



***O Lord,
How Shall I Meet You?***

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

March 5, 2023
Kerr Chapel, 8:00 AM

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

Second Sunday of Lent

Kerr Chapel, 8:00 a.m.

The Words of Preparation

Next to the Word of God, music deserves the highest praise...
The gift of language combined with the gift of song was given
to us that we should proclaim the Word of God through
music. Martin Luther

Let the Spirit fill your life! When you meet together, sing
psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs, *as you praise the Lord*
with all your heart. Eph. 5:18-19. CEV

The Welcome

Dr. Miller

The Introit

God So Loved the World

John Stainer

Abrianna DeLeon, soloist

God so loved the world, that He gave his only Begotten
son, that whoso believeth in Him should not perish but
have everlasting life. For God sent not His Son into the
world to condemn the world, but that the world through
Him might be saved. John 3:16-17

The Call to Worship

God gave His only begotten Son! We have more than ample
reason to lift our hearts, join our voices, and sing our
praise. Come, Christians, join to sing!
Alleluia! Amen!

◆ **The Hymn** 150 Come, Christians, Join to Sing MADRID

◆ **The Prayer of Adoration** Elder Jessica John-Bowman

The First Reading Hosea 6:1-3

The Prayer of Confession

The Rev. Julia Metcalf

Lord, we are so much like ancient Israel. We are easily distracted, prone to wander, prone to leave the Lord we love. Give us a heart that yearns to return to you. Grant us a mind that yearns to know you more fully. Grant us a love that yearns to serve your purposes, for Jesus' sake. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayers...*(in silence)*

◆ **The Assurance of Pardon**

Friends, hear and believe the good news of the gospel: God did not send his son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved. In Christ Jesus, there is forgiveness --for all who call upon His name. **Alleluia, Amen!**

◆ **The Response of Gratitude**

O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be! Let thy goodness, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to Thee; prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love; here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for thy courts above.

◆ **Affirmation of Faith** The Apostles' Creed (contemporary)

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 Spirit, 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 sits on the

right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there He shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. AMEN.

The Sermon Nicodemus' Story (John 3:1-17)

*There was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus,
a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus at night...* John 3:1

The Invitation to the Lord's Table

The Words of Institution
The Prayer of Consecration
The Sharing of the Elements

The Joys and Concerns of the Church

The All-Church Retreat: March 24-25

Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Prayers of the People

◆ **The Hymn** God of the Ages NATIONAL HYMN

God of the ages, whose almighty hand leads forth in
beauty all the starry band of shining worlds in splendor
through the skies, our grateful songs before thy throne
arise.

Your love divine has led us in the past; in this free land
with You our lot is cast; be now our Ruler, Guardian,
Guide, and Stay; Your Word our law, Your paths our
chosen way.

Refresh your people on their toilsome way; lead us from night to never-ending day; fill all our lives with love and grace divine, and glory, laud, and praise be ever thine.

◆ **The Charge and Benediction**

◆ **The Postlude**

First Church Updates

A heartfelt welcome today to the Oral Roberts University Chorale, under the direction of Dr. Tony Dehner, Director of Choral Studies and Associate Professor. We're grateful for your contribution to our worship this morning!

Our Letter of Encouragement is directed to: Mr. Porter Shults
—on the death of his wife, Susan.

It's time to sign up for the All-Church Retreat! Friday and Saturday, March 24-25, 2023, at New Life Ranch: Frontier Cove. We welcome our keynote speaker, Dr. Wes Vander Lugt—and each member of his family. Reserve your place. Sign up at the table in the Atrium or contact Laura Stevens at 918-301-1019.

This Week

Stay Close to the Master: Wednesday nights during Lent, 6:15 – 7:30 p.m. Join us in Stephenson Hall, for a time of worship followed by discussion around the tables. Dr. John Ortberg, who will preach here on the Sunday after Easter, offers a ten-minute video devotional, followed by questions and conversations at the tables.

Presbyterian Women’s Mission Luncheon – this Thursday, March 9 at noon in the Miller Library. Speakers are Dr. Horton and Marcia Graham, directors of the Coffee Bunker. They will describe the work they do with the veterans in this area. Lunch is \$10. Please make your reservations to Kathy Wilson at 918-301-1029 by March 6.

Mark Your Calendar

Join us this Spring at “Seasons”, a space for women in all seasons of life to connect with one another and be transformed by the Word and presence of God. Meet us in Stephenson Hall from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. on Monday, March 13.

Our Annual Congregational meeting is set for Sunday, March 19, at 9:30 a.m. in Stephenson Hall. Dr. Miller offers his “State of First Church” message, a number of reports will be shared, and the “Year-in-Pictures” will be viewed.

Easter Lilies – On Easter Sunday, bright white trumpet lilies adorn our worship spaces! If you’d like to honor a loved-one by providing a lily --click the link below or go to www.firstchurchtulsa.org/EasterLily23 by March 20.



Ongoing Ministry Opportunities

Young Adults – First Church is committed to cultivating faith within the next generation, providing a place for young adults to connect with one another and with the larger church. Find us on Facebook, Instagram at *@fpcyoungadults*, or contact Dan Hutchinson at 918-301-1040.

Internship Opportunity– Are you a college student who loves the Lord Jesus and enjoys working with youth? Next Generation Ministries is now receiving applications for its summer youth ministry internship program. For more information, contact Steve Wilson at swilson@firstchurchtulsa.org.

Presbyterian Women’s February Mission project benefits the *Presbyterian Disaster Assistance*. You’re invited to bring hand- towels, wide-tooth combs, nail clippers, bath-sized individually wrapped bars of soap, new toothbrushes, and band-aids. Look for their mission box in the atrium.

Opportunities to Serve the Master

Children’s Ministry opportunities – Share Jesus’ love with the youngest members of our congregation!

Two Second Grade Sunday School Classroom Assistants - Once a month assist the lead Sunday school teacher in the classroom. 9:45 - 10:45 a.m.

Two Awana Substitute Leaders - Wednesday evenings, 6:00 -7:30 p.m. Serve as a group leader on an as-needed basis, moving children to activity stations and helping with scripture memory.

Infant/Nursery/Preschool: Sundays, 9:30 - 10:45 a.m.

- 1) Baby-rockers in the infant room.
- 2) Sunday School Assistant - Help the Lead teacher with lesson, craft and general playtime.

For more information or to volunteer, please contact Sarah Savage at ssavage@firstchurchtulsa.org/918-301-1011.

Chancel Choir: Add your voice to the Chancel Choir!

Rehearsal: Wednesdays, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. Contact Ron Pearson at rpearson@firstchurchtulsa.org/918-301-1013 or Gretchen Bashforth at gbashforth@firstchurchtulsa.org/918-301-1012.

Memorial Service Greeting Ministry: Serve as a greeter for memorial services, with approximately a one-hour commitment. Contact Kathy Wilson at kwilson@firstchurchtulsa.org/918-301-1029.

Assist in printing weekly bulletins: Thursday afternoons for 3 – 4 hours each week. If interested, contact Dionna Schooley: dschooley@firstchurchtulsa.org or 918-301-1015.

Masterwork Academy - We're not looking for skill, we're looking for heart! If yours beats with the love of Christ and you have one weekday afternoon from 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. to spare, contact Jenette McEntire at jmcentire@masterworkacademy.org.

Seeking writers and photographers - Serve in our communications area as a writer or photographer. We publish a quarterly magazine and semi-monthly newsletter; we're seeking people who'd love to tell or illustrate FPC stories. Contact Louann Buhlinger at lbuhlinger@firstchurchtulsa.org/918-740-7055.

Do you enjoy the gift of hospitality? Join a team who assists with all kinds of hospitality opportunities! Contact Patricia Hall at phall@firstchurchtulsa.org/918-3001-1028.

Check out the two new choirs for children and youth! Registration is now open: the *First Church Choristers* children's choir (for grades K-4), and the *Celebration Singers*

youth choir (for grades 5-12). Rehearsals, Sunday mornings from 9:00 - 9:30 a.m. For more information and to register contact Gretchen Bashforth at gbashforth@firstchurchtulsa.org or 918-301-1012 or scan the code below.

First Church Choristers



Celebration Singers



Parish Register

Prayers for Healing: Jane Azlin, Linda Barnett, Beth Campbell, Dwight Creveling, Marilyn Davis, Donna Droege, Cecil Drummond, David Dunning, Mary Ann Elliott, Gaye Graeler, Cynthia Hill-Meriwether, Linda Hopkins, Mike Hopkins, Elaine Horkey, Meg Hubler, Warren Hubler, Jeannie Dickey Kelsay, Joyce Kunkel, Carmelitti LeFlore, Amy Lesh, Ann McKellar, Jan Miller, David Morgan, David Osterholt, Shari Postier, Rosemary Priest, Carly Rivers, Zach Rivers, Mary Ruddle, Robert Shaw, Bill Smith, Jane Sneed, Cissy Ssettimba, Sally Stewart, Cat Thompson, Mike Tidwell, Susan Waldie, and Carolyn Wilcott.

With Gratitude for the Resurrection: Susan Shults, a member since 2001, died on March 1.

Sympathy and Prayers to: John McCormack on the death of his sister, Nancy Young, on February 25; and to Jerry Hall on the death of his brother, Calvin Wayne Hall.

Worship Notes

The flowers in today's Sanctuary worship are given to the glory of God and in memory of Allan J. and Vivienne Couper Edwards and in honor of their youngest grandchild, Ema.

Services are broadcast and 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*.

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*.

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.

THIS WEEK

TODAY 3/5

- 8:00 am Worship, Kerr Chapel
- 8:30 am Worship, Stephenson Hall
- 9:30 am Gatherings and Classes
- 11:00 am Worship, Sanctuary, Stephenson Hall and Great Hall

Monday 3/6

- 11:30 am Monday School, Kirkland Library
- 11:45 am Guy's Monday Bible Study, E103

Tuesday 3/7

- 9:30 am Precepts, E100

Wednesday 3/8

- 11:30 am Pastor's Study, E104
- 11:30 am Downtown Theological Roundtable, 204
- 12:00 pm Pathways to Hope, 206
- 5:15 pm Wednesday Night Dinner, Stephenson Hall
- 6:00 pm Awana, Children's Area, POW, Amass Exodus, Powerhouse
- 6:15 pm Lenten Study, Stephenson Hall
- 6:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room

Saturday 3/11

- 8:45 am Before the Rooster Crows, E103

Adult Classes, 9:30 a.m.

Cornerstone	Minor Prophets	E102
Covenanters	Renovated: God, Dallas, & the Church That Transforms	E101
Faith and Family	Neuroscience: The Impact of Technology on Our Kids: "Faith"	Prayer Room
Forum	All the Places to Go	E200
Harbingers	The Me I Want to Be	E202
Morning Glory	Mastering Your Emotions	B318
New Parents	Theology and Parenting	E205
Pastor's Study 1	Faith and Physics	Stephenson Hall
Pastor's Study 2	New Testament Overview	E104
Reflections	Judges	E103
Shepherds	Old Testament Connections/Fulfillment	E203
Sojourners	Karl Barth Dogmatics	E204
UKirk	New Testament Overview	E104
The Vine	The Life You've Always Wanted	E100
Westminster	The Book of Easter	Tower Room
Young Adults	New Testament Overview	E104