



***God's Covenant  
Faithfulness:  
In Season and Out of  
Season***

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

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FEBRUARY 4, 2024  
8:00 AM  
KERR CHAPEL

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

# ***Fifth Sunday after Epiphany***

*8:00 a.m., Kerr Chapel*

## **The Words of Preparation**

Even though they murmured against Moses directly, they called God into question because Moses was God's representative on earth. What folly was this! The God who had delivered them from Egypt, parted the Red Sea, made the bitter waters sweet, and provided quail and manna had certainly proved His faithfulness. His word alone should have been sufficient. Yet the Israelites called His faithfulness into question. We learn from this how distrustful is the human heart. Despite the many ways God has cared for us, protected us, and delivered us, we still doubt Him. R. C. Sproul

## **The Welcome**

Rev. Julia Metcalf

*(Please sign, pass, and return the blue friendship register.)*

## ◆ **The Call to Worship**

You, God, are my God, earnestly I seek you;

**I thirst for you, my whole being longs for you, in a dry and parched land where there is no water.**

I have seen you in the sanctuary and beheld your power and your glory.

**Because your love is better than life, my lips will glorify you.**

I will praise you as long as I live, in your name I will lift up my hands.

**With singing lips my mouth will praise you.**

So let us stand together, **and let us worship God!**

## ◆ **The Opening Hymn** 142 All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!

CORONATION

## ◆ **The Prayer of Adoration**

Elder Laurel Baird

## **The First Reading**

Psalm 78:1-4; 9-17; 38-39

## **The Prayer of Confession**

Rev. James Estes

Lord, forgive us when, like our ancestors, we forget your faithfulness, your mighty deeds, and your love. Forgive us, that in spite of your mercy upon us, we keep on sinning. In spite of your wonders, we do not believe. We humbly confess our sin and our unbelief in thought, word, and deed.

We pray, that you would once again meet us in the wilderness and remind us that it is you who are our Rock, the God Most High, our Redeemer...*(in silence)*

## **The Assurance of Pardon**

Friends, hear and believe the good news of the Gospel, that Jesus Christ is our Rock and our Redeemer and through his great love, we are offered forgiveness and clothed in righteousness, now and forevermore.

**Alleluia! Amen!**

### ◆ **The Response of Gratitude**      The Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

### ◆ **The Affirmation of Faith**      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 People**

### **The Offering**

The Lord is My Light

Frances Allitsen

*Brad Morgan, soloist*

The Lord is my light and my salvation, whom, then, shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life, of whom then shall I be afraid? Though an host of men were laid against me, yet shall not my heart be afraid; and though there rose up war against me, yet will I put my trust in Him. For, in the time of trouble, He shall hide me in His

tabernacle, yea, in the secret places of His dwelling shall He hide me, and set me up upon a rock of stone.

*Psalm 27*

## **The Second Reading**

Exodus 17:1-7

## **The Sermon**

God's Provision

Rev. Julia Metcalf

*"I will stand there before you by the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it for the people to drink." So, Moses did this in the sight of the elders of Israel...*

Exodus 17:6

## **The Celebration of Communion**

The Words of Institution

The Prayer of Blessing

The Sharing of the Bread and Cup

The Lord's Prayer

## ◆ **The Closing Hymn**

Rock of Ages

TOPLADY

Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee; let the water and the blood, from thy wounded side which flowed, be of sin the double cure; save from wrath and make me pure.

Not the labors of my hands can fulfill thy law's demands; could my zeal no respite know, could my tears forever flow, all for sin could not atone; thou must save, and thou alone.

Nothing in my hand I bring, simply to the cross I cling; naked, come to thee for dress; helpless, look to thee for grace; foul, I to the fountain fly; wash me, Savior, or I die.

While I draw this fleeting breath, when mine eyes shall close in death, when I soar to worlds unknown, see thee on thy judgment throne, Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee.

## ◆ **The Charge and Benediction**

## **The Postlude**

Improvisation on the tune ELLACOMBE

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**Greetings in Christ!** We are so glad to have you worshipping with us this morning. 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 the presence of Christ and the warmth of this congregation.

If you do not have a church home, we would love to welcome you! Please contact Patricia Hall (918-301-1028 or [phall@firstchurchtulsa.org](mailto:phall@firstchurchtulsa.org)). For general information, you can follow the QR code.



### **Parish Register**

**Prayers for Healing:** Nifemi Aruna, Jane Azlin, Adelle Beathe, Joy Brewer, Steve Brill, Pat Brown, Roy Cail, Lara Elias-Campbell, Neil Cluck, Randy Corelli, Dwight Creveling, Marilyn Davis, Judah DeSpain, Donna Droege, Cecil Drummond, Gaye Graeler, Rita Graeler, Cynthia Hill-Meriwether, Elaine Horkey, Joyce Kunkel, Judith Land, Carmelitti LeFlore, Amy Lesh, Ann McKellar, Jon Mercer, Jan Miller, Jim Miller, Elsie Osterholt, Judy Pollard Doyle, Shari Postier, Lyle Proffitt, Helen Quiring, Carly Rivers, Mary Ruddle, Jo Carolyn Rushing, Cyndi Russell, Jane Sneed, Cissy Ssettimba, Bob Swofford, Larry Tromp, Marcia Tromp, Susan Waldie and Dayne Weierbach.

**Sympathy and Prayers to:** Tom Sherrill on the death of his daughter on 1/28.

### **Worship Notes**

**Services are broadcast** 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](http://FirstChurchTulsa.org/YouTube).

**Please notify the church** if you have 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).

**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.

**The flowers that adorn the Sanctuary today** are given to the glory of God and in honor of our siblings and families by Dwight and Jan Creveling.

**Our *Letters of Blessing* today go to** Beryl Bolo and Jane Sneed.

**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](http://firstchurchtulsa.org), text 405-276-4141 or by using the QR code below.



## **First Church Updates**

**The FPC Session has called a congregational meeting** for Sunday, February 18, at 12:15 p.m. in the Sanctuary. The purpose of the meeting will be to present a new officer for congregational vote.

**We are wrapping up Stewardship Season!** If you have not already, please turn in your pledge for 2024! Thank you for taking the local church seriously and giving of your very best to the Lord Jesus Christ. In this transition time, your support in prayer and giving is vital.

**Pastoral Prayer** – Join us as we pray for the pastoral transition. If you're interested in receiving a weekly prayer prompt, please text *@pastorfpc* to "81010".

**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 Rev. Julia Metcalf at 918-301-1030.

**Realm on-line Directory** – If you are not logged on to Realm and would like to make some or all of your contact information accessible to all members, please contact Kathy Wilson at [kwilson@firstchurchtulsa.org](mailto:kwilson@firstchurchtulsa.org) or 918-301-1029.

**Presbyterian Women's February mission** is Lindsey House, which provides transitional housing and programs for newly homeless mothers with children. PW will be collecting money to make Easter baskets for the children who live there. Please place gift in the donation box in the reception area on Sundays or mail your check to the church with PW Mission noted on the memo line.

**We're hiring** – are you gifted in reaching out to new people and helping them get connected within the life of the church? Do you feel comfortable shepherding others as they consider their faith journey and membership with First Church? FPC is accepting applications for Director of New Member Outreach. To learn more, contact Duff Points at 918-301-1018 or apply at *Employment Opportunities – First Church Tulsa*.

**Thanks to the congregation's generosity**, \$1,660 was raised for the Gift Back program and \$2,271 was raised from the Chili Cook-off. Thank you for your support with these ministries.

### **Events This Week**

**Parenting Brown Bag Book Discussion** – February 8, 25, March 7, 28, April 11, 25, and May 9 - Bring your lunch and discuss with other parents *Thrivers: The Surprising Reasons Why Some Kids Struggle and Others Shine* by Michele Borba. Learn the answers to questions such as: Is my child struggling or thriving? What is the difference between a “striver” and a “thriver” mindset? And many more. Led by Sarah Savage, Director of Children's Ministries in room E100 from 11:30 am. to 1:00 p.m.

## **Wednesday Night Downtown**

*Dinner at 5:15 p.m. in Stephenson Hall*

*Classes at 6:15 p.m.*

**Tolkien and the Christian Life:** Join Rev. Dan Hutchinson for an exploration into the biblical and theological themes that arise from the world and writings of J.R.R. Tolkien.

**How To Read the Bible (Hermeneutics):** John Shelton teaches an inductive methodology that emphasizes studying books of the Bible as wholes and context. Students will gain confidence to approach all genres of scripture and to see the plain meaning of the text; the class meets in room E100.

**From Surviving to Thriving In Your Relationship** – Join Rev. James Estes and Dr. Tom Philp in room E103 for a four-week exploration of four core characteristics of a thriving marriage.

**Seekers Bible Study** – Rev. Wambugu Gachungi leads an in-depth study of the Sunday morning sermon scriptures. Come and enjoy praying together, studying the Bible, and engaging in lively questions and discussions.

**Spiritual Retreat:** Led by Rev. Julia Metcalf on Saturday, February 10 in the Lodge at Camp Loughridge. Join a gathering of disciples for a quiet day to draw close to our Lord Jesus Christ and to fill your cup with the overflowing graces of our Lord by spending time in solitude and silence, Lectio Divina and imaginative prayer, along with reflection and conversation. The cost for this event is \$10 and includes breakfast and lunch. Click the QR code to register.





**Prayer in the Chapel** - Join together from 10:40-10:55 on the second Sunday of each month for prayer during this time of transition.

**Souper Bowl of Caring:** Next Sunday, February 11, First Church Youth Ministries ask each member of First Church to donate \$1 to help fight hunger and poverty in Tulsa. Our youth will be stationed at the exits after each worship service to collect your gifts. All donations will go to Helping Hand Ministry.

## Mark Your Calendar

**Mission Informational Meeting:** To learn more about our **summer mission trips**, join us for lunch next Sunday, February 11, following the 11:00 a.m. worship services. We will meet in room E104.

**Watercolor Through Lent:** Wednesdays February 14 – March 27, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. in the Tower Room. This creative art class will be led by Mary Lee Weaver and will use traceable images to create beautiful watercolor cards combined with biblical teachings based on the book *The Ignatian Workout for Lent* by Tim Muldoon. No previous art experience is needed. Cost is \$20 and includes all supplies. Click the QR code below to register.



**Ash Wednesday Service:** February 14, 6:30 – 7:30 in the Sanctuary. A family-friendly service where we receive the ashes and begin our journey through Lent with the words, “From dust you have come, and to dust you will return. Stay close to the master.”

**FPC Young Adults:** Make fast friends through our get-to-know you games and activities. Kids welcome; snacks included. Sunday, February 18, 5:00 – 7:00 p.m., Goose and Gander Offices, 1640 E. Third Street, Suite C. Please RSVP through the QR code below.



## COME, GROW YOUR FAITH!

### TODAY 2/4

- 8:00 am      Worship: Kerr Chapel
- 8:30 am      Worship: Stephenson Hall
- 11:00 am     Worship: Sanctuary, Stephenson, Great Hall

### Monday 2/5

- 10:00 am     Little Lambs, Wiseman Hall
- 12:00 pm     Men's Monday Bible Study, E103

### Tuesday 2/6

- 9:30 am      Precepts Bible Study, E100
- 7:00 am      Men's Bible Study, E313

### Wednesday 2/7

- 5:15 pm      Wednesday Night Dinner, Stephenson Hall
- 6:00 pm      Awana, POW, Amass Exodus
- 6:15 pm      Adult Classes

### Thursday 2/8

- 9:30 am      Hearts for the Lord Bible Study, E313

### Saturday 2/10

- 8:30 am      Before the Rooster Crows, E103
- 9:00 am      Spiritual Retreat, Camp Loughridge

### Adult Sunday School Classes for **NEXT Sunday, 2/11** at 9:30 a.m.

<i>Cornerstone</i>	<i>The Story</i>	E102
<i>Covenanters</i>	<i>Drive Thru History: Acts to Revelation</i>	E101
<i>Faith and Family</i>	<i>14 Talks by Age 14</i>	Prayer Room
<i>Forum</i>	<i>Who is This Man, John Ortberg</i>	E200
<i>Foundations</i>	<i>Romans</i>	E104
<i>Harbingers</i>	<i>The Reason for God, Timothy Keller</i>	E202
<i>Morning Glory</i>	Prayer and Fasting	B318
<i>Reflections</i>	Characteristics of Christian Love	E103
<i>Shepherds</i>	Study of the Apostles Creed	E203
<i>Sojourners</i>	<i>Soul Keeping, John Ortberg</i>	E204
<i>The Vine</i>	1 John 1, 2 and 3	E100
<i>Westminster</i>	<i>Who Is This Man, John Ortberg</i>	Tower Room
<i>Young Adults/Ukirk</i>	Discovery Bible Study	E201
<i>Young Parents</i>	Guest Speaker	E205