



The Gospel of Grace

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

APRIL 14, 2024
8:00 AM
KERR CHAPEL

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

The Third Sunday of Easter

8:00 a.m., Kerr Chapel

The Words of Preparation

The reason why Paul wrote this letter, and the reason we have it, is because the Galatians had “changed positions” on a crucial subject...this change was opting for a system in which grace was not crucial and in which Christ’s work was not sufficient. Paul states here that they were “deserting the one who called you” that is to say, their move was not just an intellectual one. Rather, it was desertion of God as made known in Christ; it was abandoning of their personal relationship with God.

Scot McKnight, *The NIV Application Commentary: Galatians*

The Welcome

Rev. Dan Hutchinson

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

The Call to Worship

Romans 5:6-11

For while we were still weak,

At the right time Christ died for the ungodly.

For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die—

But God shows His love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Since, therefore, we have now been justified by His blood, much more shall we be saved by Him from the wrath of God.

For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of His Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by His life.

More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, **Through whom we have now received reconciliation.**

So let us stand; proclaim our joy!

And let us worship God!

◆ **The Opening Hymn** 113 Christ the Lord is Risen Today

LLANFAIR

◆ **The Prayer of Adoration**

Elder Jerry Hall

The First Reading

Luke 9:18-27

The Prayer of Confession

Lord God Almighty, our Heavenly Father, we confess before You our sin and our shortcomings. We admit that we have loved the world and often live as if we were ashamed of the gospel of Jesus Christ. We are hesitant to lose our lives for Your sake, and we are slow to deny ourselves or to take up our crosses. Lord, we humbly repent and ask for forgiveness. By Your Spirit's power, cause us to love You fully and to seek You daily. Hear us now as we pray...*(in silence)*

The Assurance of Pardon

Friends, hear and believe the good news of the Gospel, that in Jesus Christ, there is indeed forgiveness for everyone who calls upon His name.

Alleluia! Amen!

◆ The Response of Gratitude To God Be The Glory

To God be the glory, great things He hath done! So loved He the world that He gave us His Son, who yielded His life an atonement for sin, and opened the life-gate that all may go in.

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear His voice! Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice! O come to the Father through Jesus the Son, and give Him the glory: great things He hath done!

O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood, to every believer the promise of God; the vilest offender who truly believes, that moment from Jesus a pardon receives. *Refrain.*

Great things He hath taught us, great things He hath done, and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son; but purer, and higher, and greater will be our wonder, our transport. when Jesus we see. *Refrain.*

◆ The Affirmation of Faith The Eastertide Affirmation

This is the good news which we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved—if we hold it fast: that Jesus died for our sins according

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 Emma Myatt (918-301-1028 or emyatt@firstchurchtulsa.org). For general information, you can follow the QR code.



Parish Register

Prayers for Healing: Jane Azlin, Adelle Beathe, Joy Brewer, Steve Brill, Pat Brown, Roy Cail, Neil Cluck, Randy Corelli, Dwight Creveling, Marilyn Davis, B. J. Dollahon, Judy Doyle, Donna Droege, Cecil Drummond, Gaye Graeler, Rita Graeler, Cynthia Hill-Meriwether, Elaine Horkey, Claudia King, Joyce Kunkel, Carmelitti LeFlore, Amy Lesh, Ann McKellar, Jon Mercer, Jan Miller, Jim Miller, Shari Postier, Lyle Proffitt, Helen Quiring, Carly Rivers, Mary Ruddle, Cyndi Russell, Jane Sneed, Larry Tromp, Marcia Tromp, Susan Waldie, and Dayne Weierbach.

The Joy of New Life! We Welcome: Alexander Langholtz Seibert, son of Lauren and Dylan Seibert, born on April 6.

The Sacrament of Baptism: Jonathan Blessing Nserko, son of Debbie and Eddie Nsereko, Abeni Njambi Murage, daughter of Nelson Kiragu and Ann Murage, and Amy Wangari Kanyeki, daughter of Alan Waita and Juddy Kanyeki, were baptized on April 7. Hazel Marie Ozueh, daughter of Solomon Ozueh and Roselyne Okoma, reaffirmed her baptism on April 7.

Sympathy and Prayers to: Paul Bradford on the death of his mother, Mary Frances Bradford, on March 3.

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*.

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*.

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 memory of David and Sally Cordell by Carol Cordell Mullins and David R. Cordell.

Our Letter of Blessing today goes to Patricia Hall.

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*, text 405-276-4141 or by using the QR code below.



First Church Updates

Pastoral Prayer: Join us as we pray for the pastoral transition. To receive 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.

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

Inquirers Class: Are you or someone you know interested in learning more about First Church? This class is perfect for meeting others, getting to know our pastors, and asking questions. Join us in the Miller Library today and the following Sundays, April 21, 28 and May 5 from 9:15 a.m. to 10:40 a.m. Sign up online now or for more information, contact Emma Myatt at 918-584-4701.

Patricia Hall Retirement Reception: Today at 12:15 in the Atrium we celebrate Patricia Hall's many years of dedicated service to this church as she enters the next chapter of her life in retirement.

Events This Week

Wednesday Night Downtown

6:15 p.m.

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.

Rupture and Repair: God's story in every human relationship: Join Rev. James R. Estes and Dr. Tom Philp for a four-week exploration of the ways we hurt and heal in the context of relationships. Each week will consider a Biblical narrative through the lens of rupture and repair while exploring the invitation to vulnerability, grace and truth in the context of everyday relationships. The class includes robustly validated relational insights, and weekly "relationship hacks" to help move any relationship from surviving to thriving.

The Enneagram, A Tool for Transformation led by certified Enneagram teacher, Liz Decker. **Registration is closed.**

Tolkien and the Christian Life, continued: What does Middle Earth have to do with Jesus? 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. No prior knowledge of Lord of the Rings is required.

How To Read the Bible (Hermeneutics), continued: Learning to study, understand, and embrace the Word of God is an essential adventure for every follower of Jesus Christ. 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. (Room E100)

Dr. Charles W. Kerr Display: Dr. Charles W. Kerr was a dynamic and passionate leader who served as pastor of First Church from 1900 to 1941. During his tenure, which featured explosive church growth, Dr. Kerr dedicated three church buildings, including the current Sanctuary. An exhibit of Dr. Kerr's personal ministry tools, curated by History and Archives, is on view now in the Miller Library.

Upcoming Events

Music Lovers! The world's greatest and most often performed choral masterwork, *Messiah*, by George Frideric Handel, was first performed in 1742 in Dublin, Ireland. It was an immediate success and it continues to inspire audiences around the world. You have an opportunity to hear selections from this oratorio next Sunday, April 21, at 5:00, presented by our own Chancel Choir, soloists, and orchestra. You'll hear the Easter message proclaimed in stirring music, including the immortal Hallelujah Chorus, and many other favorites. **Don't miss it!**

Presbyterian Women will be selling Mother's Day cards in the atrium next Sunday, April 21 and on April 28. These beautiful cards feature original artwork by one of the Masterwork Academy students. Individual cards are \$5.00 each and a pack of 5 notecards is \$10.00. Proceeds will go to DVIS (Domestic Violence Intervention Services).

Celebrate the First Church Foundation on Sunday, April 28. The Foundation Trustees want to thank all the foundation givers and inform and invite other members to join us in supporting every aspect of First Presbyterian Church. Following the 11:00 worship services there will be a reception in the Miller Library. Be sure to visit our table in the atrium for more information.

Camp Loughridge: Family Adventure Afternoon on Sunday, April 28 from 2:00 – 6:00 p.m. There will be a cookout, fishing, canoeing, archer, disc golf and a zip line (there is a fee for the zip line). Stop by the Camp Loughridge table in the atrium for more information on the adventure and Summer Day Camp.

Seasons Spring Fling: On Monday, May 13, from 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. in Stephenson Hall for fellowship, creativity, and scripture as local artist, Mary Lee Weaver leads us through a creative project and devotional. The cost is \$5 per person. You can RSVP by clicking the QR code below.



First Family Dinner: On May 19 from 12:15 p.m.-1:15 p.m. in the Courtyard. Join us for lunch to celebrate Pentecost. Meals are \$9 for adults, \$5 for children, with a \$22 max per family. You can prepay online by clicking the QR code below.



VBS 2024: Breaker Rock Beach: God’s Rock-Solid Truth in a World of Shifting Sands. June 10-14, 2024; 9:00 am-12:00 pm; Camp Loughridge. Scan QR code to register.



Mark Your Calendars with these events:

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| May 2 | National Day of Prayer Service |
| May 9 | Ascension Day Service |
| May 12 | Spring Musical: Children’s Choir |
| May 19 | Pentecost Sunday |

COME, GROW YOUR FAITH!

TODAY 4/14

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

Monday 4/15

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

Tuesday 4/16

- 9:30 am Precepts Bible Study, E100

Wednesday 4/17

- 5:15 pm Wednesday Night Dinner, Stephenson Hall
- 6:00 pm Awana, Children's Area, POW, Amass Exodus, Powerhouse
- 6:15 pm Adult Classes
- 6:30 pm Chancel Choir, Choir Room

Thursday 4/18

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

Saturday 4/20

- 8:30 am Before the Rooster Crows, E103

Adult Sunday School Classes 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>	Tower Room
<i>Forum</i>	<i>Study on Luke</i>	E200
<i>Foundations</i>	<i>1 Peter</i>	E104
<i>Harbingers</i>	<i>Gospel in Life, Timothy Keller</i>	E202
<i>Morning Glory</i>	<i>Prayer and Fasting</i>	B318
<i>Reflections</i>	<i>Characteristics of Christian Love</i>	E103
<i>Shepherds</i>	<i>Soul Keeping</i>	E203
<i>Sojourners</i>	<i>TBD</i>	E204
<i>The Vine</i>	<i>Simon Peter: Flawed but Faithful Disciple</i>	E100
<i>Westminster</i>	<i>Study on Luke</i>	E200
<i>Young Adults/UKirk</i>	<i>Discovery Bible Study</i>	E201
<i>Young Parents</i>	<i>Book Study: For Better or For Kids</i>	E205

The First Church Pastors

Daniel Hutchinson, M. Div., *Interim Senior Pastor*
 James Estes, M. Div., *Associate Pastor*
 Wambugu Gachungi, M. Div., *Associate Pastor*
 Julia Metcalf, M. Div., *Associate Pastor*