



## **God's Secret Stair:**

His Unexpected  
Presence!

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

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**EASTERTIDE**

**MAY 22, 2022**

**11:00 AM**

**SANCTUARY**

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

# ***Sixth Sunday of Easter***

*11:00 a.m., Sanctuary*

## **The Words of Preparation**

God has created me to do some definite service. He has committed some work to me which He has not committed to another. I have my mission. I am a link in the chain, a bond of connection between persons. He has not created me for naught. I shall do His work. John Henry Newman

## **The Welcome**

Dr. Jim Miller

## **The Introit**

I Will Sing of My Redeemer

Nancy Walters

*Randie Lewis, soloist*

I will sing of my Redeemer and His wondrous love to me; on the cruel cross He suffered from the curse to set me free. *Sing, O sing of my Redeemer, with His blood He purchased me; on the cross He sealed my pardon, paid the debt and made me free.*  
I will praise my dear Redeemer, His triumphant power I'll tell, how the victory He giveth over sin and death and hell. *Refrain.*  
I will sing of my Redeemer and His heavenly love to me, He from death to life hath brought me, Son of God with Him to be. *Refrain.*

## **The Call to Worship**

You have turned our mourning into dancing, O Lord! You've removed our sackcloth –and clothed us with joy– so that our soul might praise you and not be silent. Lamentations 30:11-12

**O Lord, our God, we will give thanks to you forever!**

We will sing a new song to you, O Lord! We will be glad and praise Your Name with dancing; we'll make melody with instruments and voice! Lord of the dance, come and teach us how to dance!

**Come and awaken us to joy, love and service –in Your Name!  
Alleluia! Amen!**

- ◆ **The Hymn** 302 I Danced in the Morning SIMPLE GIFTS  
*Acolytes: Lyle and Eden Bristow, and Jacob Case*
- ◆ **The Prayer of Adoration** Luke Lofton

**The Old Testament Reading** Judges 6:1-16 (*The Message translation*)

Yet again the people of Israel went back to doing evil in GOD’s sight. GOD put them under the domination of Midian for seven years. Midian overpowered Israel.

Because of Midian, the people of Israel made for themselves hideouts in the mountains—caves and forts. When Israel planted its crops, Midian and Amalek, the easterners, would invade them, camp in their fields, and destroy their crops all the way down to Gaza. They left nothing for them to live on, neither sheep nor ox nor donkey. Bringing their cattle and tents, they came in and took over, like an invasion of locusts. And their camels—past counting! They marched in and devastated the country.

The people of Israel, reduced to grinding poverty by Midian, cried out to GOD for help.

When the people of Israel had cried out to GOD because of Midian, GOD sent them a prophet with this message: “GOD, the God of Israel, says,

I delivered you from Egypt,  
I freed you from a life of slavery;  
I rescued you from Egypt’s brutality  
and then from every oppressor;  
I pushed them out of your way  
and gave you their land.

“And I said to you, ‘I am GOD, your God. Don’t for a minute be afraid of the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living.’  
But you didn’t listen to me.”

One day the angel of GOD came and sat down under the oak in Ophrah that belonged to Joash the Abiezrite, whose son Gideon was threshing wheat in the winepress, out of sight of the Midianites. The angel of GOD appeared to him and said, “GOD is with you, O mighty warrior!”

Gideon replied, “With *me*, my master? If GOD is with us, why has all this happened to us? Where are all the miracle-wonders our parents and grandparents told us about, telling us, ‘Didn’t God deliver us from Egypt?’ The fact is, GOD has nothing to do with us—he has turned us over to Midian.”

But GOD faced him directly: “Go in this strength that is yours. Save Israel from Midian. Haven’t I just sent you?”

Gideon said to him, “*Me*, my master? How and with what could I ever save Israel? Look at me. My clan’s the weakest in Manasseh and I’m the runt of the litter.”

GOD said to him, “I’ll be with you. Believe me, you’ll defeat Midian as one man.”

## **The Prayer of Confession**

Dr. Wes Vander Lugt

Good Lord, Your world is broken and messy, full of evil acts that kill, maim, and steal. We look to Ukraine and see the suffering; we read of murders in a grocery store in Buffalo, New York. We look into our own hearts and see the scrambled nature of our lives.

The Israelites found themselves in anguish, too. The hardship they suffered awakened them to cry out to You. So also, you come ready with a prescription designed to bring us back, –back to Your love and grace, Your healing presence. Come to us, dear Lord. Meet us in our sin; have Your own way. And in Your mercy, hear our prayers... (*in silence*)

## **The Remembrance**

And Jesus said, "Remember this: I am with you *always*, even unto the end of the world." Matthew 28:20

In this very room, there's quite enough love for one like me, and in this room, there's quite enough joy for one like me; and in this very room, there's quite enough power to chase away any gloom –for Jesus, Lord Jesus, is in this very room!

And in this very room there's quite enough love for all of us; and in this very room, there's quite enough joy for all of us, and there's quite enough hope, and there's quite enough power to chase away any gloom –for Jesus, Lord Jesus, is in this very room!

In this very room there's quite enough love for all the world, and in this very room there's quite enough joy for all the world, and there's quite enough hope and quite enough power to chase away any gloom, for Jesus, Lord Jesus ...is in this very room!

## **The Invitation to Receive Forgiveness**

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 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 Eastertide Affirmation of Faith**

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 Jesus died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that He was buried, that He was raised on the third day, and that He appeared to the women, then to Peter and the Twelve, and to many faithful witnesses. We believe He is the Messiah, the Son of the living God. He is the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End; He is our Lord and our God. Amen.

**The Blessing of the Young Disciples**

Courtaney Miller

*How golf teaches us about the Church.*

◆ **The Hymn of Preparation**

Holy Spirit, living breath of God, breathe new life into my willing soul. Let the presence of the risen Lord, come renew my heart and make me whole. Cause Your Word to come alive in me; give me faith for what I cannot see, give me passion for Your purity; Holy Spirit, breathe new life in me. Holy Spirit, come abide within,

May Your joy be seen in all I do. Love enough to cover every sin, in each thought and deed and attitude. Kindness to the greatest and the least, gentleness that sows the path of peace. Turn my strivings into works of grace; breath of God show Christ in all I do.

**The New Testament Reading** John 21:1-14

**The Sermon** Unexpected, Uninvited, Unmistakable –Grace!

*Early in the morning, Jesus stood on the shore, but the disciples did not realize that it was Jesus.*  
*John 21:4*

**The Anthem**

If God Is For Us

Allen Pote

If God is for us who can be against us? Who can separate us from the love of Christ? Will tribulation or despair, persecution, hunger, or poverty, will danger or will death? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life nor angels, nor rulers nor things present nor things to come nor powers, depth, nor height, no, nothing in all creation can separate us from the love of God through Christ Jesus our Lord!  
*Romans 8:31-39*

**The Joys and Concerns of the Church**

**The Commissioning of those on Pilgrimage to Israel**

With God's help, will you seek to show the love of Christ to all you meet, will you watch for His presence as you follow in His steps, and will you share with others the joy of your discoveries?

**The Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer**

- ◆ **The Hymn** 113 Christ the Lord Is Risen Today! LLANFAIR
- ◆ **The Charge and Benediction**
- ◆ **The Postlude** Improvisation on the tune LLANFAIR

**Worship Notes**

**The flowers in today's Sanctuary worship** are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Dee McQueen and Donna Bell, by Clint and Christine McQueen.

**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](mailto: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.

### **First Church Updates**

**A warm welcome to each and all this morning!** In this glorious Eastertide, we pray that you'll sense the presence of Christ in this place and the heartfelt joy of this community called First Church.

**We're grateful to commission another group of pilgrims** on their way to the Holy Land, leaving this Wednesday and returning on June 10. You can follow their journey on First Church Facebook page. Your prayers are appreciated by all.

**Ascension Day worship in the Courtyard:** this Thursday, May 26, at 11:30 a.m. Join us as we celebrate Jesus' Lordship, His ruling and overruling power, and His commission to each of his disciples. A lunch is available following the service.

**It's time to consider leadership within First Church.** Please see page 10 of today's bulletin for details.

**Dr. Wes Vander Lugt and his family** will be returning to Charlotte, North Carolina, where Wes will begin a new position with Gordon-Conwell Seminary. It has been a complete joy to share life with this beautiful family and sit under the teaching and preaching of

Dr. Vander Lugt. A reception for the family is set for next Sunday, May 29, in the Atrium following the 11:00 services.

**Glimpses of Grace:** Sundays, June 5, 12, 19, and 26, 9:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary. Please join us as members of the FPC family of faith share their personal testimonies of how Jesus Christ has been at work in and through their lives.

- June 5 – Grace Shelton
- June 12 – Senator James M. Inhofe, Sr.
- June 19 – Dr. Jim Miller
- June 26 – Tyler Bird

**Give the gift of a warm welcome! Join First Church's ministry of Greeters.** Please contact Patricia Hall at 918-301-1028 or [phall@firstchurchtulsa.org](mailto:phall@firstchurchtulsa.org).

**Presbyterian Women's May Mission** is the Community Food Bank. A container will be in the atrium on Wednesdays and Sundays in May to collect bags of beans, rice and canned vegetables.

**The Deacons Days of Care:** Saturday, 28, teams of Deacons and volunteers go to homes of members who have requested assistance with various home and yard maintenance issues. To volunteer to help, please register at:



**First Church cancer list** - Do you or a loved one have cancer? Members of the Guild of Intercessors pray every day for those on the Guild's Cancer List. If you would like to add yourself, a loved one, or a friend or colleague to this list, please contact Paula Peterson at 918-296-5548/[mandppeterson@msn.com](mailto:mandppeterson@msn.com) or Monte Prater at 918-605-9719/[monteprater@aol.com](mailto:monteprater@aol.com).

**First Family Summer Swim begins next** Sunday, May 29, and continues through September 4: 1:45 – 5:00 p.m. at Camp Loughridge.

**Help us keep our attendance records accurate** – There are several ways you can check-in: Fill in the form or use the QR code at the back of the bulletin, 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](mailto:kwilson@firstchurchtulsa.org).

### **Parish Register**

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

**The Celebration of Christian Marriage:** Melissa Davis married Evan Lockett on May 14.

## SEEKING GOD'S SERVANT LEADERS

*After the pattern of the One "who came not to be served, but to serve."*

*-Matthew 20:28*

*One of the most important privileges we share is to encourage gifted and committed men and women to serve the Lord in leadership positions. Thank you for taking time to offer suggestions to the FPC Nominating Committee.*

### **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**

##### **Class of 2022**

*Dr. Jim Bailey  
Shannon Bair  
Cam Campbell  
Joel Donohue  
Adam Doverspike  
Dr. Patrick Grogan  
Karla Kerby  
Cathy Laird  
Dru McQueen  
Katie Williams*

##### **Class of 2023**

*Maxwell Asare  
Dacia Bird  
Janine Burlin  
Debbie Favell  
Rusty Gaddy  
Patrick Kirunda  
Elisa Mangesho  
Anne McCoy  
Amy Russell  
Jim Scheiper*

##### **Class of 2024**

*Laurel Baird  
Allison Biggs  
Mark Brown  
Larry Ewing  
Stephanie Madsen  
Urbanus Masaku  
Steve Metcalf  
Paul Mungai  
Denise Rounds  
Karen Woolman*

## **Deacons**

### **Class of 2022**

Jackie Allison  
Cheryl Arthur  
Jim Inhofe  
Julie Kelly  
Becca Kibui  
Steve Krohn  
John McCormack  
David Raybourn  
Carol Rowland  
Adam Smith

### **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

## **Trustees**

### **Class of 2022**

Holbrook Lawson  
Mike Neal  
Jason Pugh

### **Class of 2023**

Todd Schuster  
Robert Pielsticker  
Amy Tingleaf

### **Class of 2024**

Steve Caldwell  
Jane Crain  
Pam Farris

Please fill out the form below:

- E-mail nominees to: [dschooley@firstchurchtulsa.org](mailto:dschooley@firstchurchtulsa.org), or
- Go to website and fill out electronic form at:  
[firstchurchtulsa.org/nominations22](http://firstchurchtulsa.org/nominations22).

# FPC LEADERSHIP NOMINATIONS

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

*Ephesians 4:11*

Full name of nominee: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominated by (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

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

Elder

Deacon

Trustee

Not sure

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

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

B. How has this person given service to FPC or the larger church?

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

*Nominating Committee 2022: Chair, Dacia Bird, Chair, Janet Bull, Jenni Dollahon, Bill Huffman, Phil Rounds, Barbara Sanders, Porter Shults, Solomon Tsuma along with representatives from each officer board.*

## **THIS WEEK**

Today 5/22/22

8:00 a.m. Kerr Chapel Worship

8:30 a.m. Worship, Stephenson Hall

9:30 a.m. Gatherings and Classes

11:00 a.m. Worship, Sanctuary, Stephenson Hall and Great Hall

Monday 5/23/22

Guys' Monday Bible Study 11:45 a.m., E103

Thursday 5/26/21

Hearts for the Lord Zoom Only

Saturday 5/28/21

Before the Rooster Crows 8:45 a.m., E103

### **COME, GROW YOUR FAITH!**

*NEXT SUNDAY Adult Classes, 9:30 a.m.*

#### **On Site:**

Bible Walk	<i>Bible Study, Class Led</i>	E101
Cornerstone	<i>The History of Acts</i>	E102
Covenanters	<i>Evangelical Theology</i> by Karl Barth	E205
Faith and Family	Old Testament Survey	E104
Forum	The Prayer of Jesus	E200
Harbingers	Class Brunch	E202
Reflections	<i>Life Without Lack</i> by Dallas Willard	E103
Sojourners (All Ages)	<i>Creeds and Confessions</i>	E204
UKirk Grow	F.A.I.T.H. Unfolded	KRC
The Vine (Singles/couples)	Bible Study	E100
Young Adults (20's and 30's)	Old Testament Survey	E104
Shepherds	<i>If You Want to Walk on Water</i> by John Ortberg	E203
Westminster	<i>Bible Study</i>	The Tower Room

**May 22, 2022**  
**11:00 Sanctuary**

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Member \_\_\_\_\_ or Guest \_\_\_\_\_

go to the link: [bit.ly/fpcregister](https://bit.ly/fpcregister);  
or  
using the QR code below.



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