



Ninth Sunday after Pentecost
July 26, 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

If you simply ask your conscience, you get one result: if you remember that you are dressing up as Christ, you get a different one. There are lots of things which your conscience might not call definitely wrong (specially things in your mind) but which you will see at once you cannot go on doing if you are seriously trying to be like Christ. For you are no longer thinking simply about right and wrong; you are trying to catch the good infection from a Person. It is more like painting a portrait than like obeying a set of rules. And the odd thing is that while in one way it is much harder than keeping rules, in another way it is far easier.

-C.S. Lewis

THE WELCOME

Rev. James Estes

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

Consecration

John Ness Beck

Jeffrey Metcalf, soloist

Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to Thee; take my moments and my days, let them flow in ceaseless praise. Take my hands, and let them move at the impulse of Thy love; take my feet, and let them be swift and beautiful for Thee. Take my voice and let it sing always, only, for my King. Take my lips, and let them be filled with messages from Thee. Take my silver and my gold; not a mite would I withhold. Take my intellect, and use every power as Thou shalt choose. Take my will, and make it Thine; it shall be no longer mine. Take my heart, it is Thine own; it shall be Thy royal throne. Take my love, my Lord, I pour at Thy feet its treasure store. Take my self, and I will be ever, only, all for Thee.

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

(from Psalm 100)

Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands;

serve the Lord with gladness and come before His presence with a song.

Know this: The Lord himself is God;

He Himself has made us, and we are His; we are His people and the sheep of His pasture.

Enter His gates with thanksgiving; go into His courts with praise;

give thanks to Him and call upon His Name.

For the Lord is good; His mercy is everlasting;

and His faithfulness endures from age to age.◆ **THE OPENING HYMN 9**

O Worship the King

LYONS

◆ **THE PRAYER OF ADORATION**

Elder Mary Lee Torbert

THE FIRST READING

2 Corinthians 5:14-6:2

THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty and merciful God, we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and 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. O Lord, have mercy upon us. Spare those who confess their faults. Restore those who are penitent, according to your promises declared to the world in Christ Jesus, our Lord. And grant, O merciful God, for his sake, that we may live a holy, just, and humble life to the glory of your holy name...*(in silence)*

◆ **THE RESPONSE TO CONFESSION 719** Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silent

PICARDY

◆ **THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Friends, hear and believe the good news with all of your hearts: "while we were sinners, Christ died for us." In Him, there is forgiveness for any and all who call upon His name. **Alleluia! Amen.**

◆ **THE PASSING OF THE PEACE**The peace of Christ be with you! **And also with you!**◆ **THE RESPONSE OF GRATITUDE**

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 AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

{The Nicene Creed)

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified; who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE BLESSING OF THE YOUNG DISCIPLES

THE HYMN OF PREPARATION 292

Speak, O Lord

SPEAK, O LORD

THE SECOND READING

Luke 7:36-50

THE SERMON

Forgiveness and Love

Rev. James Estes

THE OFFERING

Glory Be to God the Father

Michael Weisse, arr. John Carter

Glory be to God the Father! Glory be to God the Son! Glory be to God the Spirit, God Eternal, Three in One. Glory be to Him who loved us, washed us from each spot and stain. Glory be to Him who bought us, made us kings with Him to reign! Glory to the King of angels! Glory to the Church's King! Glory to the King of nations; heaven and earth, your praises bring! Glory, blessing, praise eternal; thus the choir of angels sings, honor, riches, power, dominion! Thus its praise creation brings! Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

◆ THE CLOSING HYMN 855

The Head That Once was Crowned

ST. MAGNUS

◆ THE CHARGE AND THE BENEDICTION

THE POSTLUDE

"Fanfare"

Jacques-Nicolas Lemmens

◆ *Please stand*

We welcome and thank guest organist Dr. Michael Bedford for his musical leadership this morning.

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 this is your first time worshipping with us, please come to the Miller Library right after the 11:00 a.m. worship service for First Connections. You will be welcomed by our staff and receive a gift. For more information, fill out a *Get Connected Card* or contact Emma Myatt at 918-857-5652 or emyatt@firstchurchtulsa.org.

PARISH REGISTER

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

With Gratitude for the Resurrection: Mary Carolyn Mitchell, a member since June 1951, died on July 18.

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.

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 Blessings today goes to Jim Mitchell.

The flowers that adorn the Sanctuary today are given to the glory of God and in memory of Mickey Jednacz by Edward Jednacz.

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.

Thank you for your faithful support: Weekly tithes and offerings to the Lord may be given electronically at 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 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.

HAPPENING TODAY

All-Church Sunday School: Join all ages on Sundays at 9:30 a.m. in Stephenson Hall on July 26 and August 2. The lessons will follow the sermon series from the *Jesus Storybook Bible*. The nursery will be available for infants up to 3 years old.

New Hymnals: You will notice that our new *Sing!* hymnals, are being used for the first time today. These new hymnals may be dedicated in honor or memory of a loved one for \$20 per copy. Monetary gifts supporting the hymnal replacement project may also be given without a dedication. To support the hymnal project, scan this QR code and fill out the dedication form online.



First Family Summer Swim: Let Summer begin! The Camp pool will be open every Sunday through the summer from 1:30 – 4:30 p.m. at Camp Loughridge. **(The pool hours on August 2 will be 12:30 – 3:30.)**

EVENTS THIS WEEK

Summer Backyard Bible Study: Join us for a casual summer evening Bible study on Wednesdays through August 12 at 6:30 p.m. at Charity Nyingi's house (6203 E 112th Pl, 74137). We will go through the Gospel of Luke together. For more information, contact Athena DeSpain at 918-301-1039 or adespain@firstchurchtulsa.org.

The Summer Choir Welcomes You! 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.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Summer Worship Schedule

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.)

Visitor Breakfast for Newcomers

Visitors and members, join us for breakfast Sunday, August 9, 9:30 a.m. in Miller Library (on the 2nd Floor, outside of the sanctuary) for fellowship! This is a great time to welcome others and make new connections in the life of the church. *Register if you are able, but feel free to attend even if you have not registered.*



Membership Classes: Sundays, August 16, 23, and 30 at 9:30 a.m.

We would love to welcome you as a covenant member of our church family during this historic time in the life of First Church. Learn about what it means to be a First Church member, get connected with others in the church, get to know the pastors and elders, and find a sense of belonging at First Church. To register, scan the QR code.



Camp Sunshine- Saturday, August 8, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m., Camp Loughridge

This annual event, sponsored by the Board of Deacons, offers a memorable day camp experience for children with special needs and serious illnesses. Sign up to help at the table in the atrium.

Ping Pong for a Purpose: Join the fun on August 16th in Stephenson Hall after the 11:00 services for the Annual Ping Pong tournament (all ages) and cookout and learn about volunteer opportunities with the Anderson Elementary community.

Presbyterian Women are hosting the Presbyterian Women of Eastern Oklahoma Presbytery Fall Workshop on Saturday, August 22, from 9:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at First Church. The 2026-2027 Horizons Bible study, *United Through Christ, Bound to Each Other*, will be introduced. This is the study First Church PW Circles will use in their Bible studies starting in September. If you are interested in the workshop, please contact Barbara Mugge at 918-491-6495/bmugge@gmail.com to register by August 7. The cost is \$15, which covers continental breakfast, a buffet lunch, and other activities. For more information, contact Grace Masaku at gmasaku@firstchurchtulsa.org/918-301-1029.

Matson Cup Golf Tournament: Monday, September 21, 7:30 a.m. at the Meadowbrook Country Club. Monies raised from this tournament are devoted to the most impoverished of Tulsans through the efforts of our Helping Hand Ministry. Scan the QR code to register yourself and/or your team.



USE YOUR TALENTS

Did you know? Flower Ministry: Every Sunday, flowers adorn the Sanctuary and Chapel; they are given in memory or in honor of loved ones. If you would like to donate flowers, please email your information to Dionna Schooley at dschooley@firstchurchtulsa.org.

Praying for the Unreached: The Mission Committee encourages our church family to pray for the spread of the gospel to the ends of the earth. Join us by praying for one unreached people group each day through the Joshua Project's daily prayer focus. Visit joshuaproject.net/pray to receive a new people group each day or scan the QR code.



Please be in prayer for Rev. Wambugu Gachungi and the Baird family serving with our international mission partners in Witu and Ireland.

Job Opportunities:

(If you are interested in the position below, please visit the First Church website or send your cover letter and resume to tmoseley@firstchurchtulsa.org.)

Director of Children's Ministries: We are hiring a full-time director to lead our ministry with children from birth through 4th grade and their families. This position provides spiritual leadership, supports parents in Christian discipleship, oversees children's programs and events, and equips staff and volunteers to help children come to know, love, and serve Christ. If you are passionate about walking alongside children and parents in their faith journey, we invite you to learn more and apply.

Bible Instructor- Masterwork Academy: We are seeking a Bible Instructor to help students in Kindergarten through 5th grade discover God's love through engaging, age-appropriate Bible teaching. This part-time position (approximately 20 hours per week during the school year, plus two weeks in the summer) plays a vital role in helping students understand Scripture, grow in their faith and recognize their identity as God's masterpiece

Come, Grow Your Faith!

TODAY 7/26

8:00 am	Worship: Kerr Chapel
8:30 am	Worship: Stephenson Hall
9:30 am	Experience Jesus: All-church Sunday School, Stephenson Hall
11:00 am	Worship: Sanctuary, Great Hall
1:30 pm	Summer Swim, Camp Loughridge

Wednesday 7/29

5:00 pm	UKirk Bible Study, Camp Loughridge
6:00 pm	TINA and Exodus Night, Camp Loughridge
6:30 pm	Summer Backyard Bible Study, Charity Nyngi's House

Saturday 8/1

8:45 am	Before the Rooster Crows, E103
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Adult Sunday School Classes at 9:30 a.m., August 2

Cornerstone	Not Meeting	E102
Covenanters	<i>Daniel</i>	E101
Faith and Family	Experiencing the Story of Jesus	Stephenson Hall
Families w/Young Children	Experiencing the Story of Jesus	Stephenson Hall
Foundations	Experiencing the Story of Jesus	Stephenson Hall
Harbingers	Not Meeting	E202
Morning Glory	Prayer and Sermon Texts	B318
Reflections	Jesus—Prophet, Priest, and King	E103
Shepherds	Attributes of God	E203
Sojourners	Old Testament	E204
Sowers	Experiencing the Story of Jesus	Stephenson Hall
The Vine	Class led Study	E100
UKirk/Young Adults	Experiencing the Story of Jesus	Stephenson Hall
Westminster Forum	The Case for Miracles	E200

The First Church Pastors

Cameron Beaty, M. Div., Senior Pastor
 James Estes, M. Div., Associate Pastor
 Wambugu Gachungi, M. Div., Associate Pastor
 Julia Metcalf, M. Div., Associate Pastor
 Ron Pearson, Organist and Director of Music