



***God's Covenant
Faithfulness:
In Season and Out of
Season***

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

FEBRUARY 25, 2024
11:00 AM
SANCTUARY

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

Second Sunday of Lent

11:00 a.m., Sanctuary

The Words of Preparation

What my eyes can't see I still believe... everything spoken to me. There's no word that can come back void...I will trust the report of the Lord. God is not a man that He should lie.... every need He will supply. So I will wait, I will not be moved....I believe, I believe, I will trust in You. *While I'm Waiting* Song by Travis Greene

The Prelude

Beneath the Cross of Jesus arr. Sondra Tucker
Overtones Bells; Gretchen Bashforth, director

The Welcome

Rev. Wambugu Gachungi
(Please sign, pass, and return the blue friendship register.)

The Introit

I Will Sing of Thy Mercies, from *St. Paul* Felix Mendelssohn
Randie Tacker, soloist

I will sing of thy great mercies, O Lord, my Savior, and of thy faithfulness evermore.
Psalm 89:1

◆ **The Call to Worship** (Psalm 24:1-6 The King of Glory)

The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein, for he has founded it upon the seas and established it upon the rivers. Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord? And who shall stand in his holy place?

He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to what is false and does not swear deceitfully. He will receive blessing from the Lord and righteousness from the God of his salvation. Such is the generation of those who seek him, who seek the face of the God of Jacob. AMEN!

◆ **The Opening Hymn** 488 The God of Abraham Praise LEONI *Acolytes: Elias, James, and Samuel Donohue*

◆ **The Prayer of Adoration** Courtney Manring

The First Reading

Numbers 13:25-33

The Prayer of Confession

Rev. Julia Metcalf

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things, and judge of all people, we acknowledge and regret our many sins and wickedness, which we from time to time have committed by thought, word, and deed, against your will. We earnestly repent and are heartily sorry for these sins; the remembrance is grievous to us. Merciful Father, have mercy upon us; forgive us all that is past and present, and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your name, through Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior.
...(in silence)

The Assurance of Pardon

Hear the good news! There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and death. Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun. Know that in Jesus, God embraces you, forgives you, and strengthens you to live a renewed life.

Thanks be to God.

◆ 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 Offering Our Soul Waits For the Lord Jane Marshall
Our soul waits for the Lord, he is our help and shield. Yea, our heart is glad because we trust in his holy name. Behold, the eye of the Lord is on those who fear him, on those who hope in his steadfast love. Let thy steadfast love be upon us, even as we hope in thee. Psalm 33:18, 20-22

The Second Reading Numbers 14:1-12

The Sermon The Truth: It's a Good Land Rev. Wambugu Gachungi

The Hymn 210 Our God, Our Help in Ages Past ST. ANNE

The Ordination/Installation of Officers
(class of 2026)

Elder

Laura Krohn

THE QUESTIONS TO THE OFFICERS

Do you trust in Jesus Christ your Savior, acknowledge him Lord of all and Head of the Church, and through him believe in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit?

Do you accept the Scriptures of the Old and New Testament to be, by the Holy Spirit, the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ in the Church universal, and God's Word to you?

Do you sincerely receive and adopt the essential tenets of the Reformed faith as expressed in the confessions of our Church as authentic and reliable expositions of what scripture leads us to believe and do, and will you be instructed and led by those confessions as you lead the People of God?

Will you fulfill your ministry in obedience to Jesus Christ, under the authority of Scripture, and be continually guided by our confessions?

Will you be governed by our church's polity, and will you abide by its discipline? Will you be a friend among your colleagues in ministry, working with them, subject to the ordering of God's Word and Spirit?

Will you in your own life seek to follow the Lord Jesus Christ, love your neighbors, and work for the reconciliation of the world?

Do you promise to further peace, unity and purity of the church?

Will you pray for and seek to serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination and love?

(Elders), will you be a faithful elder, watching over the people, providing for their worship, nurture and service? Will you share in government and discipline, serving in governing councils of the church, and in your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?

THE QUESTIONS TO THE CONGREGATION

Joel Donohue, CO-CLERK OF SESSION

1. Do we, the members of the church, accept them as officers chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ?
2. Do we agree to pray for them, encourage them, to respect their decisions and to follow as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is Head of the Church?

The Prayers of the People

◆ **The Lord's Prayer** (sung)

◆ **The Minute for Mission**

Nicole Pugh

◆ **The Charge and Benediction**

The Postlude

Improvisation on the tune ST. ANNE

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Greetings in Christ! We are so glad to have you worshipping with us this morning. 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 the presence of Christ and the warmth of this congregation.

If you do not have a church home, we would love to welcome you! Please contact Patricia Hall (918-301-1028 or phall@firstchurchtulsa.org). For general information, you can follow the QR code.



Parish Register

Prayers for Healing: Nifemi Aruna, Jane Azlin, Adelle Beathe, Joy Brewer, Steve Brill, Pat Brown, Roy Cail, Lara Elias-Campbell, Neil Cluck, Randy Corelli, Dwight Creveling, Marilyn Davis, Judah DeSpain, Judy Doyle, Donna Droege, Cecil Drummond, Gaye Graeler, Rita Graeler, Cynthia Hill-Meriwether, Elaine Horkey, Joyce Kunkel, Judith Land, Carmelitti LeFlore, Amy Lesh, Ann McKellar, Jon Mercer, Jan Miller, Jim Miller, Shari Postier, Lyle Proffitt, Helen Quiring, Carly Rivers, Mary Ruddle, Cyndi Russell, Jane Sneed, Cissy Ssettimba, Bob Swofford, Larry Tromp, Marcia Tromp, Susan Waldie, Dayne Weierbach, and Cynthia Wiles.

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.

Please notify the church if you have a pastoral need, change of address, phone number or other important family news. Contact Kathy Wilson at 918-301-1029 or kwilson@firstchurchtulsa.org.

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.

The flowers that adorn the Sanctuary today are given to the glory of God and in memory of Jackson and Lena Nafe by Carol, Griffin and Stephanie Elrod.

Our Letters of Blessing today go to Bill Wiles and family.

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.



First Church Updates

We are wrapping up Stewardship Season! If you have not yet turned in your pledge card for 2024, the Stewardship committee looks forward to receiving it. In this transition time, your support in prayer and giving is vital.

Pastoral Prayer: Join us as we pray for the pastoral transition. To receive a weekly prayer prompt, please text *@pastorfpc* to “81010”.

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* or contact Rev. Julia Metcalf at 918-301-1030.

Presbyterian Women’s February mission project is Lindsey House, which provides transitional housing and programs for newly homeless mothers with children. PW will be collecting money to make Easter baskets for the children who live there. Please place gifts in the donation box in the atrium on Sundays or mail your check to the church; payable to Presbyterian Women.

We’re hiring: Are you gifted at reaching out to new people and helping them get connected within the life of the church? Do you feel comfortable shepherding others as they consider their faith journey and membership with First Church? FPC is accepting applications for Director of New Member Outreach. To learn more, contact Duff Points at 918-301-1018 or apply at *Employment Opportunities – First Church Tulsa* on the First Church website.

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 QR code below or go to <https://1stchurchtulsa.wufoo.com/forms/2024-easter-lily-orders-for-firstachurchatulsa/> by March 18.”



Events This Week

Wednesday Night Downtown Gathering - Wednesdays through March 27, at 6:15 p.m., in Stephenson Hall, dinner at 5:15 p.m. **Journey Through the Wilderness:** Come together for a time of worship, contemplation, pastor-led reflection, and table conversations about following the Lord in an unknown season in the wilderness. Though we face challenges, we are reminded time and again that God is faithful and trustworthy. This week’s topic is *The Challenge of Trust* (Numbers 14:1-24) “What do you do when the promise is too hard?”

Prayer in the Chapel: Join together from 10:40-10:55 on the second Sunday of each month for prayer during this time of pastoral transition.

Mark Your Calendars with these events:	
March 28	Seder Meal
March 28	Maundy Thursday Service
March 29	Good Friday Service
March 31	Easter Sunday

COME, GROW YOUR FAITH!

TODAY 2/25

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

Monday 2/26

- 10:00 am Little Lambs, Wiseman Hall
- 12:00 pm Men's Monday Bible Study, E103

Tuesday 2/27

- 9:30 am Precepts Bible Study, E100
- 4:00 pm Men's Bible Study, E313

Wednesday 2/28

- 10:00 am Watercolor Through Lent, Tower Room
- 5:15 pm Wednesday Night Dinner, Stephenson Hall
- 6:00 pm Awana, POW, Amass Exodus
- 6:15 pm Adult Classes
- 6:30 pm Chancel Choir, Choir Room

Thursday 2/29

- 9:30 am Hearts for the Lord Bible Study, E313

Saturday 3/2

- 8:30 am Before the Rooster Crows, E103

Adult Sunday School Classes for NEXT Sunday, 3/3 at 9:30 a.m.

<i>Cornerstone</i>	<i>The Story</i>	E102
<i>Covenanters</i>	<i>Drive Thru History: Acts to Revelation</i>	E101
<i>Faith and Family</i>	<i>14 Talks by Age 14</i>	Prayer Room
<i>Forum</i>	<i>The Message of Easter</i>	E200
<i>Foundations</i>	<i>Romans</i>	E104
<i>Harbingers</i>	<i>Gospel in Life, Timothy Keller</i>	E202
<i>Morning Glory</i>	Prayer and Fasting	B318
<i>Reflections</i>	Characteristics of Christian Love	E103
<i>Shepherds</i>	Study of The Apostles' Creed	E203
<i>Sojourners</i>	<i>Light of Christ</i>	E204
<i>The Vine</i>	24 Hours that Changed the World	E100
<i>Westminster</i>	<i>The Message of Easter</i>	Tower Room
<i>Young Adults/Ukirk</i>	Discovery Bible Study	E201
<i>Young Parents</i>	Book Study: <i>For Better or For Kids</i>	E205

The First Church Pastors

Daniel Hutchinson, M. Div., *Interim Senior Pastor*

James Estes, M. Div., *Associate Pastor*

Wambugu Gachungi, M. Div., *Associate Pastor*

Julia Metcalf, M. Div., *Associate Pastor*