:** Tuesdays, 9:30 a.m., E100, led by Denise Rounds; what does it mean to be holy and to know and love God deeply? They will study 1, 2 and 3 John and explore answers to these questions as they consider the fundamentals of Christian beliefs.

**Hearts for the Lord:** Thursdays, 10:00 a.m., E313, this class will be studying *None Like Him. 10 Ways We are Different From God* by Jen Wilkins. The study teaches how to become articulate and committed followers of Christ, with a clear understanding of why they believe what they believe, grounded in the Word of God.



**Awana 2025 -2026: Wednesdays beginning September 10, dinner at 5:15 and Awana at 6:00 p.m.:**

Kids ages 2 years old through 4th grade are invited to be part of AWANA — a fun, Bible-centered program where children learn God’s Word, build lasting friendships, and enjoy games and activities each week. AWANA helps kids hide God’s truth in their hearts while growing in faith and love for Jesus. To register use the QR code.



**Celebration Singers Youth Choir:** Join us at our new day, time and location beginning on September 10.

We will meet every Wednesday from 5:00 – 6:00 p.m., for dinner and rehearsals in the Powerhouse.

The choir is open to all middle and high school students who have a heart for singing praise to God!

Register by clicking on the QR code by September 30; please register before attending your first rehearsal.



**Grief Share**, a grief recovery program for people who have lost a loved one, is a 13-week series of classes held from 1:30 – 3:00 p.m. on Wednesdays in Room E104, starting on September 10. This is a Christ-centered program and is led by First Church members, Rick Priest and Kathy Wilson. The workbook, which is required, is \$20.00. To register, go to [www.griefshare.org/groups/265638](http://www.griefshare.org/groups/265638) or contact Kathy Wilson at 918-301-1029 or [kwilson@firstchurchtulsa.org](mailto:kwilson@firstchurchtulsa.org).

**Wednesday Night Downtown**

Begins Sept. 10 at 5:15 p.m. (dinner) in Stephenson Hall  
Children and Youth Classes start at 6:00 p.m. and Adults at 6:15 p.m.

**Stealing Past the Watchful Dragons: Lessons from Lewis**, Miller Library - Join Rev. Dan Hutchinson as we explore the literary works of C. S. Lewis, beginning with the *Chronicles of Narnia*. Stories have a unique ability to shape our hearts and minds, and perhaps nowhere do we see this more profoundly than in the works of Lewis. Together, we will explore the thought and theology of Lewis and the power of stories to convey these great truths. No prior knowledge of his books required!

**Seekers Bible Study:** room E104, Where is God in Esther?, Rev. Wambugu leads us through the remarkable book of Esther, a Jewish woman who courageously saves her people from annihilation of the Persian empire by relying on God’s divine providence.

**Courage, Dear Heart...Stories of Heroic Sacrifice and Surrender to Jesus:** room E103, led by James Estes, this class will journey through the stories of men and women who cried out to God – and followed Him when He answered. Their lives, drawn from the *Christian Heroes Then and Now* series, are testimonies of contagious courage and sacred surrender.

**Planning for the Inevitable:** room E100, Legal, Healthcare, and Pastoral Care professionals lead this five-week course that will guide participants through the decisions that can be made now to place less stress on family members when death occurs.

**Presbyterian Women’s Dedication Luncheon:** All women of the Church are invited to join the PW ladies on Thursday, September 11 in the Miller Library at noon. The cost for lunch is \$10 and is paid at the door. Reservations should be made by September 8 by contacting Kathy Wilson at 918-301-1029 or [kwilson@firstchurchtulsa.org](mailto:kwilson@firstchurchtulsa.org).

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Pastor’s Study (Foundations):** Sunday mornings starting September 14, 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. in room E104. The Bible is a unified whole drawing us to Jesus Christ, and Genesis is where the story begins. This fall, Rev. Dan Hutchinson will lead an in-depth study on Genesis, walking through the text and drawing out the central themes that weave through Scripture and that ultimately find their fulfillment in Christ. We will discuss the historical, theological, and literary nature of Genesis and how this first book of the Bible sets the stage for everything to come. All are welcome!

**Serve-A-Palooza:** Join us in the Atrium and Courtyard on Sundays September 14, 21, and 28 before and after worship as we explore what it means to serve the Lord with gladness and find out where we can each become grounded within our church community.

**Presbyterian Women's Circles** meetings will begin in September. They gather for Bible study, fellowship, and community service projects monthly at various times. The 2025-26 Bible study is *Finding Resilience, Joy and our Identity in Jesus Christ*. The workbook cost is \$14. If you would like to join a circle or for more information, contact Norma Wallace at 918-508-4257.

**Interested in joining a Sunday School class?** All classes will resume on Sunday, September 14. For more information contact Elizabeth DeVore at [edevore@firstchurchtulsa.org](mailto:edevore@firstchurchtulsa.org) or click the QR code.



**First Church Choristers children's choir:** Beginning on September 14, we will meet every Sunday from 9:15 – 9:45 a.m., in the children's choir room of the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor music suite. The choir is open to children in kindergarten through 4<sup>th</sup> grade. Register by clicking on the QR code by September 30; please register before attending your first rehearsal.



**Rejoice Ringers Junior Bell Choir:** Beginning on September 14, we will meet every Sunday from 8:45 – 9:15 a.m., in the bell room of the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor music suite. The bell choir is open to students in 3<sup>rd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Register by clicking the QR code through September 30; please register before attending your first rehearsal.



**Matson Cup Golf Tournament:** Monday, September 15, 7:30 a.m. at the Meadowbrook Country Club. Monies raised from this tournament are devoted to the most impoverished of Tulsans –through the efforts of our *Helping Hand Ministry*. Scan the QR code to register yourself and/or your team.



**Save the Date! Ron Pearson's 52nd Annual Organ Concert;** Sunday, October 5, 4:00 p.m. The program includes Symphony no. 1 for Organ and Orchestra by French composer Alexandre Guilmant; The University of Tulsa Orchestra will be our guest musicians.

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## USE YOUR TALENTS

**Join our TV Ministry Team:** Gain valuable video and broadcast experience while helping us reach thousands of TV and internet viewers each week. We're looking for students and adults to volunteer in this ministry. For more information, contact Alex Pennell, TV/Video Manager, at 314-607-1032.

**The Presbyterian Women's September Mission** is the Helping Hand Ministry. They are collecting full-sized toiletries, small bottles of laundry detergent, toilet paper and canned goods. Items may be placed in the PW mission container located in the atrium on Wednesday evenings and Sunday mornings throughout the month of September.

**The Chancel Choir** is back to full strength! You're always welcome to attend a rehearsal on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. in the Choir Room, to watch us in action. Better yet, please consider singing with us!

## Come, Grow Your Faith!

### **TODAY 9/7**

8:00 a.m.      Worship: Kerr Chapel  
 8:30 a.m.      Worship: Stephenson Hall  
 9:30 a.m.      Breakfast on Boston  
 11:00 a.m.     Worship: Sanctuary and Great Hall

### **Monday 9/8**

12:00 p.m.      Men's Monday Bible Study, E103  
 12:00 p.m. Lunch and Learn, E104  
 7:00 p.m.      Overtones Rehearsal, 309

### **Tuesday 9/9**

9:30 a.m.      Precept Summer Bible Study, E100

### **Wednesday 9/10**

5:15 pm          Wednesday Night Dinner, Stephenson Hall  
 5:00 pm Youth Praise Band, and Celebration Singers, Powerhouse  
 6:00 pm Awana, POW, Amass Exodus  
 6:15 pm Adult Classes  
 6:30 pm Chancel Choir, Choir Room

### **Thursday 9/11**

10:00 a.m.      Hearts for the Lord, E313

### **Saturday 9/13**

8:45 a.m.      Before the Rooster Crows  
 9:00 a.m.      Habitat for Humanity House Dedication

## **Adult Sunday School Classes at 9:30 a.m., September 14**

Cornerstone	<i>Gospel of John</i>	E102
Covenanters	<i>Simply Christian</i>	E101
Faith and Family	<i>Book of John</i>	206
Foundations	<i>Genesis</i>	E104
Harbingers	<i>Heidelberg Catechism</i>	E202
Morning Glory	Prayer and Sermon Texts	B318
Reflections	<i>Gospel of Mark</i>	E103
Shepherds	Personal Testimonies	E203
Sojourners	Salvation	E204
Sowers	<i>Mere Christianity</i>	E205
UKirk	Women of the Bible	E201
Westminster	Jesus' Words in the Gospel of Matthew	E200



