



***The People
of
God in Worship***

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

**REFORMATION SUNDAY
OCTOBER 25, 2020
8:30 AM
STEPHENSON HALL**

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

Reformation Sunday

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

8:30 a.m. Stephenson Hall

The Words of Preparation

At last thinking over the matter for days and nights, God showed me mercy and connection of these words with the following sentence 'The just shall live by faith.'...I saw the meaning in the verse to be: 'Through the Gospel is revealed that righteousness of God by which the merciful God declares the believers righteous'...The one justified by faith shall live.

Martin Luther

The Welcome and Call to Worship (Heidelberg Catechism Q. 1)

What is your only comfort, in life and in death?

That I belong – body and soul, in life and in death – not to myself but to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ, who at the cost of his own blood, has fully paid for all my sins and has completely freed me from the dominion of the devil.

Christ protects me so well that without the will of my Father in heaven not a hair can fall from my head.

Indeed, everything must fit his purpose for my salvation.

By his Holy Spirit, he also assures me of eternal life,

And makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.

Therefore let us stand in honor!

And let us worship God!

The Songs of Praise

A Mighty Fortress is Our God

A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing; our helper
He, amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing: for still our ancient
foe doth seek to work us woe; His craft and power are great,
and, armed with cruel hate, on earth is not his equal.

Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing; were not the right Man on our side, the Man of God's own choosing: dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is He; Lord Sabaoth, His Name, from age to age the same, and He must win the battle.

And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us, we will not fear, for God hath willed His truth to triumph through us: The prince of darkness grim, we tremble not for him; His rage we can endure, for lo, his doom is sure, one little word shall fell him.

That word above all earthly powers, no thanks to them, abideth; The Spirit and the gifts are ours through Him who with us sideth: let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also; the body they may kill: God's truth abideth still, His kingdom is forever.

I Will Wait For You

Lord, from the depths I call to you, Lord, hear me from on high, and give attention to my voice when I for mercy cry!

Out of the depths I cry to You, in darkest places I will call; incline Your ear to me anew and hear my cry for mercy, Lord!

Were You to count my sinful ways, how could I come before Your throne; yet full forgiveness meets my gaze, I stand redeemed by grace alone!

I will wait for You; I will wait for You. On Your Word, I will rely.

I will wait for You, surely wait for You till my soul is satisfied.

So put your hope in God alone; take courage in His power to save, completely and forever won by Christ emerging from the grave! *Refrain*

Now He has come to make a way and God Himself has paid the price that all who trust in Him today find healing in His sacrifice! *Refrain*

I will wait for You, I will wait for You through the storm and through the night. I will wait for You, surely wait for You – for Your love is my delight!

I pray my soul waits for the Lord, my hope is in His Word; more than the watchman waits for dawn, my soul waits for the Lord!

The First Reading Romans 5:1-11

Rev. James Estes

The Prayer of Confession (by John Calvin)

Lord God, eternal and almighty Father: We acknowledge before your holy majesty that we are poor sinners, conceived and born in guilt and in corruption, prone to do evil, unable of our own power to do good. Because of our sin, we endlessly violate your holy commandments. But, O Lord, with heartfelt sorrow we repent and turn away from all our offenses. We condemn ourselves and our evil ways, with true sorrow asking that your grace will relieve our distress. Have compassion on us, most gracious God, Father of mercies, for the sake of your son Jesus Christ our Lord. And in removing our guilt, also grant us daily increase of the grace of your Holy Spirit, and produce in us the fruits of holiness and of righteousness pleasing in your sight: Through Jesus Christ our Lord...*(in silence)*

◆ **The Response** Boldly I Approach

By grace alone, somehow I stand where even angels fear to tread; invited by redeeming love, before the throne of God above. He pulls me close with nail-scarred hands, into His everlasting arms.

When condemnation grips my heart and Satan tempts me to despair, I hear the voice that scatters fear; The Great I Am, The Lord, is here. O praise the One who fights for me and shields my soul eternally.

Boldly, I approach Your throne; blameless now, I'm running home; by Your blood I come, welcomed as Your own, into the arms of Majesty.

Behold the bright and risen Son, more beauty than this world has known; I'm face to face with Love Himself; His perfect spotless righteousness. A thousand years, a thousand tongues are not enough to sing His praise. *Refrain*

This is the art of celebration, knowing we're free from condemnation; O praise the One; praise the One, who made an end to all my sin! *Refrain*

The Assurance of Pardon (Westminster Confession of Faith, 6.047)

The Lord Jesus, by his perfect obedience and sacrifice of himself, which he through the eternal Spirit once offered up unto God, hath fully satisfied the justice of the Father; and purchased not only reconciliation, but an everlasting inheritance in the kingdom of heaven, for all those whom the Father hath given unto him.

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel that in Christ Jesus there is indeed forgiveness for everyone who calls upon His name. **Alleluia! 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 Second Reading Acts 16:25-34

The Sermon

Making the Most of a Bad Situation Rev. Dan Hutchinson
*...Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God,
and the prisoners were listening to them... Acts 16:25*

The Invitation to the Table

Words of Institution

Prayer of Blessing

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Sharing of Joys and Concerns

The Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

The Closing Song More than Conquerors

When my hope and strength is gone, You're the One who calls me on; You are the life; You are the fight that's in my soul. Oh, Your resurrection power burns like fire in my heart. When waters rise I lift my eyes up to Your throne.

We are more than conquerors through Christ. You have overcome this world, this life. We will not bow to sin or to shame; we are defiant in Your name. You are the fire that cannot be tamed; You are the power in our veins, our Lord, our God, our conqueror!

I will sing into the night, "Christ is risen and on high." Greater is He, living in me, than in the world. No surrender, no retreat, we are free

and we're redeemed. We will declare, over despair, You are the Hope! *Refrain*

Nothing is impossible, every chain is breakable. With You we are victorious. You are stronger than our hearts; You are greater than the dark. With You we are victorious. *Refrain*

The Charge and Benediction

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Worship Notes

The flowers for today's worship service in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in memory Marshall Milligan by his family.

You may give your weekly tithe and offering to the Lord electronically at www.firstchurchtulsa.org or text 405-276-4141.

For those who need assistance in the Sanctuary or Stephenson Hall, audio headsets are available from the ushers. Also available are large-print hymnals and Bibles.

To notify the church of a birth, death, illness, hospitalization, change of address/phone number in your family or to request a pastoral visit at home or in the hospital, please contact Beverly Carter 918-301-1015 or bcarter@firstchurchtulsa.org.

First Church Update

We're grateful for a congregation that continues to give generously in ways that further the ministries of Christ. In this stewardship season each of us is urged to ponder our blessings and to make our commitment to the Lord's work in 2021.

Fall Festival: Today at 3:00 p.m., Camp Loughridge! Carnival games, a hayride for family units and a fair-themed food truck. Tickets, \$8 for adults, \$4 for children, \$20 per family. Masks will be provided for this event. Carnival-goers are invited to attend the Vespers worship service at 5:00 p.m. Tickets available at the event.

“Let the little children come to me!” More children are returning to Sunday School at 9:30 and to the nursery at the 11:00 o’clock hour! Everybody’s delighted by this --but it also presents us with an urgent need. During this season when many are not able to serve, would you be willing to wrap the arms of Jesus around these little ones –say once a month? Please contact Courtney Miller at 918-301-1009 or cmiller@firstchurchtulsa.org.

Bridging the Divide! This Wednesday night: The Rev. Terry Buxton from Agape Bible Fellowship shares his perceptions on chasms that divide (6:15 p.m. in Stephenson Hall, optional dinner at 5:15 p.m. please RSVP for dinner.)

10:10 Pastor’s Message live on *Facebook.com/FirstChurchTulsa* every Tuesday and Thursday.

FPC University Ministries: “Grow” A UKirk ‘Lunch and Learn.’ Open to all 18-24 year-olds. Lunch is served alongside a lesson that intertwines faith and life. Every Sunday beginning November 1 at 12:15 p.m. in classroom E201.

Thursdays: Weekly Prayer Service - 5:30 p.m. in the Miller Library. Invite your friends.

Storytime with Courtney Miller – Tune in on Saturdays at noon on *Facebook.com/FPCChildrens*.

Helping Hand Ministry Needs servant-leaders – Be the presence of Christ among the most needy in our city. Come join us on Mondays/or Tuesdays from 8:45 a.m. to noon. Whether you can commit weekly, or just once a month, please contact Emma Smith at smithb440@aol.com or call Betty Price at 918-301-1039.

First Church seeks a full-time administrative assistant who will serve in the areas of local and global mission. In addition, this individual will support our Tulsa International Fellowship, our new members and women’s ministries. We’re looking for a team player who possesses strong verbal and writing skills, and proficiency in Microsoft Office applications. Please submit a resume and cover letter to Tonye Briscoe at tbriscoe@firstchurchtulsa.org.

First Church is a praying community! You'll find a prayer request card in the sanctuary pew or the Friendship Register. Place it in the offering plate at the doors of the sanctuary, or in the prayer request box at the *Welcome Center* in the Miller Atrium. Pastors and members of the Guild of Intercessors will uphold your concerns in prayer.

Serve the Master and love on His children! The Masterwork Academy welcomes you! Perhaps you can give an hour, perhaps a day. Leaders are needed from noon-5:30 p.m., Monday-Friday. If you'd like to know more about how you can be a part of this beautiful ministry, email [Kelly Brown](mailto:Kelly.Brown@masterworkacademy.org) at kbrown@masterworkacademy.org or call 918-370-0207.

Presbyterian Women: the Presbyterian Women's Circle is collecting items for the *Day Center for the Homeless*. This includes hats, mittens, gloves, scarves and socks. There is a box in the Atrium to donate items.

PARISH REGISTER

Prayers for Healing: Jane Azlin, Billy Boyd, Roy Cail, Joan Hastings Camp, Dwight Creveling, Marilyn Davis, Donna Droege, Fred Droege, Allan Edwards, Wandie and Mary Fitzpatrick, Pat Ford, Cynthia Hill-Meriwether, Meg Hubler, Harvey Hunt, Larry Don Johnson, Maggie Jones, Joyce Kunkel, Annelle Lanford, Amy Lesh, Dottie and Walt MacMillan, Laurence Mansur, Bob Matthews, Jo Matthews, Jan Miller, Pamela Neumann, David Osterholt, Elsie Osterholt, Penny Steinkuehler-Perkins, David Perkins, Don Perry, Sue Phelps, Rosemary Priest, Janie Quint, Stephen Riungu, Carly Rivers, Zach Rivers, Mary Ruddle, Susan Shults, Robert Shaw, Rick Spellman, Helen Marie Sisler, Cissy Ssettimba, Nancy Tholen, Bill Weinrich, and Jack Williams.

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COME, GROW YOUR FAITH!

Adult Sunday Morning Classes for NEXT Sunday, meeting at 9:30

Faith and Family	204
Sojourners (All Ages)	E204
The Vine (<i>Singles/couples</i>)	E100
Young Adults (<i>20's and 30's</i>)	E201
Pastor's Class	Stephenson Hall

EVENTS THIS WEEK

Today 10/25/20

Worship and Events

8:30 a.m. Stephenson Hall

11:00 a.m. **Sanctuary and Great Hall**

3:00 p.m. Fall Festival – Camp Loughridge

5:00 p.m. Vespers Evening Worship – Camp Loughridge

Monday 10/26/20

Little Lambs 10:00 a.m., Outdoor Playground

Guy's Monday Bible Study 11:45 a.m., Room E103

Monday School 12:00 p.m., Kirkland Library

Tuesday 10/27/20

Precept Bible Study 9:30 a.m., Room E100

Wednesday 10/28/20

Pastor's Study 11:30 a.m., E104

WNDR Dinner 5:15 p.m., Stephenson Hall

Bridging the Divide 6:15 p.m., Stephenson Hall

Theology of Parenting 6:15 p.m., Miller Library

Gloria Choir Rehearsal 5:30 p.m., Choir Room

Ensemble Choir Rehearsal 7:00 p.m., Choir Room

Thursday 10/29/20

All City Prayer Gathering 5:30 p.m., Miller Library

Saturday 11/1/20

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

Please help us with contact tracing and attendance by filling out the information below and leaving the program on the pew as you leave.

Name _____

Email _____

Phone _____

Member _____ or Guest _____

Seating Location: (Please circle where you are sitting.)

Front Left - Front Center - Front Right

Back Left - Back Center - Back Right

Left Balcony - Center Balcony - Right Balcony

or

going to the link: bit.ly/fpcregister;

or

using the QR code below.



October 25, 2020, Stephenson Hall

THE FIRST CHURCH PASTORS

James D. Miller, Ph.D., *Pastor*

Daniel Hutchinson, M.Div., *Associate Pastor*

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

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

