First Church TULSA
1885



Christ the King
November 22, 2026
8 a.m. worship, Kerr Chapel

First Presbyterian Church of Tulsa

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

The Generosity of God

The Words of Preparation

Dispel the myth of my possessions, lest they taint that better hope of Heaven.
Douglas Kaine McKelvey

THE WELCOME 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 INTROIT **Thanks Be To God** Stanley Dickson
Emily Willard, soloist

Thanks be to God for roses rare, for skies of blue and sunshine fair, for every gift I raise a prayer, thanks be to God! Thanks be to God for lovely night, for mystic fields with stars so bright, for hours of dream and deep delight, thanks be to God! Thanks be to God for love divine, the hopes that round my heart entwine; for all the joy that now is mine, thanks be to God!

◆ **THE CALL TO WORSHIP** **Adapted from Psalm 104**

Bless the Lord, O my soul! O Lord our God, You are very great.
You clothe Yourself with light and stretch out the heavens.
You water the earth, making grass grow and bringing forth food from the soil.
The earth is full of Your creatures; in wisdom You have made them all.
All look to You for food in due season.
You open your hand, and we are filled with good things.
Let us sing to the Lord as long as we live!
With grateful hearts, we praise the Giver of every good gift.

◆ **THE OPENING HYMN 33** **How Great Thou Art** O STORE GUD

◆ **THE PRAYER OF ADORATION** Elder Ginny Drummond

THE FIRST READING **Exodus 16:16-18**

THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, in Jesus Christ You reveal a King who humbles Himself and serves. His is a kingdom shaped by love. Yet we confess that we often live as though everything depends on us. We hold tightly to our resources, insist on our own ways, and struggle to share responsibility. We wear ourselves out and overlook the gifts You have entrusted to others. Forgive our pride and fear. Free us from the need to control, and teach us to receive help with gratitude. Make us faithful stewards of our time, talents, and treasure, that together we may serve our neighbors and bear witness to Christ our King…*(in silence)*

THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON **Colossians 1:13–14**

"He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins." Friends, hear and believe the good news: in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Freed by His grace, let us offer our lives in service to Christ our King. **Thanks be to God! Amen.**

◆ **THE RESPONSE OF GRATITUDE** **The Doxology**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below; praise Him above, you heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. 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 SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

THE PRAYERS OF THE PE0PLE

THE OFFERTORY **665** **Come, Ye Thankful People, Come** ST. GEORGE'S

◆ **THE SECOND READING** **2 Corinthians 8:1-15**

THE SERMON **The Grace That Makes Us Generous** Rev. J. Cameron Beaty

THE LITURGY BEFORE GIVING I **(Every Moment Holy v. 1)**

In truth, I have nothing but You, O Christ, nothing that I might call my own. So let that good confession now compel a better stewardship. First teach me to treasure You, Jesus, above all things. Then let that increasing devotion be increasingly demonstrated in a joyful generosity—for to give is to live out the declaration that You alone are my provision and supply. I need not fear what comes tomorrow. When I give to meet the needs of others, when I give to the work of those who serve the poor, the sick, the oppressed, when I give to the service of your Body and your Kingdom, I give not what is mine, but only what is already Yours. With every charitable act I am simply practicing the fact that nothing which passes through my hands has ever belonged to me. You are my generous master. Make me Your faithful trustee, teaching me to live as a wiser conduit of this liberal grace, learning to hold loosely the things of this world, never hoarding that which is Yours, ever seeking the man preservation of my own comforts. Rather let me love well in my giving, even as You, O Father, have loved me so well by giving me all things in Christ. Let me make each offering without thought of temporal gain. Let me give precisely because I have believed Your promises are true—and let my giving be the proof. If You are my shepherd, then I am freed to live generously, knowing I will never want for any needful thing—knowing that any seeming deprivation is but the work of Your Spriit warning me from a world of things and winning me to greater dependence upon

Christ my King. So why should I grasp at that which I cannot keep. This body will sleep in death and what I now hold so briefly will pass into the keeping of another. I won nothing here. I have no claim. Dispel the myth of my possessions, lest they taint that better hope of Heaven. Rather let me learn, while I draw breath, to live with open hands and joy-filled heart, investing Your resources in Your good works. Let me plant these mortal seeds in expectation of immortal harvests. Amen.

THE INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Words of Institution
Prayer of Blessing
Sharing of the Bread and Cup

♦ **THE PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Bless now, O Lord, these gifts and their benefits,
that they might be received as evidence of Your mercies and multiplied in effectiveness for Your kingdom.
Through this and other acts of giving, train our hearts toward a greater generosity, that the habits of our stewardship might be ever more pleasing to You, and ever more expressive of Your own holy heart and passions.
All that I have is Yours, Lord Christ. All that I have is You.
Use then these small gifts for works of love and mercy,
and unto the increase of Your glory. Amen.
Now we join together the prayer that Jesus taught us to prayer, saying...

♦ **THE CLOSING HYMN** 664 **Now Thank We All Our God** NUN DANKET

♦ **THE CHARGE AND THE BENEDICTION**

THE POSTLUDE **Improvisation on the tune** NUN DANKET

♦ *Please stand*

Greetings in Christ!

We are glad to welcome you to worship! We are a community that seeks to lift high the name of Jesus and to serve the common good. If you are here for the first time, we pray that you will sense Christ's presence and the warmth of this congregation.

If this is your first time worshiping with us, please come to the Miller Library after the 11:00 a.m. worship service for First Connections. You will be welcomed by our staff and receive a gift. For more information, fill out a *Get Connected* Card or contact Emma Myatt at 918-857-5652 or *emyatt@firstchurchtulsa.org.*

PARISH REGISTER

Prayers for Healing: Lisa Angleton, Nifemi Aruna, Steve Brill, Dick Campbell, Gary Casteel, Randy Corelli, Teresa Corelli, Judy Doyle, Larry Doyle, Daphne Faries, John Favell, Debi Foster, Janice Garbart, Gaye Graeler, Rita Graeler, Esther Harper, Cynthia Hill-Meriwether, Brenda Johnson, Don Johnson, Amy Lesh, Margaret Martinson, Ann McKellar, Jon Mercer, Lea Mungai, David Osterholt, Carolyn Perryman, Dennis Powon, June Shults, Bob Shipman, Alex Smith, Andrea Smith, Jane Sneed, Kinnee Tilly, Marcia Tromp, Gretchen Wagner, Susan Waldie, Janetta Williamson, and Rhonda Wilson.

With Gratitude for the Resurrection: Helen Quiring, a member since March 2017, died on November 11. Case Boshuizen, a member since December 1956, died on November 16. Jane Azlin, a member since January 1995, died on November 17.

Sympathy and Prayers to: Lisa Berry on the death of her mother, Doris Spencer, on November 17.

WORSHIP NOTES

Services are broadcast on Cox channel 3 (each Sunday) at 11:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m., and 10:00 p.m., on the FPC Facebook page, or *FirstChurchTulsa.org/YouTube*.

For those who need hearing assistance in the Sanctuary or Stephenson Hall, audio headsets are available from the ushers. Large-print Bibles are also available.

Our *Letters of Blessing* today go to Dick Campbell and Marianne Boshuizen and Tom Quiring.

Now Thank We All Our God! The symbols of blessing on the Lord's Table today are given to the glory of God and in grateful memory of Richard Halliburton, and Mary Ellen and Walter Esser, by Sherye Halliburton and family.

The flowers that adorn the Sanctuary today are given to the glory of God and in memory of Edith and Jim Favell; and Carrie and Tex Bayouth, by Debbie and John Favell.

Please notify the church of any pastoral need, a change of address, phone number, or other important family news. Contact Grace Masaku at *gmasaku@firstchurchtulsa.org* or 918-301-1029.

Thank you for your faithful support: Weekly tithes and offerings to the Lord may be given electronically at *firstchurchtulsa.org*, by texting 405-276-4141, or using the QR code.

Words for today's music are covered by CCLI License #1445558 and CCS PERFORMmusic License #PML11227

FIRST CHURCH UPDATES

Need a Pastoral Visit? If you or someone you know is in the hospital or needs a pastoral visit, please contact Grace Masaku at *gmasaku@firstchurchtulsa.org* or 918-301-1029. We no longer receive information from hospitals, so we rely on you to let us know.

Do you or a loved one need prayer? Complete the card in the pew and put it in the offering plate or the box at the Welcome Center in the Atrium. The Guild of Intercessors prays for individuals each day, trusting that God hears and responds. You may also contact Grace Masaku in the pastoral care office at *gmasaku@firstchurchtulsa.org* or 918-301-1029.

First Friends in the Pews: As a church, we are called to show hospitality. You may be someone's very first Friend in the Pew. Please be attentive and welcoming to those around you, as we all seek to be "First Friends in the Pews." Share your stories of joyful hospitality with Jerry McCoy at *jerome-mccoy@utulsa.edu.*

Congregational Calls: The Session has approved an effort for elders, deacons, and staff members to call every member of FPC in the coming weeks. The purpose of these calls is to ask how the church can better support members' life in Christ. General responses from these calls will be reported back to Session to ensure that the church is meeting the needs of our members. Confidential requests will be forwarded to the appropriate people.

Follow Your Treasure; Find Your Heart – Stewardship 2027

***For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.* Matthew 6:21**

Called to make fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ – inwardly strong and outwardly focused. This is the mission of First Church.

Our 2026 budget was $4,721,385 for our 1,500-member church. That is $3,148 per member. Investment and rental income equal $1,100 per member, making the net expense $2,055 per member. In 2026, a generous and faithful 37% of members pledged. Our goal for 2027 is to increase pledges by at least 10% through new pledges. A $100,000 matching gift is available for any new pledges for 2027.

If pledging isn't part of your spiritual journey, now is the perfect time to join this group of faithful givers, follow your treasure, and find your heart!

HAPPENING TODAY

Young Adults Friendsgiving: Join the Young Adults group for food and fellowship on Sunday, November 22 at 6:00 p.m. at the home of Greg and Rachel Berkhouse. Please bring a side dish, dessert or drink to share. For more information scan the QR code.

Book Table Sale: Visit the book table in the atrium today to choose from an array of titles on sale.

New Hymnals: You will notice that our new *Sing!* hymnals are now in use. You may dedicate these new hymnals in honor or memory of a loved one for $20 per copy. Monetary gifts supporting the hymnal replacement project may also be given without a dedication. To support the hymnal project, scan this QR code and fill out the dedication form online.

EVENTS THIS WEEK

Thanksgiving Day Worship Service: First Church members and friends who find themselves without family nearby during the holidays are invited to the 11:00 a.m. Thanksgiving Day worship service in the Chapel. A Thanksgiving meal will follow after the service, hosted by the Deacons, in Stephenson Hall. There is no cost, **but an RSVP is needed** to allow the kitchen to plan for the meal. To register, please use the QR code or you may contact Grace Masaku at 918-301-1029/*gmasaku@firstchurchtulsa.org*.
The registration deadline is Monday, November 23.

Wednesday Night Downtown: There will be no Wednesday Night Downtown this week. Have a happy Thanksgiving!

Lunch with C. S. Lewis: Join us on Mondays November 30, December 7 and 14 at 11:45 a.m. in Stephenson Hall. Rev. Cameron Beaty will lead a discussion on The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe by C. S. Lewis. Please rsvp by clicking on the QR code.

Presbyterian Women Groups: Esther Circle meets on the third Thursday at 10:30 a.m. in room 202; the Priscilla Circle meets on the first Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. in room 206; the Soup Group meets on the third Thursday of the month at noon in the Miller Library; the Project Day group meets on the first and last Thursday of the month at 9:00 a.m. in room 405.

Sunday School Classes: We have a variety of classes offering in-depth Bible study, Christian history and doctrine, prayer, and fellowship on Sunday mornings. For more information, contact Elizabeth Massey at 918-301-1019 or *emassey@firstchurchtulsa.org*. Scan to view class descriptions.

Weekday Classes: If you are interested in a weekday class, please scan the QR code or contact Elizabeth Massey at *emassey@firstchurchtulsa.org/* 918-301-1019 for more information.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Women of First Church are invited to the annual Christmas Luncheon, hosted by the First Ladies Council on Sunday, December 6 at 12:30 p.m. in Stephenson Hall. Join us for food, Christmas music and fellowship. While there is no cost for this event, a reservation is needed. To register contact Grace Masaku at 918-301-1029/*gmasaku@firstchurchtulsa.org* or click the QR code.

Celebrating Christmas Together: The Deacons need volunteers to assist with the Anderson Elementary Christmas party on Friday, December 18 as we bring Christmas joy to the students (and ourselves). Please visit the Celebrating Christmas Together table in the atrium on Sundays, November 29, December 6 and 13. Join us on Friday, December 19, as we bring Christmas joy to Anderson Elementary.

USE YOUR TALENTS

Presbyterian Women's November Mission: PW are collecting funds to donate to the Coffee Bunker, a local non-profit organization dedicated to supporting veterans, active-duty members, National Guard Reservists and their families. Collected funds will be used to purchase holiday meals and to provide scholarships. Donations may be placed in the collection box located at the welcome desk in the Atrium on Sunday mornings during the month of November.

Sing with the Choir for Christmas: You are invited to add your voice to the Chancel Choir for the 4th Sunday of Advent, known as Christmas Music Sunday, on December 20 at 11:00 AM in the Sanctuary. You are also invited to sing with us for Christmas Eve worship at the 8:00 a.m. and 11:00 p.m. services. To prepare, it only requires that you attend our Wednesday night rehearsals on the following dates: December 2, 9, and 16. We meet from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. in the 3rd floor choir room. We have a robe that will fit you! Scan the QR code by Sunday, Nov. 29 to let us know you're coming!

Praying for the Unreached: The Mission Committee encourages our church family to pray for the spread of the gospel to the ends of the earth. Join us by praying for one unreached people group each day. Scan the QR code for daily prayer prompts for unreached people groups.

Come, Grow Your Faith!

TODAY 11/22

8:00 am	Worship: Kerr Chapel
8:45 am	Rejoice Ringers, 309
8:30 am	Worship: Stephenson Hall
9:15 am	First Church Choristers, 308
11:00 am	Worship: Sanctuary and Great Hall

Monday 11/23

12:00 pm	Men's Monday Bible Study, E103
7:00 pm	Overtones Rehearsal, 309

Tuesday 11/24

9:30 am	Precept Bible Study, E102

Thursday 11/26

11:00 am	Thanksgiving Day Worship Service, Kerr Chapel
12:00	Thanksgiving Luncheon, Stephenson Hall

Friday 11/27

Church Office will be closed.

Adult Sunday School Classes at 9:30 a.m., November 29

Cornerstone	*Philippians*	E102
Covenanters	*Daniel*	E101
Faith and Family	*Book of John*	206
Families w/Young Children	*Ephesians*	Tower Room
Foundations	*The Word of God Written*	E104
Harbingers	*Jesus the King*	E202
Morning Glory	*Rebuilding Foundations of Our Christian Living*	B318
Reflections	*Delighting in the Trinity*	E103
Shepherds	*Why the Reformation Still Matters*	E203
Sojourners	Advent Study	E204
Sowers	*Not Meeting*	E205
The Vine	*Jesus the King*	E100
Westminster Forum	*The Hidden Christmas*	E200
Young Couples	Advent Study	E201

The First Church Leaders

Cameron Beaty, M. Div., *Senior Pastor*
James Estes, M. Div., *Associate Pastor*
Wambugu Gachungi, M. Div., *Associate Pastor*
Julia Metcalf, M. Div., *Associate Pastor*
Ron Pearson, M.M., *Music Director and Organist*