



# *Credible Witnesses on the Road to Pentecost*

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

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April 30, 2023  
Kerr Chapel, 8:00 AM

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

# ***Fourth Sunday of Eastertide***

*Kerr Chapel 8:00 a.m.*

## **The Words of Preparation**

Her announcement, 'I have seen the Lord,' is the same credential used by Paul to insist on his own authority as an apostle: 'Am I not an apostle? Have I not seen Jesus our Lord?' (1 Cor. 9:1). The church's belief in the resurrection originated with the evangelical witness of this woman.

Stephen J. Binz, *The Women of the Gospels*

What happened [to] the women on the first Easter Day Breaks open a daring horizon, inviting all hearts to discern. Mid the grieving and trauma of loss, the horror to stand at the foot of a Cross. A body we think was buried in haste, and a tomb that was empty but restless in taste. Empowering a strange group of women. [stanza 2]

Diarmuid Ó Murchú is an Irish poet, author, and member of the Sacred Heart Community.

## **The Welcome**

Rev. Julia Metcalf

## **The Call to Worship**

Christ, by your resurrection, you destroyed sin and death. You brought us from death to life.

**Guide us in the way of eternal life.**

By your resurrection, you proclaimed good news to the women and the apostles and brought salvation to the whole world.

**Direct our lives as your new creations.**

Christ, we look for you among the living for you are alive! And in your resurrection, the heavens and earth rejoice. **Alleluia!**

So, let us stand in honor. **And let us worship God!**

◆ **The Opening Hymn** 267 All Things Bright and Beautiful ROYAL OAK

## **The Prayer of Adoration**

Elder John Harper

**The Old Testament Reading** Isaiah 43:1-7

## **The Prayer of Confession**

Almighty God, in raising Jesus from the grave, you shattered the power of sin and death. We confess that we remain captive to doubt and fear, bound by the ways that lead to death. We overlook the poor and the hungry and pass by those who mourn; we are deaf to the cries of the oppressed, and indifferent to calls for peace. Help us to hear your voice and the abundant life to which you call us...*(in silence)*

## **The Invitation to Embrace God's Gift of Forgiveness**

Friends, hear and believe the good news: you have been forgiven, called into new life, and clothed in Christ's righteousness—now and forever. **Alleluia! Amen!**

### ◆ **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 Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures, that He was buried, that He was raised on the third day, and that *He appeared first to the women, then to Peter and to the Twelve, and then to many faithful witnesses*. We believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of the living God. Jesus Christ is the first and the last, the beginning and the end; He is our Lord and our God.

## **Passing of the Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you! **And also with you!**

◆ **The Response** 108 Christ is Alive! TRURO

**The New Testament Reading** John 20:11-18

**The Sermon** Will They Believe?

*Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, 'I have seen the Lord'...*

*John 20:18*

## **The Invitation to the Table**

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

## **The Offertory**

There is a Balm in Gilead

arr. Mark Hayes

*Randie Lewis*

*There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole. There is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick soul. Sometimes I feel discouraged, and think my work's in vain; but then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again. Refrain. If you cannot sing like angels, if you cannot preach like Paul, you can tell the love of Jesus, and say "He died for all." Refrain.*

## **The Welcoming of the Confirmands**

## **The Joys and Concerns of the Church**

## **The Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer**

- ◆ **The Closing Hymn** 343 Called as Partners in Christ's Service BEECHER
- ◆ **The Charge and Benediction**
- ◆ **The Postlude**

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*Our Letter of Blessing today goes to the Confirmation Class of 2023.*

## **Today**

**Works of HeART** - WOH is an FPC art ministry for the clients at the Day Center for the Homeless. Interested in volunteering? Visit the table in the atrium today.

**It's time to consider leadership within First Church!** Please see back of today's bulletin.

### **This Week**

***"Significant Essays" by C. S. Lewis.*** Dr. Miller begins his new Pastor's Study today and each Sunday at 9:30 (Stephenson) and every Wednesday at 11:30 a.m. (E104).

**Praying to Pentecost** - The prayer room, (204), remains open during normal church hours through Pentecost, May 28. Come and enjoy a special time of presence and conversation with the Master.

**National Day of Prayer service this Thursday, May 4, at 11:30** in the Courtyard. Dr. Miller leads the service. Light lunch is served immediately following. If your schedule prohibits you from joining the service but you would still like to "join together" in prayer, please join us that evening at 7:00 p.m. via the Zoom link:

<https://us05web.zoom.us/j/84528066328?pwd=bWoxNmFKZGpLOUZrS0JKU0dUV3AwUT09> (Meeting ID: 845 2806 6328; Passcode: R92qYX)

**The Inquirers Class – The adventure of Christian community!** Bring your questions as you consider why a community of faith is important in your discipleship. Today at 9:15, and continuing Sundays, April 30, May 7 and 14 (Miller Library). Register by contacting Patricia Hall at 918-301-1028 or click on the QR code below.



**Presbyterian Women: purchase your Mother's Day** cards to help benefit women caught in domestic violence. The design artist this year is our member, Mary Lee Weaver. Pick up your cards today in the atrium and on Sunday, May 7.

## Wednesday Night Downtown

Join us for *Small Talk on Big Truths*: Dr. Miller joins Rev. Wambugu Gachungi in room E104 on Wednesdays nights at 6:15 p.m. --an in-depth study of last week's sermon Scriptures. Bring your Bible!

## Mark Your Calendar

**Deacons Day of Care:** Saturdays, May 6 and May 20, 9:00 a.m. Teams help with light yard work and home maintenance. To volunteer, or to request help at your home, register in the atrium today or Sunday, April 30. Contact Julie Steiner at [juliesteiner19@gmail.com](mailto:juliesteiner19@gmail.com) or Kathy Wilson at [kwilson@firstchurchtulsa.org](mailto:kwilson@firstchurchtulsa.org) for information.

**Seasons: Spring Fling!** Monday, May 8, 6:30-8:00 p.m. Join us for a special evening with guest speaker Lindi Collins who will encourage our hearts with a devotion entitled "Crowns of Glory" and teach our hands in creating flower crowns to take home. Please RSVP to [lstevens@firstchurchtulsa.org](mailto:lstevens@firstchurchtulsa.org) by May 3.

**Second Annual Kids Fishing Derby!** Camp Loughridge, May 20. To register, visit the table in the atrium today.



## 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](https://www.instagram.com/fpcyoungadults), or contact Rev. Julia Metcalf at 918-301-1030.

## Parish Register

**Prayers for Healing:** Jane Azlin, Linda Barnett, Rob Berry, Pat Brown, Beth Campbell, Dwight Creveling, Marilyn Davis, Donna Droege, Cecil Drummond, David Dunning, Mary Ann Elliott, Anita Ewing, Gaye Graeler, Cynthia Hill-Meriwether, Meg Hubler, Warren Hubler, Jeannie Dickey Kelsay, Joyce Kunkel, Carmelitti LeFlore, Amy Lesh, Ann McKellar, Jan Miller, David Morgan, David Osterholt, Larry Osterhout, Rosemary Priest, Lyle Proffitt, Carly Rivers, Mary Ruddle, Robert Shaw, Jane Sneed, Cissy Ssettimba, Marcia Tromp and Susan Waldie.

**The Sacrament of Baptism:** Georgia Burke Moore, daughter of Paige and Keith Moore, was baptized on April 23.

## Worship Notes

**The flowers that beautify the Sanctuary today** are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Glade and Marie Kirkpatrick and our son Perry Dyson Inhofe II, MD, by Jim and Kay Inhofe.

**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 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*.

**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.



**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.

**Today we welcome the 2023 Confirmands at the service they attend:**

*Steve Wilson, Director of High School Ministries*

Ife Aruna	David Masaku
Sheila Atkinson	Morgan McInstosh
Liam Cavin	Nelly Nghitila
Naomi DeSpain	Josh Nsereko
Lucy Donohue	Alex Philp
Taylor Farris	Devyne Ramey
Vivienne Fravel	Gloria Shelton
Zoe Gingerich	Phoebe Stoeppelwerth
Carol Gitau	Hope Thompson
Jarrett Kamande	Rupert Winton
Laurencia Masabarakiza	

Special appreciation to the confirmation leaders for their guidance and support of these youth.

Confirmation Leaders:  
Jennifer Philp, Kelly Brown, Rebecca Kibui,  
Shannon Bair & Eli Wilson



**THIS WEEK**

**TODAY 4/30**

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

**Monday 5/1**

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

**Tuesday 5/2**

9:30 am      Precepts, E100

**Wednesday 5/3**

11:30 am     Pastor's Study, E104  
 11:30 am     Downtown Theological Roundtable, 206  
 12:00 pm     Pathways to Hope, 206  
 5:15 pm      Wednesday Night Dinner, Stephenson Hall  
 6:00 pm      Awana, POW and Amass Exodus  
 6:15 pm      Adult classes, various locations  
 6:30 pm      Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room

**Saturday 5/6**

8:45 am      Before the Rooster Crows, E103

**COME, GROW YOUR FAITH!**

**TODAY: Adult Classes, 9:30 a.m.**

Cornerstone	<i>Minor Prophets</i>	E102
Covenanters	<i>Renovated: God, Dallas, &amp; the Church That Transforms</i>	E101
Faith and Family	<i>Minor Prophets</i>	Prayer Room
Forum	<i>Soul Keeping</i>	E200
Harbingers	<i>Eternity is Now</i>	E202
Morning Glory	Mastering Your Emotions	B318
New Parents	Theology and Parenting	E205
Pastor's Study 1	Significant Essays by C. S. Lewis	Stephenson
Pastor's Study 2	New Testament Overview	E104
Reflections	<i>Gospel Account of Holy Week</i>	E103
Shepherds	<i>Study of Elijah</i>	E203
Sojourners	<i>Study of James</i>	E204
UKirk	New Testament Overview	E104
The Vine	<i>Study of Jonah</i>	E100
Westminster	<i>The Greatest Commandment</i>	Tower Room
Young Adults	New Testament Overview	E104

## **SEEKING GOD'S SERVANT LEADERS**

*After the pattern of the One "who came not to be served, but to serve."*

*-Matthew 20:28*

One of the most important privileges we share is to encourage gifted and committed men and women to serve the Lord in leadership positions. Thank you for taking time to offer suggestions to the FPC Nominating Committee.

### **ELDERS (THE SESSION):**

Responsible for the governance of the church.

They provide leadership in all areas, including: Worship, Administration, Programs, Mission, and Ministry.

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### **DEACONS:**

The "heartbeat" of the church, ordained for the purpose of "ministering to those in special need."

### **TRUSTEES:**

Stewards of the First Presbyterian Church Foundation.

### **THE OFFICER NOMINATING COMMITTEE:**

*Identifies leaders God has called and prepared to serve our congregation.*

### **Currently Serving Elders**

<b><u>Class of 2023</u></b> Maxwell Asare Dacia Bird Janine Burlin Debbie Favell Rusty Gaddy Patrick Kirunda Elisa Mangesho Anne McCoy Amy Russell Jim Scheiper	<b><u>Class of 2024</u></b> Laurel Baird Allison Biggs Mark Brown Larry Ewing Stephanie Madsen Urbanus Masaku Steve Metcalf Paul Mungai Denise Rounds Karen Woolman	<b><u>Class of 2025</u></b> Brett Crane Elizabeth DeVore John Harper Jessica John-Bowman Jeanette Kern Jaclyn Metcalf Eric Olson Jacob Thompson Solomon Tsuma Faith Wambugu
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### **Currently Serving Deacons**

<b><u>Class of 2023</u></b> Sheri Allen Keith Campbell Michael Homan Cindy Johnson Lucy Kamande Clint McQueen Dylan Seibert Ed Slier Julie Steiner Shannon Thomas	<b><u>Class of 2024</u></b> Tina Aruna Bette Cromer Sandy Curtis Quentin Franklin Carter Mathews Buddy Neal Valentine Ndunga Dan Richmond Grace Shelton Scott Swanson	<b><u>Class of 2025</u></b> Anita Anthony Tyler Bird Nancy Blocker Beryl Bolo Brandon Evans Jeremy Foon Nick McMillan Janet Mercer Gladys Njino Cissy Ssettimba
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### **Currently Serving Trustees**

<b><u>Class of 2023</u></b> Todd Schuster Robert Pielsticker Amy Tingleaf	<b><u>Class of 2024</u></b> Steve Caldwell Jane Crain Pam Farris	<b><u>Class of 2025</u></b> Dr. John Frame Ken McQueen Barrett Powers
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# FPC LEADERSHIP NOMINATIONS

*The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers.*

*Ephesians 4:11*

Prayerfully fill out the form below by **Wednesday, May 15:**

E-mail nominees to: [dschooley@firstchurchtulsa.org](mailto:dschooley@firstchurchtulsa.org)

Name of nominee: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominated by: \_\_\_\_\_

I nominate this person for service as an (circle one):

Elder

Deacon

Trustee

Nominating Committee

A. What specific strengths/gifts will this person bring to this position?

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

B. Describe how this person has served Christ's purposes here at FPC or in the community.

*Nominating Committee 2023: Co-Chair, Amy Russell, Co- Chair, Denise Rounds, Patrick Grogan, Gary Johnson, Becca Kibui, Jason Pugh, Carol Rowland, Spurgeon Wambugu, Laurie Winslow along with representatives from each officer board.*