

Credible Witnesses on the Road to Pentecost

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

April 23, 2023
Sanctuary, 11:00 AM

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

Third Sunday of Eastertide

Sanctuary, 11:00 a.m.

The Words of Preparation

The Gospels are based on the eyewitness testimony of those who personally knew Jesus, who had witnessed the events of his life and teachings, his death and resurrection. The gospels were not circulated as anonymous community traditions, they were transmitted in the names of the original eyewitness.

Richard Bauckham, *Jesus and the Eyewitnesses*

The Prelude

Forest Green arr. Weekley and Argonbright
All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name arr. Labenske
Crown Him with Many Crowns arr. Labenske
Doris Herald and Nancy Strimel, pianists

The Welcome

(Please sign, pass, and return the blue Friendship Register)

The Introit Tell Out, My Soul, the Greatness of the Lord

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord! Unnumbered blessings give my spirit voice; tender to me the promise of His Word; in God my Savior shall my heart rejoice.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of His name! Make known His might, the deeds His arm has done; His mercy sure, from age to age the same; His holy Name, the Lord, the mighty One.

Congregation stands and joins in song

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of His might! Powers and dominions lay their glory by; proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight; the hungry fed, the humble lifted high.

Tell out, my soul, the glories of His Word! Firm is His promise, and His mercy sure. Tell out my soul, the greatness of the Lord to children's children and forevermore!

◆ **The Prayer of Adoration**

Rev. Dan Hutchinson

◆ **The Hymn 142** All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!

CORONATION

Acolytes: Sammy Hand, Kamryn Chaney and James Doverspike

The Responsive Reading: Psalm 19:1-12

The heavens declare the glory of God;
the skies proclaim the work of his hands.

**Day after day they pour forth speech;
night after night they reveal knowledge.**

They have no speech, they use no words;
no sound is heard from them.

**Yet their voice goes out into all the earth,
their words to the ends of the world.**

In the heavens God has pitched a tent for the sun.
It is like a bridegroom coming out of his chamber,
like a champion rejoicing to run his course.

**It rises at one end of the heavens
and makes its circuit to the other;
nothing is deprived of its warmth.**

The law of the LORD is perfect,
refreshing the soul.

**The statutes of the LORD are trustworthy,
making wise the simple.**

The precepts of the LORD are right,
giving joy to the heart.

**The commands of the LORD are radiant,
giving light to the eyes.**

The fear of the LORD is pure,
enduring forever.

**The decrees of the LORD are firm,
and all of them are righteous.**
They are more precious than gold,
than much pure gold;
**they are sweeter than honey,
than honey from the honeycomb.**
By them your servant is warned;
in keeping them there is great reward.
**But who can discern their own errors?
Forgive my hidden faults.**
Keep your servant also from willful sins;
may they not rule over me.


The Prayer of Confession

Lord Jesus Christ, we have a penchant for seeing the errors of others, but missing the same in ourselves. Each of us could speak to hidden faults that sit deep within us; and all of us struggle with sins that threaten to rule over us. But you have come to redeem, to liberate, and to awaken us to become what you have called us to be. Lord, in your mercy, forgive us and hear our prayers....
(in silence)

The Invitation to embrace God's Gift of Forgiveness

Friends, hear the good news: Jesus Christ offers forgiveness and new life to all who call upon Him! **Alleluia! Amen!**

◆ The Response And Can it Be?



And can it be that I—Should gain an in - trest_ in the_—
No con - dem - na - tion now I dread; Je - sus, and_ all in_—

7




Sav - ior's blood? Died He for me, — who caused His pain? For
Him is mine! A - live in Him, — my liv - ing Head, and

13




me, who Him to death pur - sued? A - maz-ing love! How
 clothed in right - eous - ness di - vine; Bold I ap - proach th'e -

19



can it be that Thou, my God, shouldst die for
 ter - nal throne and claim the crown, through Christ, my

24



me? A - maz - ing love! how can it be that Thou, my
 own. Bold I ap - proach th'e - ter - nal throne and claim the

30



God, shouldst die Christ, for my me?
 crown, through_ Christ, my own.

The Blessing of the Young Disciples Yes or No?

...He appeared to many faithful witnesses....

◆ The Eastertide Affirmation

Caleb Shelton

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 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 first to the women, then to Peter and to the Twelve, and then to many faithful witnesses*. We believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of the living God. Jesus Christ is the first and the last, the beginning and the end; He is our Lord and our God.

◆ **The Song**

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine. This little light of mine, I'm gonna to let it shine. This little light of mine, I'm gonna to let it shine –let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!

Jesus shared His Light with me, I'm gonna let it shine! Jesus shared His Light with me, I'm gonna let it shine. Jesus shared His light with me, I'm gonna let it shine, let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!

The New Testament Reading I Corinthians 15:1-10

The Sermon How Credible is Your Witness?

His grace toward me has not been in vain. I Cor. 15:10

The Offertory Easter Victory Hal Hopson

O death, where is your sting? O grave, where is your victory?
Man, born of woman is of few days. Man, like a flower fades and is no more. For since by man came death, through Adam all must die. O death, where is your sting? O grave, where is your victory?
Thanks be to God, who gives to us the victory. Thanks be to God: through Christ we live for evermore. Now is Christ risen from the dead. He is the first fruits of them that slept. At the loud trumpet we shall be changed. We die in Adam, we live in Christ. Alleluia!

The Joys and Concerns of the Church

The Prayers of the People

The Hymn 155 Rejoice, the Lord is King! DARWALL'S 148TH

◆ **The Charge and Benediction**

◆ **The Postlude** Improvisation on the tune DARWALL'S 148TH

+ + +

Music Lovers: Hear the Good News Story!
Inspiring Concert: Multiple Choirs and Voices

Join us today: 5:00 p.m.

*“Singing the Life of Christ,
from Prophecy to Resurrection”*

Favorite anthems and Bible readings that tell The Story.

**Featuring the Chancel Choir, Celebration Singers, and First Church
Choristers –with orchestra.**

Reception following in the Atrium

Our Letter of Blessing today goes to *Buddy and Maggie Neal* and to *Dr. John Ortberg*.

This Week

“Significant Essays” by C. S. Lewis. Dr. Miller begins his new Pastor’s Study today and each Sunday at 9:30 (Stephenson) and every Wednesday at 11:30 a.m. (E104).

Continuing the Prayer Vigil - The prayer room, (204), remains open during normal church hours through Pentecost, May 28. Come and enjoy a special time of presence and conversation with the Master.

The Inquirers Class – The adventure of Christian community! Bring your questions as you consider why a community of faith is important in your discipleship. Today at 9:15, and continuing Sundays, April 30, May 7 and 14 (Miller Library). Register by contacting Patricia Hall at 918-301-1028 or click on the QR code below.



Presbyterian Women: purchase your Mother's Day cards to help benefit women caught in domestic violence. The design artist this year is our member Mary Lee Weaver. Pick up your cards today in the atrium and on Sundays, April 30 or May 7.

Wednesday Night Downtown

Join us for *Small Talk on Big Truths*: Dr. Miller joins Rev. Wambugu Gachungi in room E104 on Wednesdays nights at 6:15 p.m. --an in-depth study of last week's sermon Scriptures. Bring your Bible!

PKM fundraiser, this Thursday, April 27, 6:00 p.m., Bernsen Great Hall: the *Mara Gen* (love and hope) Concert includes the Tulsa Opera's *Traveling Voices* and the *International African Children's Choir*. Tickets: \$35. See <https://www.petrakids.org/mara-gen-concert>. Your gifts support the PKM Student Scholarship Fund.

Mark Your Calendar

Works of HeART - WOH is an FPC art ministry for the clients at the Day Center for the Homeless. Interested in volunteering? Visit the table in the atrium today and next Sunday, April 30.

Deacons Day of Care: Saturdays, May 6 and May 20, 9:00 a.m. Teams help with light yard work and home maintenance. To volunteer, or to request help at your home, register in the atrium today or Sunday, April 30. Contact Julie Steiner at juliesteiner19@gmail.com or Kathy Wilson at kwilson@firstchurchtulsa.org for information.

Second Annual Kids Fishing Derby! Camp Loughridge, May 20. To register, visit the table in the atrium today.

Ongoing Ministry Opportunities

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](https://www.facebook.com/fpcyoungadults), or contact Rev. Julia Metcalf at 918-301-1030.

Faith Partners Addiction Ministry - Faith Partners provides intervention, education, and recovery support to individuals and families suffering from addiction. If you are in need of information, please call Patricia Hall at 918-301-1028. A Faith Partners team member will return your call. All contact is confidential.

Parish Register

Prayers for Healing: Jane Azlin, Linda Barnett, Rob Berry, Beth Campbell, Dwight Creveling, Marilyn Davis, Donna Droege, Cecil Drummond, David Dunning, Mary Ann Elliott, Anita Ewing, Gaye Graeler, Cynthia Hill-Meriwether, Meg Hubler, Warren Hubler, Jeannie Dickey Kelsay, Joyce Kunkel, Carmelitti LeFlore, Amy Lesh, Ann McKellar, Jan Miller, David Morgan, David Osterholt, Larry Osterhout, Rosemary Priest, Lyle Proffitt, Carly Rivers, Mary Ruddle, Robert Shaw, Jane Sneed, Cissy Ssettimba, Marcia Tromp and Susan Waldie.

The Sacrament of Baptism: Elanor Louise Fredericka and Rosewyn Elizabeth Georgiana Hutchinson, twin daughters of Dan and Hanna Hutchinson, were baptized on April 16.

With Gratitude for the Resurrection: Anne Nunnelee, a member since 2018, died on April 13.

Worship Notes

The flowers that beautify the Sanctuary today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Gregg and Dorothy H. Layman by Susan Layman and Peggy Welch Hoyt.

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 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*.

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.



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 Guild of Intercessors is a group of FPC members who are dedicated to praying for the needs both within and outside of this congregation. If you'd appreciate prayer for yourself, a loved one, or a friend, please call Paula Peterson, Guild Chairman at 918-296-5548. Requests are shared with the Pastors and Guild members.

THIS WEEK

TODAY 4/23

8:00 am Worship: Kerr Chapel
 8:30 am Worship: Stephenson Hall
 9:30 am Gatherings and Classes
 11:00 am Worship: Sanctuary, Stephenson, Great Hall

Monday 4/24

11:30 am Monday School, Kirkland Library
 11:45 am Guy's Monday Bible Study, E103
 6:30 pm Seasons Women's Gathering, Stephenson Hall

Tuesday 4/25

9:30 am Precepts, E100

Wednesday 4/26

11:30 am Pastor's Study, E104
 11:30 am Downtown Theological Roundtable, 206
 12:00 pm Pathways to Hope, 206
 5:15 pm Wednesday Night Dinner, Stephenson Hall
 6:00 pm Awana, POW and Amass Exodus
 6:15 pm Adult classes, various locations
 6:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room

Thursday 4/27

6:00 pm Petra Kids Fundraiser Choir Concert, Great Hall

Saturday 4/29

8:45 am Before the Rooster Crows, E103

COME, GROW YOUR FAITH!

TODAY: Adult Classes, 9:30 a.m.

Cornerstone	<i>Minor Prophets</i>	E102
Covenanters	<i>Renovated: God, Dallas, & the Church That Transforms</i>	E101
Faith and Family Forum	<i>Wesley Study on Minor Prophets</i>	Prayer Room
Harbingers	<i>All the Places to Go</i>	E200
Morning Glory	<i>Eternity is Now in Session</i>	E202
New Parents	Mastering Your Emotions	B318
Pastor's Study 1	Theology and Parenting	E205
Pastor's Study 2	Significant Essays by C. S. Lewis	Stephenson
Reflections	New Testament Overview	E104
Shepherds	<i>Judges</i>	E103
Sojourners	<i>Study of Ruth</i>	E203
UKirk	King David	E204
Westminster	New Testament Overview	E104
Young Adults	Introduction of Spiritual Disciplines	Tower Room
	New Testament Overview	E104

ELDERS (THE SESSION):

Responsible for the governance of the church.
They provide leadership in all areas, including: Worship, Administration, Programs, Mission, and Ministry.

DEACONS:

The "heartbeat" of the church, ordained for the purpose of "ministering to those in special need."

TRUSTEES:

Stewards of the First Presbyterian Church Foundation.

THE OFFICER NOMINATING COMMITTEE:

Identifies leaders God has called and prepared to serve our congregation.

Currently Serving Elders

<p><u>Class of 2023</u> Maxwell Asare Dacia Bird Janine Burlin Debbie Favell Rusty Gaddy Patrick Kirunda Elisa Mangesho Anne McCoy Amy Russell Jim Scheiper</p>	<p><u>Class of 2024</u> Laurel Baird Allison Biggs Mark Brown Larry Ewing Stephanie Madsen Urbanus Masaku Steve Metcalf Paul Mungai Denise Rounds Karen Woolman</p>	<p><u>Class of 2025</u> Brett Crane Elizabeth DeVore John Harper Jessica John-Bowman Jeanette Kern Jaclyn Metcalf Eric Olson Jacob Thompson Solomon Tsuma Faith Wambugu</p>
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Currently Serving Deacons

Class of 2023

*Sheri Allen
Keith Campbell
Michael Homan
Cindy Johnson
Lucy Kamande
Clint McQueen
Dylan Seibert
Ed Slier
Julie Steiner
Shannon Thomas*

Class of 2024

*Tina Aruna
Bette Cromer
Sandy Curtis
Quentin Franklin
Carter Mathews
Buddy Neal
Valentine Ndunga
Dan Richmond
Grace Shelton
Scott Swanson*

Class of 2025

*Anita Anthony
Tyler Bird
Nancy Blocker
Beryl Bolo
Brandon Evans
Jeremy Foon
Nick McMillan
Janet Mercer
Gladys Njino
Cissy Ssettimba*

Currently Serving Trustees

Class of 2023

*Todd Schuster
Robert Pielsticker
Amy Tingleaf*

Class of 2024

*Steve Caldwell
Jane Crain
Pam Farris*

Class of 2025

*Dr. John Frame
Ken McQueen
Barrett Powers*

FPC LEADERSHIP NOMINATIONS

The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers.

Ephesians 4:11

Prayerfully fill out the form below by **Wednesday, May 15:**

E-mail nominees to: dschooley@firstchurchtulsa.org

Name of nominee: _____

Nominated by: _____

I nominate this person for service as an (circle one):

Elder

Deacon

Trustee

Nominating Committee

A. What specific strengths/gifts will this person bring to this position?

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

B. Describe how this person has served Christ's purposes here at FPC or in the community.

Nominating Committee 2023: Co-Chair, Amy Russell, Co-Chair, Denise Rounds, Patrick Grogan, Gary Johnson, Becca Kibui, Jason Pugh, Carol Rowland, Spurgeon Wambugu, Laurie Winslow along with representatives from each officer board.