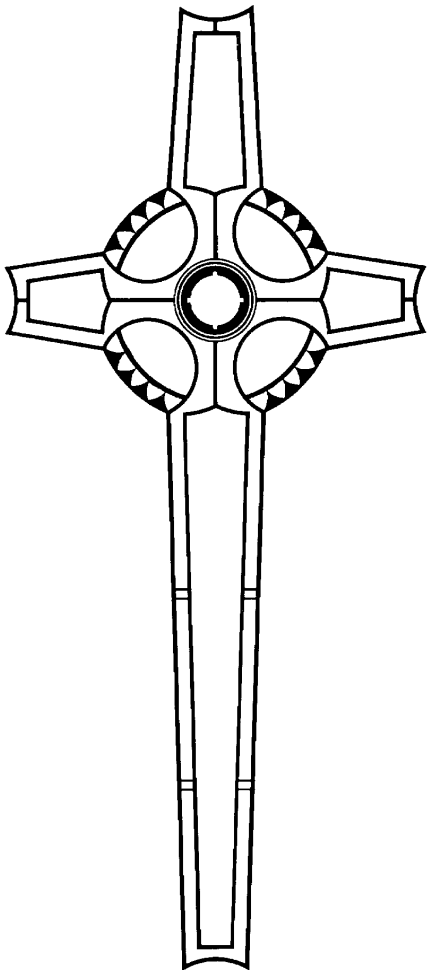

Encountering the Great *"I Am"*

Walking with Jesus

To Golgotha…

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

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

APRIL 3, 2022
8:30 AM

STEPHENSON HALL
First Presbyterian Church of Tulsa
Born by grace in 1885

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Stephenson Hall, 8:30 a.m.

The Prelude Highlands

O how high would I climb mountains if the mountains were where You hide. O how far I'd scale the valleys if You graced the other side. O how long have I chased rivers, from lowly seas to where they rise against the rush of grace descending from the source of its supply.

Cause in the highlands and the heartache, You're neither more or less inclined; I would search and stop at nothing, You're just not that hard to find.

So I will praise You on the mountain, and I will praise You when the mountain's in my way. You're the summit where my feet are, so I will praise You in the valleys all the same. No less God within the shadows. No less faithful when the night leads me astray. You're the heaven where my heart is; in the highlands and the heartache all the same.

O how far beneath Your glory does Your kindness extend the path? From where Your feet rest on the sunrise, to where You sweep the sinner's past. And, O how fast would You come running if just to shadow me through the night? Trace my steps through all my failure and walk me out the other side. For who could dare ascend that mountain; that valleyed hill called Calvary? But for the One I call Good Shepherd, who like a lamb was slain for me. *Refrain*

Whatever I walk through, wherever I am, Your Name can move mountains wherever I stand. And if ever I walk through the valley of death, I'll sing through the shadows my song of ascent. From the gravest of all valleys come the pastures we call grace.

The Call to Prayer

Prayers for the Peoples of Eastern Europe

The Call to Worship

The Lord of Life and Savior of the world is here. He comes to save, to redeem, to liberate. *From what* does He liberate and save us?
He has the power to liberate us from pride, self-absorption, lethal addictions, and our sinful nature. He saves us from lostness, isolation, boredom, meaninglessness —and all other aspects of sin's power.
For what have we been saved?
We are saved, as the prophet Micah tells us, to live robust and joyful lives, fruitful and God-honoring. We are saved to live justly, love mercy and to walk humbly with our God.
Come, let's stand, sing our praise, and let us worship God!

The Songs of Praise

Build My Life

Worthy of every song we could ever sing; worthy of all the praise we could ever bring; worthy of every breath we could ever breathe, we live for You.

Jesus, the name above every other name. Jesus, the only one who could ever save, worthy of every breath we could ever breathe, we live for You. We live for You.

Holy; there is no one like You. There is none besides You. Open up my eyes in wonder and show me who You are and fill me with Your heart, and lead me in Your love to those around me.

I will build my life upon Your love, it is a firm foundation. I will put my trust in You alone and I will not be shaken. *Refrain*

Act Justly, Love Mercy, Walk Humbly

It all comes down to this, what you require of me; love my neighbor as myself and You above all things.

Act justly, love mercy, walk humbly with You, God. In all things, in all ways, walk humbly with You, God.

It all comes down to this, to be Your hands and feet, good news to all the world. The truth will set us free. *Refrain.*

It's beauty for ashes. It's mourning to dancing. It's closer and closer, the Kingdom of heaven.

Years from now we'll see the fruit our hands have sown. Faith just like a seed, the only way it grows. *Refrain.*

The First Reading

Psalm 51:1-7 Janine Burlin, Elder

The Invitation to Confession

Jesus said, "Come unto Me all you who are weary and heavily burdened, and I will give you rest."

Come As You Are

Come out of sadness from wherever you've been. Come broken-hearted, let rescue begin. Come find your mercy, O sinner, come kneel. Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal. Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal.

Lay down your burdens, lay down your shame; all who are broken lift up your face. O wanderer, come home, you're not too far. So lay down your hurt, lay down your heart, come as you are.

There's hope for the hopeless and all those who've strayed. Come sit at the table, come taste the grace. There's rest for the weary, rest that endures; Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't cure. *Refrain*

Come as you are. Fall in His arms. Come as you are.

There's joy for the morning, O sinner, be still; Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal. Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal. *Refrain*

The Prayer of Confession

Rev. Wally Johnson

Lord, we praise you for your mercy and grace. You invite us to come to you just as we are, and so we do. You'll find much within us this morning that needs to be redeemed, healed and restored. Grant us your touch, Great Physician, bring your healing grace, we pray. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayers… *(in silence)*

The Joy of Forgiveness offered!

Friends, embrace this good news with all of your hearts: in Jesus Christ there is forgiveness for all who call upon Him!
Alleluia! Amen!

The Response

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide! Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow, blessings all mine with ten thousand beside!

Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see; all I have needed Thy hands have provided; great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto Thee!

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 Second Reading John 15:1-17

I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit.

Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me.

I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.

If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned.

If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples. As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you.

Abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.

The Sermon I AM: The *True* Vine! Dr. Jim Miller

Those who remain in me and I in them will bear much fruit.
Apart from me you can do nothing. *John 15:5*

The Celebration of Communion

Words of institution
Prayer of Consecration
Sharing of the Bread and Cup

The Joys and Concerns of the Church

The Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

The Closing Song Graves into Gardens

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.

The Charge and Benediction

Worship Notes

The flowers in today's Sanctuary worship are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Lynn Miller, by Tony Miller and family.

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

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*.

First Church Updates

Welcome to First Church! We pray that you'll sense the warmth of this congregation and the presence of Jesus, the Author of every blessing.

Wednesday Lenten Conversations: *Testaments of Faith* - this week Dr. Wes Vander Lugt offers his story of the Lord's interruptive presence in his life. He'll also lead us into a deeper study of today's sermon text. Optional dinner at 5:15 p.m. *Testament of Faith*,
6:15 p.m., Stephenson Hall.

Young Adults of First Church are invited to meet at Mother Road Market (11th & Lewis) at 12:30 p.m. after worship today for a community lunch!

Next Sunday is Palm Sunday! All five worship services are gathering as per normal. Dr. Jonathan Miller is the preacher both in the Chapel and the Sanctuary. At 9:30 a.m. he leads the Pastor's class on the theme: *Walking with Jesus and Cancer.*

Seats are still available for the Getty Music Concert, this Friday, April 8, 7:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. You can purchase tickets online (*www.firstchurchtulsa.org/Getty22)* or at the table in the Atrium today. Invite your friends and neighbors! The entire chancel will be filled with Irish musicians and dancers, including Keith and Kristyn Getty, both from Ireland. For more information or questions, please contact Gretchen Bashforth at 918-301-1012.

Spring Festival – Saturday, April 9, 10:00 a.m. – noon, Camp Loughridge – Enjoy an Easter egg hunt (bring your own basket), a petting zoo and other fun activities.

Maundy Thursday Service, April 14, 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary (see pg. 10 for a summary of this unique service.)

Easter Lilies - On Easter Sunday, bright white lilies will adorn the church building. As each flower silently trumpets the resurrection, it also serves to remind us of the life of someone who was, or is, special to a church member. If you wish to honor someone by contributing to the lily fund, click the link below or go to *https://1stchurchtulsa.wufoo.com/forms/s1vdl0hj0swl1a3/* by April 10.

Musicians' Easter Brunch - Help us say "Thank you!" to the singers, ringers and instrumentalists who provide music for our Easter services by participating in the Musicians' Easter Brunch. You may sign up to bring a dish at *www.firstchurchtulsa.org/choirlunch22* no later than April 12. For details, please contact Kathy Wilson at 918-301-1029 or *kwilson@firstchurchtulsa.org.*

Prayer Vigil - The Prayer Vigil is a continuous chain of prayer that begins on Maundy Thursday, April 14 through sunrise on Easter Sunday, April 17 to stand with Jesus through his suffering, crucifixion, burial and resurrection. Please sign up for a 30 minute slot to ensure an unbroken prayer chain. You can sign up today at the table in the atrium or go to *firstchurchtulsa.org*. We encourage every member to pray anytime during the prayer vigil. The Prayer Room on the second floor of the Church will be open during Holy Week Monday - Friday 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. and Saturday-Sunday 7:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Petra Kids Ministries Banquet – Save the date, Friday, April 29, at 6:00 p.m. in Stephenson Hall. This annual fund-raiser for children in Uganda leads with the theme: *Pamoja Tunashinda, "Together We Win"*.

Mark your calendar for a *Kids' Fishing Tournament* on Saturday, May 14 at Camp Loughridge from 10:00 – 2:00 p.m. The tournament will benefit the camp scholarship fund.

Called to serve? First Church is seeking a part-time Ministry Assistant for Discipleship and Congregational Life. You will serve with pastors, teachers, and guest speakers to coordinate and resource our Christian education offerings. For more information, please go to *firstchurchtulsa.org/about/employment* or call Duff Points at 918-584-4701. To apply, send your resume to Tonye Briscoe, *tbriscoe@firstchurchtulsa.org*.

Greeters needed! We are getting back to our Greeter teams. Will you join us? Please contact Patricia Hall at 918 301-1028 or *phall@firstchurchtulsa.org.*

Help us keep our attendance record accurate – There are several ways you can check-in: At the back of your bulletin you can fill in the form or use the QR code, or if you have added the Realm Connect to your smartphone you will receive a Mobile Check-In notification on Sunday mornings. Just tap the "down arrow" for the menu of worship services and then select the service that you attend. That's all it takes – so easy! If you haven't logged on to Realm yet, please contact Kathy Wilson at 918-301-1029 or kwilson@firstchurchtulsa.org.

Parish Register and Prayer Concerns

Prayers for Healing: Jane Azlin, Billy Boyd, Dwight Creveling, Marilyn Davis, Donna Droege, David Dunning, Mary Fitzpatrick, Debi Foster, Luke Fravel, Glenda Goodwin, Gaye Graeler, Cynthia Hill-Meriwether, Mike Hopkins, Meg Hubler, Caroline Fravel Jones, Jeannie Dickey Kelsay, Claudia King, Joyce Kunkel, Annelle Lanford, Carmelitti LeFlore, Amy Lesh, Laurence Mansur, Ann McKellar, Clint McQueen, Jan Miller, David Osterholt, Shari Postier, Rosemary Priest, David Raybourn, Carly Rivers, Zach Rivers, Mary Ruddle, Susan Shults, Robert Shaw, Helen Marie Sisler, Bill Smith, Jane Sneed, Cissy Ssettimba, Sally Stewart, Shannon Thomas, Terry Thomas, Larry Tromp, Susan Waldie, Bill Weinrich, and Carolyn Wilcott.

With Gratitude for the Resurrection: Barbara Thomas, a member since 2001, died on March 27; Frances "Wandie" Fitzpatrick, a member since 1979, died on March 28.

Sympathy and Prayers to: Jessica John-Bowman on the death of her father, Tom John, on March 28.

Maundy Thursday, Remembrance, Communion, Tenebrae
7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary

A service of eight readings, each followed by an original artistic response. We will reflect upon Jesus' last evening with his disciples before his arrest, trial, and crucifixion. The service ends in darkness. A brief summary of the order of worship is below:

The Hymn	The Lord's Supper	
The Prayer		Julia Metcalf
The 1st Reading	John 13:1-11	Dr. Jim Miller
The Poetic Response		Caleb Mangesho
The 2nd Reading	John 13:21-30	Rev. James Estes
The Musical Response		Eric Baird
The 3rd Reading	John 13:31-38	Rev. Wally Johnson
The Theatrical Response		Ben Peterson

The 4th Reading Luke 22:14-16, 19 Rev. Wambugu
The Danced Response Olivia Martin, Lilyanna Emerick

The 5th Reading Mark 14:23-24
The Musical Response Ron Pearson

The 6th Reading Mark 14:25 Dr. Wes Vander Lugt
The Homily Imagining the Kingdom
Truly, I say to you, I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God. (Mark 14:25)

The Anthem Glory to the Lamb
Glory to the Lamb. The world is overcome by the blood of the Lamb.

The Invitation to the Table

The 7th Reading Mark 14:26 Dr. Jim Miller

The Hymn 97 Go to Dark Gethsemane

The 8th Reading Mark 14:32-42 Rev. Dan Hutchinson

The Anthem Stay With Me Jacques Berthier
Stay with me, remain here with me, watch and pray. Stay here and keep watch with me. Watch and pray! Watch and pray not to give way to temptation. The spirit is eager, but the flesh is weak. My heart is nearly broken with sorrow. Remain here with me; stay awake and pray. Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass me by. Father, if this cannot pass me by without my drinking it, your will be done.

The Tolling of the Bells
The Benediction

COME, GROW YOUR FAITH!

Adult Classes for NEXT Sunday, 9:30 a.m.

On Site:

Bible Walk	*Interacting with a Risen Jesus*	E101
Cornerstone	*Forensic Faith*	E102
Covenanters	*Evangelical Theology*	E205
Faith and Family	Old Testament Survey	E104
Forum	*The Way*	E200
Harbingers	*Who is This Man?*	E202
Pastor's Study	*Walking with Jesus and Cancer, Dr. Jonathan Miller*	Stephenson Hall
Reflections	*Life Without Lack*	E103
Sojourners (All Ages)	*Jesus, Our Savior and Redeemer*	E204
UKirk Grow	F.A.I.T.H. Unfolded	KRC
The Vine (Singles/couples)	*The great "I AM"*	E100
Young Adults (20's and 30's)	Old Testament Survey	E104

On Site and/or Zoom:

Shepherds	The History of the Church	E203
Westminster	*The great "I AM"*	*Zoom Only*

EVENTS THIS WEEK

Today 4/3/22
- 8:30 a.m. Worship, Stephenson Hall
- 9:30 a.m. Gatherings and Classes
- 11:00 a.m. Worship, Sanctuary, and Great Hall

Monday 4/4/22
- Monday School 12:00 p.m., E104
- Guy's Monday Bible Study 11:45 a.m., E103

Tuesday 4/5/22
- Precepts 9:30 a.m., E100

Wednesday 4/6/22
- Pastor's Study 11:30 a.m., E104
- Youth Praise Band 5:00 p.m., Powerhouse
- WNDT Dinner 5:15 p.m., Stephenson Hall
- AWANA 6:00 p.m.
- POW and Amass Exodus 6:00 p.m., Powerhouse
- Lenten Conversations 6:15 p.m., Stephenson Hall
- Choir Rehearsal 6:30 p.m., Choir Room

Thursday 4/7/21
- Hearts for the Lord Zoom Only

Friday 4/8/21
- Getty's Concert 7:30 p.m., Sanctuary

Saturday 4/9/21
- Before the Rooster Crows 8:45 a.m., E103
- Spring Festival 10:00 a.m., Camp Loughridge

April 3, 2022
8:30 Stephenson Hall

Please register your attendance by filling out the information below and leave this page on the chair as you leave.

Name _____

Email _____

Phone _____

Member _____ or Guest _____

go to the link: bit.ly/fpcregister;
or
using the QR code below.

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