



# ***The People of God in Worship***

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

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**DECEMBER 6, 2020  
8:30 AM  
STEPHENSON HALL**

*First Presbyterian Church of Tulsa  
Born by grace in 1885*

# Second Sunday of Advent

8:30 a.m. Stephenson Hall

## The Words of Preparation

Eternal God, through long generations you prepared a way for the coming of your Son, and by your Spirit you still bring light to illumine our paths. Renew us in faith and hope that we may welcome Christ to rule our thoughts and claim our love, as Lord of lords and King of kings, to whom be glory always. Amen.

*Book of Common Worship*

## The Prelude

Joy Made Full

*May His joy be in us, may our joy be full, so love one another as Jesus loves all. No longer called servants, now He calls us friend, so love one another from now 'til the end.*

Abide in Him and He in us; we are made clean in His name. Abide in Him, His word in us; disciples who carry the flame. "Go and bear much fruit in me. Go to a world that's in need." *Refrain*

Holy Spirit, show us Jesus, come fill our hearts; make us new. Abide in Him and He in us, there's nothing He cannot do. "Go and bear much fruit in me. Go to a world that's in need." *Refrain*

"Go and bear much fruit in me. Go to a world that's in need."  
*Refrain*

## The Welcome

## The Lighting of the Advent Candle (2) Peace

*Eric and Lydia Olson; Allie and Luke*

They shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore. (Isa. 2:4)

**Even so, come Lord Jesus!**

The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. (Isa. 11:6)

**Even so, come Lord Jesus!**

The King of kings has come and he is coming again to rule with peace and justice.

**Even so, come Lord Jesus!**

Therefore let us stand in honor, open wide the gates of our hearts,

**And let us worship God!**

## **The Songs of Praise**      O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear.

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

O come, Thou Rod of Jesse, free thine own from Satan's tyranny. From depths of Hell Thy people save and give them victory o'er the grave.

*Refrain.*

O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by thine advent here: disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight. *Refrain.*

O come, Desire of nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind; bid envy, strife, and quarrels cease; and fill the world with heaven's peace. *Refrain.*

### Advent Prayer

The world is heavy laden with the burdens of the fall. It is sick and it is dying; Oh, Lord, be our all in all. Come Lord Jesus, come. Come Lord Jesus, come.

All the rules You set are broken by our fleshly appetites. Our desires and misplaced longings, need your life revealed by light. Come Lord Jesus, come. Come Lord Jesus, come.

*Come to our hearts, Lord, and come to our homes; come be our life and make us Your own. Come be our Father and be our best friend. Come be the dawn, bring the light to all men. Come Lord Jesus, come. Come Lord Jesus, come.*

In the shadow of the valley, in the fire and lions' den, Lord, You've heard your people crying; we join our prayer with them. Come Lord Jesus, come. Come Lord Jesus, come. *Refrain*

### **The First Reading** 2 Samuel 7:8-16

### **The Prayer of Confession**

Almighty and most gracious God, you are the King of kings, and the Lord of lords. Your throne is established, and Your kingdom is advancing. Yet, we confess that all too often, we reject your reign. We refuse to submit to your Kingship, thinking that we know what is best for our own lives, and we attempt to order our lives rather than allowing them to be ordered according to your Word and will. Lord, we confess our brokenness, sin, and rebellion, and we thank You for Your great grace that meets us

right where we are in the person and the work of Christ. We ask that you would come once again into our lives and take your rightful place as King. Root out sin and make us whole. Renew us and restore us as we place our trust in you...*(in silence)*

### **The Response**                      God With Us

Oh, You've come to bring peace, to be Love, to be nearer to us.  
You've come to bring life, to be Light, to shine brighter in us.  
Oh, Emmanuel, God with us.

*Our Deliverer, You are Savior, in Your presence we find our strength. Over everything, our Redemption, God with us.  
You are God with us.*

Oh, You've come to be Hope to this world for Your honor and name. And You've come to take sin, to bear shame, and to conquer the grave. Oh, Emmanuel, God with us. *Refrain*

You are here. You are holy. We are standing in Your glory.  
*Refrain*

### **The Assurance of Pardon**

Friends, hear and believe the good news of the gospel. In Jesus Christ, there is indeed forgiveness for all those who call upon Him!

**Alleluia! 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 Second Reading** Luke 1:26-38

**The Sermon**                      The Impossibility of Advent                      Rev. Dan Hutchinson

*“And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus...For nothing will be impossible with God.” Luke 1:31 &37*

## **The Invitation to the Table**

**Words of Institution**

**Prayer of Blessing**

**Sharing of the Bread and Cup**

## **The Sharing of Joys and Concerns**

## **The Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord’s Prayer**

**The Closing Song**                      Rescuer!

There is good news for the captive; good news for the shamed. There is good news for the one who walked away. There is good news for the doubter, the one religion failed, for the good Lord has come to seek and save.

*He's our Rescuer. He's our Rescuer. We are free from sin forevermore. Oh, how sweet the sound. Oh, how grace abounds. We will praise the Lord our Rescuer.*

He is beauty for the blind man; riches for the poor. He is friendship for the one the world ignores. He is pasture for the weary; rest for those who strive. Oh, the good Lord is the way the truth the life. Yes, the good Lord is the way the truth the life. *Refrain*

So come and be chainless; come and be fearless; come to the foot of Calvary. There is redemption for every affliction, here at the foot of Calvary. So come and be chainless; come and be fearless; come to the foot of Calvary. There is redemption for every affliction, here at the foot of Calvary. *Refrain*

## **The Charge and Benediction**

### **Worship Notes**

**The flowers for today's worship service in the Sanctuary** were given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Heather Davis and our parents George and Armenta Davis and Earl and Ruby Enkey by Jerry and Patricia Hall and family.

**You may give your weekly tithe and offering to the Lord** electronically at [www.firstchurchtulsa.org](http://www.firstchurchtulsa.org) or text 405-276-4141.

**For those who need assistance** in the Sanctuary or Stephenson Hall, audio headsets are available from the ushers. Also available are large-print hymnals and Bibles.

**To notify the church of a birth, death, illness, hospitalization,** change of address/phone number in your family or to request a pastoral visit at home or in the hospital, please contact Kathy Wilson at 918-301-1029 or [kwilson@firstchurchtulsa.org](mailto:kwilson@firstchurchtulsa.org).

Dear First Church families and friends,

We're all aware of the increasing transmission of this COVID virus. And we all want to do whatever we can to diminish the risk for those who gather here.

As we make our way into our Christmas celebrations the First Church Session has enacted a "mask-always" protocol for events here at First Church, including worship.

It will be a great day when we can lift these protocols --but for now we ask you to abide by these expectations-- that we hope and pray will serve the common good.

## **First Church Update**

**Our annual congregational meeting** has been called by the Session and set for Sunday, December 13, 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.

**We're grateful for a congregation that continues to give generously** in ways that further the ministries of Christ. In this stewardship season each of us is urged to ponder our blessings and to make our commitment to the Lord's work in 2021.

**"Let the little children come to me!"** During this season when many are not able to serve, would you be willing to wrap the arms of Jesus around these little ones –perhaps once a month? Please contact Courtaney Miller at 918-301-1009 or [cmiller@firstchurchtulsa.org](mailto:cmiller@firstchurchtulsa.org).

**Vespers Evening Worship** – Tonight we will meet at 5:00 p.m. in the courtyard, at the church. (Notice location has changed.)

**10:10 Pastor's Message** live on *Facebook.com/FirstChurchTulsa* every Tuesday and Thursday.



**Jammies for Jesus:** Wednesday, December 9, 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. in Stephenson Hall and the Courtyard. Wear your “Jammies for Jesus” and enjoy this event that (for this year only) replaces the Ceilidh. We will be serving “breakfast for dinner” at 5:30 p.m. From 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. we’ll hear the Christmas story, and light and decorate the tree in the courtyard. Reserve your spot online at [firstchurchtulsa.org/JammiesforJesus](http://firstchurchtulsa.org/JammiesforJesus).

**Vespers – Carols Sing Along:** Join us for Vespers at 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 20, for a chance to sing your favorite Christmas carols. We will gather in the Courtyard for worship and carols such as Hark! The Herald Angels Sing, O Come, All Ye Faithful and Away in A Manger.

**Celebrating Christmas** is a Deacon Ministry which serves every child at Emerson Elementary (FPC’s Partner in Education). Members have the opportunity to select a child at Emerson for adoption (Pre-K through 5th grade). For \$50 the student will receive a warm hoodie jacket with Emerson logo, reusable face mask, socks, a children’s Bible, book, school supplies, and a game. Our celebration will look a little different this year but our goal to shine the light and love of Christ is the same. Sign up to sponsor a child at the table in the Atrium or online at [firstchurchtulsa.org](http://firstchurchtulsa.org).

**FPC University Ministries:** (Follow us at [@ukirktulsa](https://twitter.com/ukirktulsa) for updates)  
“**Gather**” is fellowship and worship for 18-24 year-olds, whether University students or not. We meet every Tuesday from 6:30-8:00 p.m. in the Miller Library.

“**Grow**” is Sunday School for 18-24 year-olds, whether University students or not. We meet every Sunday after worship from 12:15-1:30 in the Miller Library. Join us this week for a lesson from TU economics professor Eric Olson on “Probabilities, Faith, and Science.”

**UKirk and Exodus Alumni Modified Christmas Party**, Tuesday, December 15, 2020, 6:30-8:30pm, Miller Library, First Church

**Exodus Alumni Lunch**, Sunday, December 20, 2020, 12:15-2:00pm, First Presbyterian Church, Kirkland Reception Room, Bernsen Center

**Presbyterian Women's** mission for December is Emergency Infant Services, we will be collecting funds to purchase food, diapers and formula. Also, gently used clean clothing, blankets, socks, coats, sweaters and of course toys will be greatly appreciated. The container will be in the atrium.

**Faith Partners Addiction Ministry** is available for confidential conversation and support during these difficult days. If you or a loved one are struggling with the effects of addiction we are here for you. We have either walked in your shoes or have specialized training. Please don't hesitate to call a confidential team member at 918-407-4623, the staff liaison, Patricia Hall at 918-301-1028 or the church at 918-584-4701.

**First Church is a praying community!** You'll find a prayer request card in the sanctuary pew or the Friendship Register. Place it in the offering plate at the doors of the sanctuary, or in the prayer request box at the *Welcome Center* in the Miller Atrium. Pastors and members of the Guild of Intercessors will uphold your concerns in prayer.

**Serve the Master and love on His children!** The Masterwork Academy welcomes you! Perhaps you can give an hour, perhaps a day. Leaders are needed from noon-5:30 p.m., Monday-Friday. If you'd like to know more about how you can be a part of this beautiful ministry, email [Kelly Brown](mailto:KellyBrown@masterworkacademy.org) at [kbrown@masterworkacademy.org](mailto:kbrown@masterworkacademy.org) or call 918-370-0207.

## **PARISH REGISTER**

**Prayers for Healing:** Jane Azlin, Billy Boyd, Roy Cail, Joan Hastings Camp, Dwight Creveling, Marilyn Davis, Donna Droege, Fred Droege, Allan Edwards, Wandie and Mary Fitzpatrick, Pat Ford, Donna Gilliam, Cynthia Hill-Meriwether, Meg Hubler, Harvey Hunt, Larry Don Johnson, Maggie Jones, Joyce Kunkel, Annelle Lanford, Amy Lesh, Dottie and Walt MacMillan, Laurence Mansur, Bob Matthews, Jo Matthews, Jan Miller, Pamela Neumann, Penny Steinkuehler-Perkins, David Perkins, Don Perry, Sue Phelps, Rosemary Priest, Janie Quint, Stephen Riungu, Carly Rivers, Zach Rivers, Mary Ruddle, Susan Shults, Robert Shaw, Helen Marie Sisler, Cissy Ssettimba, Calvin Swindell, Ben Thomas, Bill Weinrich, and Jack Williams.

**With Gratitude for the Resurrection:** Jim Lewis, a member since 1948, died on November 28.

**Sympathy and Prayers to:** Mary Putnam on the death of her brother, Robert Putnam, on November 24.

## **COME, GROW YOUR FAITH!**

***Adult Sunday Morning Classes for NEXT Sunday, meeting at 9:30***

Faith and Family	204
Sojourners (All Ages)	E204
The Vine ( <i>Singles/couples</i> )	E100
Young Adults ( <i>20's and 30's</i> )	E201
Pastor's Class	Stephenson Hall

### **EVENTS THIS WEEK**

#### **Today 12/6/20**

##### **Worship and Events**

8:30 a.m. Stephenson Hall

11:00 a.m. Sanctuary and Great Hall

5:00 p.m. Vespers Evening Worship – Courtyard

#### **Monday 12/7/20**

Little Lambs 10:00 a.m., Outdoor Playground

Guy's Monday Bible Study 11:45 a.m., Room E103

#### **Tuesday 12/8/20**

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

#### **Wednesday 12/9/20**

Downtown Theological

Roundtable 11:00 a.m., Miller Library

Pastor's Study 11:30 a.m., Stephenson Hall

Jammies for Jesus 5:30 p.m., Stephenson Hall

Gloria Choir Rehearsal 6:00 p.m., Choir Room

Ensemble Choir Rehearsal 7:00 p.m., Choir Room

#### **Thursday 12/10/20**

PW Soup and Esther Circle meeting 11:30 a.m., E104

#### **Saturday 12/12/20**

Before the Rooster Crows 8:45 a.m., Room E103

Please help us with contact tracing and attendance by filling out the information below and leaving the program on the pew as you leave.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Member \_\_\_\_\_ or Guest \_\_\_\_\_

**Seating Location: (Please circle where you are sitting.)**

**Front Left - Front Center - Front Right**

**Back Left - Back Center - Back Right**

**Left Balcony - Center Balcony - Right Balcony**

or

going to the link: [bit.ly/fpcregister](https://bit.ly/fpcregister);

or

using the QR code below.



*December 6, 2020, Stephenson Hall*

## **THE FIRST CHURCH PASTORS**

James D. Miller, Ph.D., *Pastor*

Daniel Hutchinson, M.Div., Associate *Pastor*

James Estes, M.Div., Associate *Pastor*

Wambugu Gachungi, M.Div., Associate *Pastor*



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