



**Seventh Sunday of Eastertide**  
**May 17, 2026**  
11 a.m. worship, Sanctuary

**First Presbyterian Church of Tulsa**

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

# The Story of Jesus

## The Words of Preparation

Creation is obedient to whatever Christ chooses to command. What excuse can help us if we do not submit to do the same? What excuse can deliver from the fire and condemnation one who is disobedient and not easily led? Let us submit to Him who summons us to salvation and to the desire of living uprightly and lawfully, that is, evangelically. Christ will fill us with the gifts that come from above and from Him.

Cyril of Alexandria

### THE PRELUDE

Worship Team

### THE WELCOME

Rev. Wambugu

*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

**Come Unto Him** (from *Messiah*)

G. F. Handel

*Lydia Gray, soloist*

Come unto Him all ye that labor, come unto Him all ye that are heavy laden, and He will give you rest. Take His yoke upon you, and learn of Him; for He is meek and lowly of heart, and ye shall find rest unto your souls.

*Matthew 11:28, 29*

### THE CALL TO WORSHIP

To the fishermen Jesus called, "Follow me."

**And immediately they left their nets and followed Him.**

To the weary and burdened Jesus called, "Come to Me, and I will give you rest."

**And He gave rest to their souls.**

To the storm-tossed and fearful Jesus asked, "Where is your faith?"

**And the storm was calmed at His word.**

To the chronically ill Jesus said, "Take heart, daughter; your faith has made you well."

**And power went out from Him.**

To the grieving Jesus said, "Do not fear; only believe."

**And death was driven back for a time.**

To a dead child Jesus said, "Little child, arise."

**And her spirit returned.**

Now can you hear Him calling? If you are grieving or joyful, weary or strong, lost or lonely, or even if you feel dead...

**The Lord is here, and He is calling for you.**

Now, because the one who calls us is faithful, let us stand in honor...

**And let us worship God.**

- ◆ **THE OPENING HYMN 113** Christ the Lord is Risen Today! LLANFAIR
- ◆ **THE PRAYER OF ADORATION** Rev. James Estes

**THE FIRST READING** Hosea 12:2-12

**THE CALL TO CONFESSION**

In this text the prophet calls our minds to the story of Jacob, who spent his life making his own way—grasping, striving, deceiving, running, always trying to secure the good life on his own terms. But when he wrestled with God, he was changed. No longer Jacob, the supplanter, but Israel—the one who wrestles with God.

The prophet calls us to the same turning. To stop grasping for control. To stop trusting our own strength. To stop trying to get away with something. To stop making our own way.

And instead, to return to God— to wrestle honestly with Him, to cling to God’s mercy, and to trust that He will make all things right if we surrender to His will. So let us now confess our sins before God and one another.

**THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from Your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and the desires of our own hearts. We have offended against Your holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and we have done those things which we ought not to have done. And apart from Your grace, there is no health in us.

O Lord, have mercy upon us. Spare all those who confess their faults. Restore all those who are penitent according to Your promises, declared to all people in Christ Jesus our Lord.

And grant, O most merciful Father, for His sake, that we may now live a godly, righteous, and sober life to the glory of Your holy name. Grant to Your faithful people pardon and peace, that we might show forth the praises of Him who calls us out of darkness and into His marvelous light, through Jesus Christ our Lord...(silence)

- ◆ **THE RESPONSE OF GRATITUDE** Graves Into Garden

I searched the world but it couldn't fill me. Man's empty praise and treasures that fade are never enough. Then You came along and put me back together, and every desire is now satisfied here in Your love.

*Oh, there's nothing better than You. There's nothing better than You. Lord, there's nothing, nothing is better than You.*

I'm not afraid to show You my weakness. My failures and flaws, Lord, You've seen them all and You still call me friend. 'Cause the God of the mountain is the God of the valley, and there's not a place Your mercy and grace won't find me again. *Refrain*

You turn mourning to dancing. You give beauty for ashes. You turn shame into glory; You're the only one who can. You turn graves into gardens. You turn bones into armies. You turn seas into highways; You're the only one who can. *Refrain*

**THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Friends, hear and believe the good news of the gospel, that God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the World, but that those who believe in Him might be saved. In Jesus Christ there is forgiveness of sins for everyone who calls upon His name! **Alleluia! Amen!**

**◆ THE PASSING OF THE PEACE**

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

**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 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 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 to the women, then to the twelve, and to many faithful witnesses. We believe He is the Messiah, the Son of the living God. He is the first and the last, the beginning and the end. He is our Lord and our God. **AMEN.**

**THE BLESSING OF THE YOUNG DISCIPLES**

Jenette McEntire

**THE ANTHEM****The Majesty and Glory of Your Name**

Tom Fettke

When I gaze into the night skies and see the work of Your fingers; the moon and stars suspended in space. Oh, what is man, that You are mindful of him? You have given man a crown of glory and honor, and have made him a little lower than the angels. You have put him in charge of all creation: The beasts of the field, the birds of the air, the fish of the sea. But what is man that you are mindful of him? O Lord, our God, the majesty and glory of Your name transcends the earth and fill the heavens. O Lord, our God, little children praise You perfectly, and so would we. Alleluia! *Psalm 8*

**THE SECOND READING**

Luke 8:22-25

**THE SERMON**

Jesus Calms the Storm

Rev. Cameron Beaty

**THE OFFERING****He Will Hold Me Fast**

Matthew Merker, arr. Tom Fettke

*He will hold me fast, He will hold me fast; for my Savior loves me so, He will hold me fast.* When I fear my faith will fail, Christ will hold me fast; when the tempter would prevail, He will hold me fast. I could never keep my hold through life's fearful path; for my love is often cold; He must hold me fast. *Refrain.* Those He saves are His delight, Christ will hold me fast; precious in His holy sight, He will hold me fast. He'll not let my soul be lost; His promises shall last; bought by Him at such a cost, He will hold me fast. For my life He bled and died, Christ will hold me fast; justice has been satisfied; He will hold me fast. Raised with Him to endless life, He will hold me fast till our faith is turned to sight, when He comes at last! *Refrain.*

**THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER****◆ THE CLOSING HYMN**

Facing a Task Unfinished

Facing a task unfinished that drives us to our knees, a need that, undiminished, rebukes our slothful ease. We who rejoice to know thee renew before thy throne the solemn pledge we owe thee to god and make thee known.

*We go to all the world with kingdom hope unfurled; no other name has pow'r to save, but Jesus Christ the Lord!*

Where other lords beside thee hold their unhindered sway, where forces that defied thee defy thee still today, with none to heed their crying for life, and love, and light, unnumbered souls are dying and pass into the night. *Refrain*

We bear the torch that, flaming, fell from the hands of those who gave their lives, proclaiming that Jesus died and rose. Ours is the same commission, the same glad message ours; fired by the same ambition, to thee we yield our pow'rs. *Refrain*

O Father who sustained them, O Spirit who inspired, Savior, whose love constrained them to toil with zeal untired, from cowardice defend us, from lethargy awake! Forth on thine errands send us to labor for thy sake. *Refrain*

◆ **THE CHARGE AND THE BENEDICTION**

**THE CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

Moderator Rev. Wambugu  
Clerk of Session Joel Donohue

**THE POSTLUDE**

The Rejoicing, from *Royal Fireworks Music*

G. F. Handel

◆ Please stand

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*Following the service, please join us for a reception in the Courtyard.*

## 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 you do not have a church home, we would love to welcome you. If this is your first time worshipping with us, please fill out a Get Connected Card or contact Emma Myatt at 918-857-5652 or [emyatt@firstchurchtulsa.org](mailto:emyatt@firstchurchtulsa.org).

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**PARISH REGISTER**

**Prayers for Healing:** Lisa Angleton, Jane Azlin, Steve Brill, Nelda Brown, Beth Campbell, Gary Casteel, Randy Corelli, Teresa Corelli, B. J. Dollahon, Judy Doyle, Larry Doyle, Debi Foster, Janice Garbart, Gaye Graeler, Rita Graeler, Cynthia Hill-Meriwether, Brenda Johnson, Don Johnson, Allan Kanyeki, Amy Lesh, Barbara Mace, Margaret Martinson, Sally McCoy, Ann McKellar, Jon Mercer, David Osterholt, Carolyn Perryman, Dennis Powon, June Shults, Bob Shipman, Alex Smith, Andrea Smith, Sally Stewart, Nancy Strimel, Marcia Tromp, Ralph Veatch, Gretchen Wagner, Susan Waldie, and Rhonda Wilson.

**The Sacrament of Baptism:** Wade Roger Wilson was baptized on May 10; Alistair J. Wilson, son of Wade and Amanda Wilson, was baptized on May 10.

**Sympathy and Prayers:** Kelly Brown on the death of her father on May 8.

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**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).

**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.

**Our Letter of Blessing** today goes to Chris Zollinger.

**The flowers that adorn the Sanctuary today** are given to the glory of God and in memory of Sam P. Daniel, Jr., by Mary Lou Daniel and family.

**Please notify the church** if you have a pastoral need, a change of address, phone number, or other important family news. Contact Grace Masaku at 918-301-1029 or [gmasaku@firstchurchtulsa.org](mailto:gmasaku@firstchurchtulsa.org).

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



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## 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](mailto:gmasaku@firstchurchtulsa.org) or 918-201-1029. We no longer receive information from hospitals, so we rely on you to let us know.

**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](mailto:jerome-mccoy@utulsa.edu).

**New Hymnals:** After 35 years of faithful use, and after much research by the Worship and Music Committee, with approval of Session, our current hymnal will soon be replaced by the newly published *Sing! Hymnal*. In the coming weeks, you will have the opportunity to invest in this project and dedicate a new hymnal in honor of or in memory of loved ones. Watch for more details.

## HAPPENING TODAY

**Congregational Meeting:** Today, immediately following the worship service in the Sanctuary, for the purpose of hearing the final report of the PNC and voting on the call of the approved candidate as Pastor.

**Hospitality: Yes, You!** Is not ending — it's continuing. Scan the QR code to watch member videos with practical encouragement for showing hospitality. As a congregation, we are called to notice one another and reflect the love of Christ. Let's keep noticing, inviting and making room. Yes, You!



If you would like to follow the sermon series, you can purchase the *Jesus Storybook Bible* at the book table in the atrium.

## EVENTS THIS WEEK

**Presbyterian Women's May Mission:** is collecting bags of beans, rice, and canned vegetables for the Community Food Bank of Eastern Oklahoma. Items may be placed in the PW donation bins in the Atrium on Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings through May.

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Upcoming Worship Schedule

Our Summer Worship Schedule is as follows

8:00 a.m. Kerr Chapel

8:30 a.m. Stephenson Hall

11:00 a.m. Sanctuary

11:00 a.m. Great Hall (Our 11:00 a.m. Stephenson Hall and Great Hall will combine each Sunday through the summer months.)

**Pentecost Sunday, May 24, worship service time updated!** There will be four services: 8:00 Kerr Chapel, 8:30 Stephenson Hall, 11:00 Sanctuary, and Great Hall.

**The Summer Choir Welcomes You!** Starting next Sunday, May 24, you are invited to add your voice to the Summer Choir for the 11:00 a.m. Sanctuary service during the summer months. The only time requirement is a brief rehearsal on Sundays at 10:15 a.m. in the Choir Room. For more information, please contact Gretchen Bashforth at 918-301-1012 or [gbashforth@firstchurchtulsa.org](mailto:gbashforth@firstchurchtulsa.org).

**Presbyterian Women's Birthday Luncheon: On** Thursday, May 28, at noon, in the Miller Library, the PW program's guest speakers, Joan Hoar, Vicky Wilcoxon, and Jane Wright, will share their experiences of their pilgrimage on the Portuguese Camino to Santiago de Compostela. To make lunch reservations, please contact Grace Masaku at 918-301-1029 or [gmasaku@firstchurchtulsa.org](mailto:gmasaku@firstchurchtulsa.org) by Tuesday, May 26. The cost is \$10 and can be paid at the door.

**VBS 2026:** Children age 4 years to 6<sup>th</sup> grade, along with Hi-Helpers (7<sup>th</sup> grade – 12<sup>th</sup> grade), join us for a fun week of games, crafts, songs, and Bible lessons. Registration is now open for the 2026 VBS, which will be held on June 1 – 5, from 9:00 a.m. – noon, at Camp Loughridge. We need adult leaders! The deadline to register is Friday, May 8. To register or for more information, click the QR code.



**Precepts Summer Study:** Beginning June 2, on Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m., in room E102, the study is *Lord, Teach Me to Study the Bible in 28 Days* by Kay Arthur. This is a hands-on, learn-by-doing book, so bring a pen, colored markers, or pencils.

**Glimpses of Grace:** Members of First Church will share personal testimonies on Sundays in June. On June 7, we will hear from Ron Pearson on June 14, from Larry Kindbom on June 21, from Michael Grogan on June 28, and from Faith Wambugu.

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## USE YOUR TALENTS

### Job Opportunities:

(If you are interested in any of the positions below, please visit the First Church website or send your cover letter and resume to [tmoseley@firstchurchtulsa.org](mailto:tmoseley@firstchurchtulsa.org).)

**Ministry Assistant for Mission, Outreach, and TIF.** This position provides administrative and logistical support for FPC mission and outreach ministries, the Tulsa International Fellowship, and new member integration.

**Associate Director of Children's Ministries (Elementary).** This 30-hour role partners with our Director of Children's Ministries to nurture and guide children in kindergarten through 4<sup>th</sup> grade, helping them come to know Christ, love Christ, and serve Christ. The Associate Director will help create a safe, welcoming environment, share God's Word in engaging ways, and recruit and support a strong team of volunteers.

**Director of Middle School Ministries.** This full-time role provides leadership, vision, and care for students in 5<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade, as well as their families and volunteer leaders. The Director will oversee and grow Middle School programming, invest in the faith formation of students and their friends, and collaborate with our Next Generation Session Committee.

## Come, Grow Your Faith!

**TODAY 5/17**

|          |  |
|----------|--|
| 8:45 am  | Rejoice Ringers, 309                     |
| 9:15 am  | First Church Choristers, 308             |
| 11:00 am | Worship: Sanctuary                       |
| 12:00 pm | Congregational Meeting, Sanctuary        |
| 12:30 pm | Reception, Stephenson Hall and Courtyard |

**Monday 5/18**

|          |                         |
|----------|-------------------------|
| 12:00 pm | Men’s Bible Study, E103 |
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**Wednesday 5/20**

|         |  |
|---------|--|
| 5:00 pm | Youth Praise Band, and Celebration Singers, Powerhouse |
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**Saturday 5/23**

|         |                                |
|---------|--------------------------------|
| 8:45 am | Before the Rooster Crows, E103 |
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### Adult Sunday School Classes at 9:30 a.m., May 24

|                    |  |            |
|--------------------|--|------------|
| Cornerstone        | The Practice of Communion                          | E102       |
| Covenanters        | Screwtape Letters                                  | E101       |
| Faith and Family   | Book of John                                       | 206        |
| Families w/Young   |  |            |
| Children           | Foundations of Christian Marriage                  | Tower Room |
| Foundations        | Genesis  | E104       |
| Harbingers         | Discovering the Gospel in Every Book of the Bible. | E202       |
| Morning Glory      | Prayer and Sermon Texts                            | B318       |
| Reflections        | Romans Study                                       | E103       |
| Shepherds          | Psalms   | E203       |
| Sojourners         | Mere Christianity                                  | E204       |
| Sowers             | Pray Big   | E205       |
| The Vine           | Fruitful Affliction                                | E100       |
| UKirk/Young Adults | Genesis  | E104       |
| Westminster Forum  | John, the Gospel of Light and Life                 | E200       |