



**Christmas Eve**  
**December 24, 2025**  
2 p.m. worship, Sanctuary

**First Presbyterian Church of Tulsa**

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



# Christ our God Incarnate

## The Words of Preparation

In the Christian story God descends to reascend. He comes down;...down to the very roots and seabed of the Nature He has created. But He does down to come up again and bring the whole ruined world up with Him.

C. S. Lewis, *Miracles*

"Yes," said Queen Lucy. "In our world too, a Stable once had something inside it that was bigger than our whole world."

C. S. Lewis, *The Last Battle*

### THE PRELUDE

#### Miniatures for Christmas

Dale Wood

*Ron Pearson, organist*

### THE WELCOME

Rev. Dan Hutchinson

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

### THE INTROIT

#### I Heard the Bells

I heard the bells on Christmas Day their old familiar carols play, and wild and sweet the words repeat of peace on earth, good will to men.

I thought how, as the day had come, the belfries of all Christendom had rolled along the unbroken song of peace on earth, good will to men.

And in despair I bowed my head: "There is no peace on earth," I said. "For hate is strong and mocks the song of peace on earth, good will to men."

Then pealed the bells more loud and deep: "God is not dead, nor doth he sleep; the wrong shall fail, the right prevail, with peace on earth, good will to men."

Till, ringing singing, on its way, the world revolved from night to day, a voice, a chime, a chant sublime, of peace on earth, good will to men!

### THE LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

*The Myatt Family*

The candles of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love are burning. Today, we light the Christ Candle remembering the words of the Gospel of John: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God...In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

Christ is our light!

**He has come to dispel the darkness!**

Christ is Emmanuel, God with us!

**He has come to bring light and life to all people!**  
 So come, let us join our voices together,  
**And let us proclaim the coming of our Savior and King!**

♦ **THE CAROL 40****Joy to the World!**

ANTIOCH

**THE FIRST READING****Luke 1:26-33**

Rev. Julia Metcalf

**THE SOLO****Magnificat**

Keith and Kristyn Getty

*Julia Metcalf, soloist*

My soul will magnify the Lord: I rejoice in God my Savior, in the wonder of His favor. For He has done great things for me; He was mindful of His servant. Every age shall call me blessed. The Hope of Abraham come in the giving of a Son; for He who promised is mighty in remembering His mercy. My soul will magnify the Lord for His grace to those who fear Him through every generation. The proud He scatters to the wind as the ruler's strength is broken, and the rich are left with nothing. The humble lifted high, and the hungry satisfied; our Portion and our Treasure, our Hope and Help forever.

Luke 1:46-55

**THE SECOND READING****Matthew 1:18-21**

Rev. Wambugu

**THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, we confess that we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed. By what we have done and what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart, and we have not loved our neighbor as ourselves. For the sake of Your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ, we ask that You would forgive us our sins and so work in our hearts by Your Spirit that we might love You and receive You. Hear us now, as we pray...*(in silence)*

**THE CONFESSIONAL RESPONSE****Joseph's Christmas***Eric Baird, soloist*

Oh, this was not my Christmas wish, to raise the son of the King. This Holy Child, this gift to man, of whom the angels sing. This was not my dream of love; a wife, a life, a child. This is not the way it's done, but on us, heaven smiled. What to think, what to think? The angel said, "Do not fear, do not fear all that lies ahead." "She will bear a son, and you will call His name Jesus. He will save you from your sins." He will save us from our sins. He will save me from my sins. Amen. Son of Man, but not this man, the one that He'll call "Dad". I'll give my heart and soul and strength, and all the plans I had. What to think, what to think? The angel said, "Do not fear, do not fear all that lies ahead." "She will bear a son, and you will call His name Jesus. He will save you from your sins." He will save us from our sins. He will save me from my sins. Amen.

**THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Friends, hear and believe the good news of the gospel: that in Jesus Christ there is indeed forgiveness for anyone 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 28** Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

IN DULCI JUBILO

<b>THE THIRD READING</b>	<b>Luke 2:1-7</b>	Elder Faith Wambugu
<b>THE CAROL 25</b>	<b>Away in a Manger</b>	MUELLER
<b>THE FOURTH READING</b>	<b>Luke 2:8-16</b>	Elder, Jacob Thompson
<b>THE CAROL 31</b>	<b>Hark! the Herald Angels Sing</b>	MENDELSSOHN
<b>THE HOMILY</b>	<b>What Child is This?</b>	Rev. Dan Hutchinson
<b>THE OFFERTORY</b>	<b>O Holy Night</b>	arr. Mark Hayes

*Jeffrey Metcalf, soloist*

O holy night! The stars are brightly shining, it is the night of the dear Savior's birth. Long lay the world in sin and error pining, till He appeared, and the soul felt its worth. A thrill of hope, the weary world rejoices, for yonder breaks a new and glorious morn. Fall on your knees! O hear the angel voices! O night divine, O night when Christ was born. Truly He taught us to love one another; His law is love and His Gospel is peace. Chains shall He break, for the slave is our brother, and in His name all oppression shall cease. Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we, let all within us praise His holy name. Christ is the Lord; then ever praise we, His power and glory evermore proclaim.

## **THE CELEBRATION OF COMMUNION**

Invitation to the Lord's Table  
Prayer of Consecration  
Words of Institution  
Sharing the Bread and the Cup

## **THE CAROLS DURING COMMUNION**

### **O Little Town of Bethlehem**

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie! Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by. Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light; the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary; and, gathered all above, while mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wond'ring love. O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth, and praises sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.

O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray; cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today. We hear the Christmas angels, the great glad tidings tell; O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!

### **It Came Upon the Midnight Clear**

It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old, from angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold! "Peace on the earth, good will to men, from heaven's all-gracious King!": the world in solemn stillness lay, to hear the angels sing!

### **Infant Holy, Infant Lowly**

Infant holy, infant lowly, for His bed a cattle stall; oxen lowing, little knowing Christ the babe is Lord of all. Swift are winging angels singing, Noels ringing, tidings bringing: Christ the babe is Lord of all!

**Born in the Night, Mary's Child**

**Born in the night, Mary's Child, a long way from your home; coming in need, Mary's Child, born in a borrowed room.**

**Hope of the world, Mary's Child, You're coming soon to reign; King of the earth, Mary's Child, walk in our streets again.**

**THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND THE LORD'S PRAYER****THE CANDLE LIGHTING**

*In Him was Life, and His Life was the Light of all. The Light shines in the darkness and the darkness has never overcome it. John 1:4-5*

**THE CAROL****Silent Night**

STILLE NACHT

*(Please lift your candle on the final stanza)*

**Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright, 'round yon virgin mother and child! Holy infant, so tender and mild, sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.**

**Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight, glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing: "Alleluia; Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born."**

**Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light radiant beams from Thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.**

*(Please extinguish candles and bring them to the receptacles at the doors of the Sanctuary following worship.)*

**THE BENEDICTION**◆ **THE POSTLUDE****In Dulci Jubilo**

J. S. Bach

◆ *Please stand*

**Welcome to the First Church community!**

Merry Christmas! We are so glad to welcome you on this holy day; your presence adds to our joy.

If you do not have a home congregation, we warmly invite you to worship with us. We are a Presbyterian Church that is Evangelical in nature, meaning we take seriously the good news that life is found in Jesus Christ alone, and that this life is on offer to the whole world! We also place ourselves in the historic Reformed tradition, and we seek to be faithful to the Lord of the Church and the apostolic tradition that we have received.

Consider worshipping with us each Sunday morning. You will find service times below. Come and lift up your heart and your voice each week with God's people.

For nursing mothers and parents of infants and small children, the family bathroom and Patterson Lounge are available as spaces to use during worship. Please follow the signs outside of the North Sanctuary doors.

Below, you will also find ways to cultivate faith and friendships, as well as places to serve the common good in Jesus' name. We are glad that you are here, and we pray every blessing upon you and those precious to you.

### Sunday Morning Worship

- 8:00 a.m. Kerr Chapel (traditional worship and weekly communion)
- 8:30 a.m. Stephenson Hall (contemporary worship and weekly communion)
- 11:00 a.m. Sanctuary (Traditional worship with choir)
- 11:00 a.m. Stephenson Hall (contemporary worship and weekly communion)
- 11:00 a.m. Great Hall, Bernsen Center (Tulsa International Fellowship and monthly communion).

### Our 11:00 Sanctuary Service:

Broadcast, Cox Channel 3, live at 11:00 a.m.,  
 Rebroadcast, 5:00 and 10:00 p.m.  
 Streamed on Facebook, Youtube, *FirstChurchTulsa.org/YouTube*,  
 and the FPC Website: *www.firstchurchtulsa.org*

### Growing Your Faith!

#### Adult Discipleship

- Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. (14 classes available.)
- Weekday Bible studies.
- KGroups – Home-based fellowship groups.
- Wednesday Night Downtown – Full programming for all ages.
  - Optional Dinner 5:15 p.m., Stephenson Hall for all
  - 6:00 p.m. AWANA Clubs for children through grade 4
  - 6:00 p.m. Middle School (Pathfinders), High School (Exodus)
  - 6:15 p.m. Adult Classes
- Pastors' Studies
  - Rev. Dan Hutchinson, Sundays, 9:30 a.m.
  - Rev. Wambugu Gachungi, Wednesdays 6:15 p.m.
- Quarterly spiritual retreats and other opportunities for prayer and spiritual formation

**Tulsa International Fellowship** – Join with others from across the world for a time of worship and fellowship each Sunday at 11:00 a.m. in the Great Hall, Bernsen Center.

**Young Adults** – First Church is committed to providing a place for Young Adults to connect with one another and with the larger church. Find us on Instagram at *@fpcyoungadults* or contact Rev. Julia Metcalf at *jmetcalf@firstchurchtulsa.org*.

**Newcomer Gathering** - Join us for coffee, bagels, and fellowship on Sunday, January 18- Explore what it means to become a member of First Church and learn about our family of faith! Ask questions, learn about First Church, and get to know other newcomers and members.

**Presbyterian Women** – Monthly fellowship and Bible study meetings.

### Serving the Master!

**Helping Hand Ministry** – Helping to prevent evictions and keep the utilities on, Helping Hand Ministry provides funds to those in need of a hand up. Come and see the good being done any Monday or Tuesday from 9-noon.

**Guild of Intercessors** – Intercessory prayer group that believes prayer is powerful and life-changing.

**Faith Partners** – A ministry offering compassion, resources, education and hope for those affected by addiction.

**Deacons** – Join the Deacons in serving those in need – the sick, the isolated and lonely, to any who may be overwhelmed or distressed – both within and beyond this community of faith.

**Hope is Alive** – Join the deacons in one of eight annual visits with the residents of Hope is Alive community. Come witness God's power, quietly forging radical life transformation in those suffering from addiction.

**Global Mission Trips** – Serve Christ in the world through mission partnerships around the world.

**Works of HeART** – Weekly art class for clients at the Day Center for the Homeless.

**Masterwork Academy For Faith and Fine Arts** – come encourage K-5<sup>th</sup> graders daily after school as they grow in the disciplines of music, visual art, ballet, theater, fitness and Bible study.

**Marion Anderson Elementary School** – There is always a way to be a blessing at Anderson, our partner in education school: be a weekly lunch buddy, help in the classroom, read to a student, or serve at a community night.

**Children's Ministries** – Serve with us in the church's Nursery, Preschool, or Elementary ministries by teaching, planning, or rocking babies.

**Telecare** – Help us keep in touch with homebound members and those who need encouragement.

### **Music Ministries!**

First Church strives to glorify God across the broad spectrum of musical language. From children's, youth choirs, and bells to the adult Chancel Choir, Contemporary Worship Team, and TIF band, plus Rejoice Ringers, Overtones handbell choirs, and Gloria women's choir, there is a place for you to use your musical gifts at First Church.

### **Next Generation Ministries! (Cradle to College)**

**Children's Ministries** - We are committed to coming alongside families as they raise their children in the faith of Jesus Christ. We focus on Spiritual Education, Worship, Service, and Fellowship by offering Sunday morning programming, Awana, VBS, and special events throughout the year.

**FPC Youth** - A community of Middle School (5<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup>) and High School (9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup>) students who seek to grow in their relationship with Christ; encouraging one another in the day-to-day and living as the Church here and now.

**UKirk College Ministries** – Designed to reach, teach, and love college-aged students throughout Tulsa so they may be life-long followers of Jesus Christ. Find us on Instagram at [@ukirktulsa](#) or contact Rev. Julia Metcalf at [jmetcalf@firstchurchtulsa.org](mailto:jmetcalf@firstchurchtulsa.org).

*For more information on any of the above, please contact the church office at 918-584-4701 or [www.firstchurchtulsa.org](http://www.firstchurchtulsa.org).*

First Presbyterian Church of Tulsa links

Website: [FirstChurchTulsa.org](http://FirstChurchTulsa.org)

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

Facebook: @FirstChurchTulsa

Instagram: @FirstChurchTulsa

LinkedIn: @FirstChurchTulsa

Twitter/X: @1stChurchTulsa

Linktr.ee/FirstChurchTulsa



**THE FIRST CHURCH PASTORS AND ORGANIST**

Daniel Hutchinson, *Interim Senior Pastor*, James Estes, *Associate Pastor*  
Rev. Julia Metcalf, *Associate Pastor* Wambugu Gachungi, *Associate Pastor*  
Ron Pearson, *Organist and Music Director*