



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

---

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

---

**JANUARY 10, 2021  
8:30 AM  
STEPHENSON HALL**

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

# ***Baptism of the Lord***

*8:30 a.m. in Stephenson Hall*

## **The Words of Preparation**

John [the Baptizer] must have been aware that by offering his baptism to *Israel* he was being profoundly subversive. Prior to John, Israel baptized only Gentile proselytes who joined the people of God; *outsiders* were seen as the unclean --needing washing. But John asserts that *all insiders*, too, the people and even the leaders themselves, need this baptism, with its promise of a complete change of behavior...

Dale Bruner

## **Prelude**

## **The Welcome**

## **The Prayers for Our Nation**

## **The Call to Worship**

I looked and there in heaven a door stood open! Those gathered around the throne sang day and night without ceasing:  
**“Holy, holy, holy, the Lord God, the Almighty, who was and is and is to come!”**

Others were casting their crowns before the throne, singing:  
**“You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power!”**

Still others were singing with full voice:  
**“Worthy is the Lamb that was slain! Worthy is He —to receive power and wealth, wisdom and might, honor, glory and blessing! (Revelation 4)**

All hail the power of Jesus’ name! Let us stand in honor and let us worship God!

## **The Song of Praise** All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

All hail the power of Jesus' Name! Let angels prostrate fall;  
bring forth the royal diadem, and crown Him Lord of all!  
Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown Him Lord of all!

Ye chosen seed of Israel's race, ye ransomed from the fall,  
hail Him who saves you by His grace, and crown Him Lord of all!  
Hail Him who saves you by His grace, and crown Him Lord of all!

Let every kindred, every tribe, on this terrestrial ball, to Him all  
majesty ascribe, and crown Him Lord of all! To Him all majesty  
ascribe, and crown Him Lord of all!

O that with yonder sacred throng we at His feet may fall!  
We'll join the everlasting song, and crown Him Lord of all!  
We'll join the everlasting song, and crown Him Lord of all!

## **The Prayer of Adoration**

Rev. James Estes

## **The First Reading** Hosea 6:1-6

## **The Prayer of Confession**

Almighty God, we gather here amid the hurts and wounds of our lives. The chaos that sin causes is everywhere evident —and to whom else shall we turn? You alone have the power to bind up and heal, to reconcile and restore. Cause us to open our hearts, welcome your grace, and embrace you in love. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayers ...*(in silence)*

## O Come to the Altar

Are you hurting and broken within, overwhelmed by the weight of your sin? Jesus is calling. Have you come to the end of yourself? Do you thirst for a drink from the well? Jesus is calling.

*O come to the altar, the Father's arms are open wide. Forgiveness was bought with the precious blood of Jesus Christ.*

Leave behind your regrets and mistakes; come today, there's no reason to wait. Jesus is calling. Bring your sorrows and trade them for joy; from the ashes a new life is born. Jesus is calling.

*O come to the altar, the Father's arms are open wide. Forgiveness was bought with the precious blood of Jesus Christ.*

O what a Savior! Isn't He wonderful? Sing alleluia, Christ is risen! Bow down before Him for He is Lord of all. Sing alleluia, Christ is risen! Bear your cross as you wait for the crown; tell the world of the treasure you've found!

*O come to the altar, the Father's arms are open wide. Forgiveness was bought with the precious blood of Jesus Christ.*

## The Invitation

Friends, embrace this good news with all of your hearts: in Jesus Christ there is the blessing of forgiveness —for all who call upon Him! **Alleluia! Amen!**

## The Response

### 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*

◆ **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 New Testament Reading** Matthew 3:13-4:1

**The Homily**

The Mystery of Grace and Trial

Dr. Jim Miller

*At Jesus' baptism, "a voice from heaven said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved...'"*

*And the Spirit led Jesus into the wilderness to be tempted by the Devil.*

*Matthew 3:17; 4:1*

## **The Invitation to the Table**

**Words of Institution**

**Prayer of Blessing**

**Sharing of the Bread and Cup**

**The Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer**

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

## **The Prayers of the People**

### **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***

**We're glad to welcome you** to worship! Currently, there are three live services each Sunday:

**8:30 a.m.** – Contemporary Worship – Stephenson Hall

**11:00 a.m.** – Traditional Worship – Sanctuary

Also broadcast on [Livestream.com](https://www.livestream.com/FirstChurchTulsa), our [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/FirstChurchTulsa) page, and at 11:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. on Cox Channel 3.

[Livestream.com/FirstChurchTulsa](https://www.livestream.com/FirstChurchTulsa)

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

**11:00 a.m.** – Tulsa International Fellowship Worship - Great Hall

(See above for Livestream and Facebook links.)

**The flowers in today's Sanctuary worship** are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Jack and June Cease given by Terry and Cindy DeVore.

**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](https://www.firstchurchtulsa.org) or text 405-276-4141.

**For those who need assistance** in the Sanctuary, audio headsets are available from the ushers.

**Please notify the church if there** is a pastoral need, change of address/phone number or other important family news. Contact Kathy Wilson at 918-301-1029 or [kwilson@firstchurchtulsa.org](mailto:kwilson@firstchurchtulsa.org).

## **First Church Update**

**A blessed 2021 to each and to all!** What joy there is in knowing that every event and all circumstances of the new year are completely under the sovereign and redemptive rule of the Lord Jesus! Welcome to the First Church community!

**The Session** is preparing the 2021 budget. Thank you for returning your “estimate-of-giving” cards, which will enable the Session to do its best work.

**Resolution: Read the Bible through in 2021! Pick up a “Through the Bible”** brochure today at the Miller Atrium reception desk --or join a plan with friends online. Check out the online *Bible App’s* canonical reading plan. Contact Shannon Bair for more information.

**Good news!** The Session has unanimously extended a call to the Rev. Wally Johnson to serve as a Parish Associate, a full-time pastoral position, on the FPC staff. Wally and his wife, Joyce, come to us from the Northminster Presbyterian Church in Sarasota, FL. He previously served with distinction at the First Presbyterian Church in Sapulpa. He will begin his ministry here on March 1.

**“Let the little children come to me!”** During this season when many are not able to serve in children’s Sunday school or the nursery at 9:30 a.m. and the 11:00 a.m., would you be willing to wrap the arms of Jesus around these little ones – perhaps once a month? Please contact Courtney Miller at 918-301-1009 or [cmiller@firstchurchtulsa.org](mailto:cmiller@firstchurchtulsa.org).

**Pastor’s Study today at 9.30 (led by Dr. Miller)** focuses on C. S. Lewis’ *Weight of Glory*. He will conclude the study this Wednesday at 11.30 and 6.15 p.m.

**Next Sunday, Professor Jerry McCoy**, physicist at the University of Tulsa, kicks off a seven week series on *Faith and Physics at 9.30 in the Stephenson Hall*. This very popular offering will be available on video through the FPC website, and will be shown on Wednesdays at 11:30 and 6:15 p.m.

**FPC University Ministries:** (Follow us at [@ukirtulsa](https://twitter.com/ukirtulsa) for updates)

“**Grow**” resumes this Sunday.

“**Gather**” does not meet this Tuesday.

**Considering First Church as your spiritual home?** We’d love to welcome you to our “no-strings-attached” Inquirers Class. We’ll meet in room E104,

Sundays, January 17, 24, 31 and February 7, at 9:15 a.m. For more information please contact Patricia Hall at 918 301-1028 or [phall@firstchurchtulsa.org](mailto:phall@firstchurchtulsa.org).

**The January Series**, 15-day lecture series from Calvin College continues this week. The Series is completely virtual this year. Each presentation is available through January 26, from 11:30 to 12:30. You can find the link at <https://calvin.edu/january-series/>.

### **Wednesday Night Downtown!**

Wednesdays: 5:15 p.m. dinner and 6:15 p.m. classes  
For a complete listing, visit [FirstChurchTulsa.org/WNDT](http://FirstChurchTulsa.org/WNDT).  
Please make reservations and pay for dinner online.

#### **This week:**

**AWANA!** One of the great ways of wrapping Jesus' arms around our children.

**Seekers with Rev. Wambugu, E103:** an in-depth study of the Gospel of John.

**C.S. Lewis' famous *Weight of Glory* sermon.** Led by Dr. Jim Miller, E104.

**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.

**Pray-ers Ministry** - Did you know that someone has been praying for you throughout the year? The Pray-ers Ministry is a group of 70-plus First Church members who engage in daily prayer for our members. Every year, each Pray-er is assigned seven individuals and/or families to pray for by name daily for the period of one year. If you would like to join this quiet ministry, please email Hannah Elliott, [helliott@firstchurchtulsa.org](mailto:helliott@firstchurchtulsa.org) or call 918-301-1019.

**GOD HAS PREPARED A GOOD WORK FOR YOU!** Masterwork Academy needs your heart and hands to champion budding artists in this after school ministry. No artistic skill is necessary, and any amount of service is welcome. Beginning Monday, January 25, we need champions from Monday - Friday between 3:15 and 5:15 p.m. Join us in the work of cultivating in children a love for Jesus through mastery in the arts. Email [CREATE@MASTERWORKACADEMY.ORG](mailto:CREATE@MASTERWORKACADEMY.ORG) or call/text 918-370-0207 to sign up.

**Executive Director of Operations** – Would you like to serve Christ in this way? This position provides oversight and leadership amid all of the operations of the Church. Key areas include management and maintenance of Church facilities and grounds, oversight of human resources and benefits, accounting, information technology and food services. Requirements include: a Bachelor's degree in business or equivalent, work experience in related fields, strong communication skills, problem solving and analytical skills and commitment of Christian faith. If you are interested, email your resume to Tonye Briscoe at [tbriscoe@firstchurchtulsa.org](mailto:tbriscoe@firstchurchtulsa.org).

**Presbyterian Women's January Mission Project** will be collecting items for Emerson School to help re-stock teachers' supplies. Check the Atrium receptacle for suggestions.

**Friday Food Distribution** - consider joining us as we partner with First Baptist Church North Tulsa in sharing food with needy families of North Tulsa. For more information, contact Allison Biggs: [allisonobiggs@gmail.com](mailto:allisonobiggs@gmail.com).

## **PARISH REGISTER**

**Prayers for Healing:** Challa Ashlock, Jane Azlin, MaryAnn Blackburn, Billy Boyd, Roy Cail, Joan Hastings Camp, Dwight Creveling, Marilyn Davis, Donna Droege, Allan Edwards, Wandie and Mary Fitzpatrick, Pat Ford, Donna Gilliam, Sherye Halliburton, Cynthia Hill-Meriwether, Meg Hubler, Harvey Hunt, Maggie Jones, Joyce Kunkel, Annelle Lanford, Amy Lesh, 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, Bill Weinrich, and Jack Williams.

**With Gratitude for the Resurrection:** Carolyn McCright, a member since 1975, died on January 3.

**Sympathy and Prayers to:** Allison Langholtz on the death of her father; Rebecca Smith on the death of her mother; and Kevin Baker on the death of his father.

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.

It will be a great day when we can lift these protocols --but for now

## 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

### EVENTS THIS WEEK

**Today** 1/10/21

**Worship and Events**

8:30 a.m. Stephenson Hall

11:00 a.m. **Sanctuary and Great Hall**

**Monday** 1/11/21

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

**Tuesday** 1/12/21

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

**Wednesday** 1/13/21

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

Ensemble Choir Rehearsal 6:15 p.m., Choir Room

**Wednesday Night Downtown**

WNDD Dinner 5:15 p.m., Stephenson Hall

**Awana, POW, Life Groups and Confirmation** 6:00 p.m.

Adult Classes 6:15 p.m.

**Saturday** 1/16/21

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.



*January 10, 2021, Stephenson Hall*



709 SOUTH BOSTON AVENUE  
TULSA, OKLAHOMA 74119-1609  
918.584.4701 • [WWW.FIRSTCHURCHTULSA.ORG](http://WWW.FIRSTCHURCHTULSA.ORG)