



**Christmas Eve
December 24, 2025
5 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

God goes to the very lowest and poorest place, to the manger, to make clear to us that God is present where we least expect. Dietrich Bonhoeffer

In this showing, all was joyful: our Lord God showed that He is everything that is good, comforting, and lovable. Julian of Norwich

THE WELCOME AND OPENING PRAYER

Rev. Julia Metcalf

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 PROCESSIONAL HYMN 49 Once in Royal David's City

IRBY

Gloria Shelton, soloist

(Congregation joins on Stanzas 2-4)

THE LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

Charlotte Foon and Molly McCracken

THE FIRST LESSON AND CALL TO WORSHIP Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined.

For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore.

The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Let us stand together and let us worship God!

◆ THE PROCESSIONAL CAROL 41 O Come, All Ye Faithful

ADESTE FIDELIS

THE SECOND LESSON

Luke 1:26-35, 38

Athena John-Bowman

Gabriel: Teddy Austin, Mary: Allie Olson

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, 'Greetings favored one! The Lord is with you.' But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to

him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.' 'How can this be, since I am a virgin?' 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God.' 'Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.'

THE CAROL 44**O Little Town of Bethlehem**

ST. LOUIS

THE THIRD LESSON**Luke 2:1, 3-5**

Polly Harrington

Innkeeper: Samuel Doverspike, Joseph: Colin McCracken, Donkey: Kai Kumar

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child.

THE ANTHEM**Follow Joseph, Weary Little Donkey**

Joanna Mills

Angels: Joy Baird, Aurora John-Bowman, Gwen Crowe, Molly Dollahon, Samantha Garrett, Edmund Hutchinson, Joanna Kirunda, Nyla Kisitu, Carol Matson, Magnolia Perceful, Asher Persson, Henry Seibert, Olivia Seibert, Olivia Vaughan, and Makena Waita

Joseph led his weary little donkey, all the way to Bethlehem. On his donkey rode the Virgin Mary, on their way to find an inn! *Follow Joseph, weary little donkey; follow him to Bethlehem! Follow Joseph, weary little donkey, all the way to Bethlehem!* To the inn he led his little donkey, but there was not any room! Carry on, oh weary little donkey, baby will be coming soon! *Refrain.* Joseph led that weary little donkey to a stable warm and dry. Soon that brave and weary little donkey heard the newborn King's first cry! *Refrain.*

THE FOURTH LESSON**Luke 2:6-7**

Helen Harrington

While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped Him in bands of cloth, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

THE CAROL 25**Away in a Manger**

MUELLER

*Teddy Austin, soloist**(Congregation joins on verse 3)***THE FIFTH LESSON****Luke 2:8-16**

Ephraim Garrett

*Shepherds: Brekken Crowe, Luke McCracken, Marli McMann, Liam Odingo, Luke Olson, and Randall Trotzuk
Sheep: Bennett Curtis, Montgomery Dimond, Caroline Gleason, Elsie Kisitu, Elle Kumar, Leon Odingo, Maren Perceful, Rosie Porter, Georgia Seibert, Saylor Seibert, Elizabeth Trotzuk, Penny Vaughan*

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see-- I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.' And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!' When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.' So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.

THE CAROL 23**Angels We Have Heard on High**

GLORIA

THE SIXTH LESSON**Matthew 2:1-2, 9-11**

Polly Harrington

*Wise Men: Hank Foon, Emma Persson, and Cora Seibert**Camels: Mary Nell Foon, Georgia Matson, Leilani Odingo, and Samwel Usigbe*

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, 'Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising. We have come to pay him homage.' ...they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was.

When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

THE CAROL 66**We Three Kings**

THREE KINGS OF ORIENT

(Verses 1 and 5)

Stars: Charles Crane, Rosalie Dimond, Elanor Hutchinson, Rosewyn Hutchinson, Jonathan Kirunda, Jack McAfee, Kadzo Tsuma, and Samuel Waita

THE BLESSING OF THE YOUNG DISCIPLES

Rev. Julia Metcalf

THE OFFERTORY**Jesus, Joy of the Highest Heaven**

Keith and Kristyn Getty

Jesus, joy of the highest heaven, born as a little baby under a wondrous star. Like us, crying he takes His first breath, held by His mother helpless close to her beating heart. Jesus laid in a lowly manger, facing a world of dangers; come to turn me, a stranger, into a child of God. Jesus, King of the highest heaven, learning to take His first steps that He might bring us life. Like us, knowing our smiles and sorrows, He showed the way to follow, a way that is true and right. Jesus, take away every darkness, steady my simple footsteps that I might, in Your goodness, live as a child of God.

THE SEVENTH LESSON**John 1:1-5**

Rev. Julia Metcalf

In the beginning was the Word,

And the word was with God, and the Word was God.

He was in the beginning.

All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being.

What has come into being in him as life,

And the life was the light of all people.

The light shines in the darkness,

and the darkness did not overcome it.

THE SHARING OF THE LIGHT**THE ANTHEM****Peace, Peace**

Rick and Sylvia Powell

Bell Ringers: Brady Barnhart and Erin Barnhart, Molly Dollahon and Jenni Dollahon

Youth Choir: Samson Denby, Judah DeSpain, James Doverspike, Helen Harrington, Althena John-Bowman, Justice McIntosh, Gabriella Mungai, Caleb Shelton, Gloria Shelton, Mikey Shelton and Hawa Waita

Peace, peace, peace on earth and goodwill to all. This is a time for joy, this is a time for love. Now let us all sing together of peace, peace, peace on earth.

THE CAROL 60**Silent Night**

STILLE NACHT

THE BENEDICTION**John 1:10-14**

Rev. Julia Metcalf

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

◆ **THE CAROL 40****Joy to the World**

ANTIOCH

THE POSTLUDE**In Dulci Jubilo**

J. S. Bach

◆ Please stand

Nativity Leadership Team

Children's Directors: Gretchen Bashforth, Sarah Savage & Carol Tipton

Children's Choir Assistants: Chloe Price & Susan Reid

Youth Directors: Breana McIntosh & Hannah Johnson

Organ/Piano: Ron Pearson

Guitar: Eric Baird

Sound Technician: Mike Vickery

Video Technician: Alex Pennell

CCLI License #1445558 and CCS PERFORMmusic License #PML11227
 CCLI Streaming License #CSPL066665 and CCS WORSHIPcast License #WCL11227

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 programing 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](https://www.instagram.com/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. 2025 partner visits include a journey to Ireland and India as well as hosting a delegation from Kenya in the Fall.

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-5th 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 (5th - 8th) and High School (9th - 12th) 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.

For more information on any of the above, please contact the church office at 918-584-4701 or www.firstchurchtulsa.org.

First Presbyterian Church of Tulsa links

Website: FirstChurchTulsa.org

YouTube: [FirstChurchTulsa.org/YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/FirstChurchTulsa)

Facebook: [@FirstChurchTulsa](https://www.facebook.com/FirstChurchTulsa)

Instagram: [@FirstChurchTulsa](https://www.instagram.com/FirstChurchTulsa)

LinkedIn: [@FirstChurchTulsa](https://www.linkedin.com/company/first-church-of-tulsa/)

Twitter/X: [@1stChurchTulsa](https://twitter.com/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*