



Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost
August 16, 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

See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know Him. Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. All who have this hope in Him purify themselves, just as He is pure.

John, the Beloved Disciple

THE PRELUDE

**Lord of the Dance
On Eagle's Wings**

Doris Herald and Nancy Strimel, pianists

Shaker Melody setting by John Carter
arr. Mark Hayes

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 rack and drop it in the offering plate to receive our E-News updates and fellowship opportunities.

THE INTROIT

Deep River

Lydia Gray, soloist

Spiritual, arr. Mark Hayes

Deep river, my home is over Jordan. Deep river, Lord, I want to cross over into campground. Oh, don't you want to go to that gospel feast, that promised land where all is peace? Refrain.

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Seek the Lord while He may be found; call upon Him while He is near.

Let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts.

Let them return to the Lord, that He may have compassion on them,

For He will abundantly pardon.

For the One who calls you is faithful.

He is able to keep all that we entrust to Him until that day.

Now let us stand in honor,

And let us worship God.

◆ THE OPENING HYMN 10

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

NETTLETON

♦ **THE PRAYER OF ADORATION**

Elder Bob Farris

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING

Psalm 42

THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, you created us in Your image and made us to reflect Your glory. You have called us Your children and promised that, in seeing Christ, we shall be made like Him. You created us to bear Your image amid the creation, to tell the true story of who You are by reflecting Your self-emptying love in our own lives and choices. We have imagined that glory could be other than it comes to us in the incarnation—in Christ we see glory as vulnerable, ordinary, frail; glory is marginal or easily overlooked. O that we would be captivated by the humble, inverted glory of Jesus, and long for a derivative share in that humble Glory which illuminates the city of God and quells the sun in its brilliance. Forgive us for being entranced by the lesser glories of human praise, fleeting comfort, and finite security. Grant us, in Your mercy, a share in Your foot-washing, leper-touching, unclean and inglorious glory. We confess that we often do not want to be glorious in the way of Jesus. We want glory in the way of Caesars and social-media influencers: glory that is noticed, respected, praised and secure. Forgive us. Help us to fix our eyes on things above, where Christ is seated, and to behold anew the nail-scarred hands and pierced side in which the vulnerable Glory of God is fully and definitively disclosed ...*(in silence)*

THE RESPONSE OF GRATITUDE 602 Precious Lord, Take My Hand

MAITLAND

THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Almighty God, who has promised forgiveness to all who turn to Him in faith: pardon you and set you free from all your sins, strengthen you to do His will, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Alleluia! Amen.**

♦ **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 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 BLESSING OF THE YOUNG DISCIPLES**THE HYMN OF PREPARATION 355 I Am Not My Own**

NOT MY OWN

THE SECOND READING

2 Corinthians 3:4-18

THE SERMON**Behold—Become**

Rev. James Estes

THE OFFERING**Hymn of Promise**

Natalie Sleeth

In the bulb there is a flower; in the seed, an apple tree; in cocoons, a hidden promise: butterflies will soon be free! In the cold and snow of winter, there's a spring that waits to be, unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see. There's a song in every silence, seeking word and melody; there's a dawn in every darkness, bringing hope to you and me. From the past will come the future; what it holds, a mystery, unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see. In our end is our beginning, in our time, infinity. In our doubt, there is believing; in our life, eternity. In our death, a resurrection; at the last, a victory, unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER◆ **THE CLOSING HYMN 841****Thine Be the Glory**

JUDAS MACCABEUS

◆ **THE CHARGE AND THE BENEDICTION****THE POSTLUDE****Improvisation on the tune** JUDAS MACCABEUS◆ *Please stand***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 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. Dollahon, Judy Doyle, Larry Doyle, Debi Foster, Janice Garbart, Gaye Graeler, Rita Graeler, Esther Harper, 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.

WORSHIP NOTES

Services are broadcast on Cox channel 3 (each Sunday) at 11:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m., 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 Esther Harper.

The flowers that adorn the Sanctuary today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Nick Broline, by Josie Whitley 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.

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

Ping Pong for a Purpose: Join the fun today in Stephenson Hall following the 11:00 a.m. services for the *Annual Ping Pong Tournament* and cookout. To register, visit the table in the atrium.

New Hymnals: You will notice that our new *Sing!* hymnals are now in use. 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: The Camp pool will be open every Sunday through August 30 from 1:30 – 4:30 p.m. at Camp Loughridge.

Kindergarten Blessing

Every year we gift our kindergarteners with a Bible and encourage parents to read it with them. This morning each of our kindergarteners received their Bible, and we pray every blessing upon them as they come to know the love of Jesus.

Wells Beaty	Elsie Kisitu
Montgomery Dimond	Elle Kumar
Zani Ekwempu	Evelyn Littlefield
Sullivan Foon	Rosie Porter
Tinsley Fries	Adrian Remondet
Caroline Gleason	Georgia Seibert
Owen Hoppe	Isla Smith
Lucy Jones	Penny Vaughan
	Nathan Wheeldryer

Fourth Grade Bible Celebration

Every year we gift our fourth graders with a study Bible and encourage parents to read it with them. This morning each of our fourth graders received their Bible, and we pray every blessing upon them as they come to know the love of Jesus.

Teddy Austin	Hannah McQueen
Aurora Campbell	Lawson Mercer
Samuel Doverspike	Amara Mugo
Jessica Ebil	Liam Odingo
Barnabas Estes	Allie Olson
Hank Foon	Daniel Ozueh
Elijah Gross	Emma Persson
Jelani Kamande	Elanor Schuster
Kett Lively	Campbell Seibert
	Cora Seibert

EVENTS THIS WEEK

Hunger and the Golden Rule: What does it mean for Christians to feed the hungry in ways that are faithful, just, and life-giving? Rev. James Estes will lead this lunch class on Wednesdays, August 19, 26, and September 2 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., in room E102. Please click the QR code to order lunch.



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.)

Wednesday Night Downtown: Mark your calendars, WNDR kickoff will be on Wednesday, September 9.

Presbyterian Women: First Church PW 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. The cost is \$15, which covers a continental breakfast, a buffet lunch, and other activities. For more information, contact Grace Masaku at gmасaku@firstchurchtulsa.org/ 918-301-1029.

Matson Cup Golf Tournament: Dust off those golf clubs and get ready for the annual Matson Golf Tournament on Monday, September 21, 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.



Grief Share: This grief recovery program for people who have lost a loved one is a 13-week series of classes held at 1:00 – 2:30 p.m. on Wednesdays in Room E104, starting on September 9. This is a Christ-centered program led by First Church members Rick Priest and Kathy Wilson. Every session consists of a video presentation, a review of that week's workbook lesson, and a facilitated group discussion. The required workbook is \$20. While it's most helpful to attend every session, the videos are available online for participants who can't attend every class. To register, go to www.griefshare.org/groups/265638 or contact Grace Masaku at 918-301-1029 or gmasaku@firstchurchtulsa.org.

Welcome the Beatys: As we welcome Rev. Cameron Beaty and his family to First Church, we invite you to celebrate with us at three special events on two separate days.
(Please note there will be only one worship service on August 23 and September 13. We worship at 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary.)

Sunday, August 23, join us in the atrium and Stephenson Hall for the *Welcome Beaty Breakfast*, with fellowship from 9:30 – 10:00 a.m. and a welcome program from 10:00 – 10:30 a.m. That afternoon, continue the celebration at the Beaty Beachball Bash from 1:30 – 4:30 p.m. at Camp Loughridge, featuring Josh's Sno Cones, pool games, and plenty of shaded areas.

Sunday, September 13, join us for *Breakfast on Boston* at 9:30 a.m. During the service, the Presb Eastern Oklahoma will officially install Rev. Beaty as Senior Pastor of First Presbyterian Church of



Beaty Welcome Fund: One way you can support Cameron, Emily and their family as they settle into their new home and begin their life and ministry at First Church. Gifts will help with practical needs associated with the transition and relocation. To contribute, click the QR code or send a check to First Church business office.

USE YOUR TALENTS

Did you know? Flower Ministry: Every Sunday, flowers adorn the Sanctuary and Chapel, given in memory of 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, who is serving with our international mission partners in Witu, Kenya.

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 the ministry we provide to 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 at Masterwork Academy: We are hiring 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 8/16

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

Saturday 8/22

8:45 am Before the Rooster Crows, E103

Adult Sunday School Classes at 9:30 a.m., August 23

Cornerstone	Not Meeting	E102
Covenanters	<i>Daniel</i>	E101
Faith and Family	<i>Book of John</i>	206
Families w/Young Children	<i>Ephesians</i>	Tower Room
Foundations	<i>Not Meeting</i>	E104
Harbingers	Not Meeting	E202
Morning Glory	Prayer and Sermon Texts	B318
Reflections	<i>Jesus—Prophet, Priest, and King</i>	E103
Shepherds	<i>Attributes of God</i>	E203
Sojourners	Old Testament	E204
Sowers	Not Meeting	E205I
The Vine	Class led Study	E100
UKirk/Young Adults	Not Meeting	E104
Westminster Forum	<i>The Case for Miracles</i>	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, Music Director and Organist