



Vespers Service
March 28, 2021

First Presbyterian Church of Tulsa

Born by grace in 1885

**Vespers Service
March 28, 2021**

Welcome & Invitation to Worship

Songs of Praise

All Glory Laud and Honor

All glory, laud and honor to Thee, Redeemer, King! To whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.

Thou art the King of Israel, Thou David's royal Son, who in the Lord's name comest, The King and blessed One.

All glory, laud and honor to Thee, Redeemer, King! To whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.

The people of the Hebrews with palms before Thee went; our praise and prayers and anthems before Thee we present.

All glory, laud and honor to Thee, Redeemer, King! To whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.

To Thee, before Thy passion, they sang their hymns of praise; to Thee, now high exalted, our melody we raise.

All glory, laud and honor to Thee, Redeemer, King! To whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.

Thou didst accept their praises; accept the prayers we bring, who in all good delightest, Thou good and gracious King!

All glory, laud and honor to Thee, Redeemer, King! To whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.

Act Justly, Love Mercy, Walk Humbly

It all comes down to this, what you require of me; love my neighbor as myself and You above all things.

Act justly, love mercy, walk humbly with You, God. In all things, in all ways, walk humbly with You, God.

It all comes down to this, to be Your hands and feet, good news to all the world. The truth will set us free. *Refrain.*

It's beauty for ashes. It's mourning to dancing. It's closer and closer, the Kingdom of heaven.

Years from now we'll see the fruit our hands have sown. Faith just like a seed, the only way it grows. *Refrain.*

Prayer of Confession

We Confess

Almighty God, we confess our sin; what we have done, what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

Have mercy. Have mercy on us. Have mercy. Have mercy on us.

Most gracious God, we have lost our way. Like wandering sheep, we have gone astray. We're truly sorry and we turn back. Now, for the sake of Your Son Jesus Christ...

Have mercy. Have mercy on us. Have mercy. Have mercy on us.

Assurance of Pardon

Friends, hear and believe the good news of the Gospel, that in Jesus Christ, there is forgiveness for everyone who call upon Him! **Alleluia! Amen!**

His Mercy is More

What love could remember no wrongs we have done?
Omniscient, all knowing, He counts not their sum. Thrown into
a sea without bottom or shore, our sins they are many, His
mercy is more.

*Praise the Lord! His mercy is more. Stronger than darkness, new
every morn; our sins they are many, His mercy is more.*

What patience would wait as we constantly roam? What
Father so tender is calling us home? He welcomes the weakest,
the vilest, the poor. Our sins they are many His mercy is more.
Refrain

What riches of kindness He lavished on us. His blood was the
payment, His life was the cost. We stood 'neath a debt we
could never afford; our sins they are many, His mercy is more.
Refrain

Affirmation of Faith The Nicene Creed (*Ecumenical*)

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from
Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being
with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and
for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of
the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered
death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in
accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is
seated on the right hand of the Father. He will come again in
glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will
have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father (and the Son), who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. **Amen.**

Reading Matthew 20:29-34, 21:1-5

The Message Who is Your King? Rev. James Estes
Behold, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey...
(Zech 9:9)

Sharing Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Songs of Response

Rescuer!

There is good news for the captive; good news for the shamed.
There is good news for the one who walked away. There is
good news for the doubter, the one religion failed, for the good
Lord has come to seek and save.

*He's our Rescuer. He's our Rescuer. We are free from sin
forevermore. Oh, how sweet the sound. Oh, how grace abounds.
We will praise the Lord our Rescuer.*

He is beauty for the blind man; riches for the poor. He is
friendship for the one the world ignores. He is pasture for the
weary; rest for those who strive. Oh, the good Lord is the way
the truth the life. Yes, the good Lord is the way the truth the
life. *Refrain*

So come and be chainless; come and be fearless; come to the foot of Calvary. There is redemption for every affliction, here at the foot of Calvary. So come and be chainless; come and be fearless; come to the foot of Calvary. There is redemption for every affliction, here at the foot of Calvary. *Refrain*

Worship Notes

Welcome on this Palm Sunday when the children shouted “Hosanna!”. We’re delighted to be together this year as we begin Holy Week, following Jesus to the cross.

Our worship schedule is as follows this week:

Holy Week: March 28 – April 3

Palm Sunday: Celebrating Jesus’ triumphal entry, 8:30 and 11:00

Maundy Thursday, Service of Shadows, 7:30 p.m., sanctuary

Ending in total darkness, this service includes a series of first-person reflections from biblical characters --who were there on that dark night of betrayal and abandonment. Invite your friends! (In-person worship only)

Good Friday, noon, sanctuary

The Seven Words of Jesus from the cross (Live, and live-streamed)

Easter Sunday,

6:30 a.m., Sunrise at Camp Loughridge in the amphitheater

8:30 and 11:00 a.m., Sanctuary, virtually identical services

11:00 a.m., Great Hall, Tulsa International Fellowship

No 5:00 p.m. afternoon Vespers

First Church’s Holy Week Prayer Vigil (April 1-4): Sign up to pray: thirty-minute segments from 9:00 p.m. Thursday to Easter Sunday. Register at firstchurchtulsa.org/prayervigil2021. Call Mark or Paula Peterson for assistance, 918-296-5548.

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 or text 405-276-4141.

For those who need hearing assistance in the Sanctuary, audio headsets are available from the ushers.

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.

We continue to pray for families affected by COVID. And we're hopeful that this year this cloud of sadness and disruption is lifting. Until then, we're all asked to follow the Session's guidelines regarding protocols on campus: "masking up" and distanced by six feet from non-family members. Thanks to each for your efforts in this regard.

PARISH REGISTER

Prayers for Healing: Challa Ashlock, Jane Azlin, Billy Boyd, Roy Cail, Joan Hastings Camp, Dwight Creveling, Marilyn Davis, Donna Droege, Wandie and Mary Fitzpatrick, Pat Ford, Donna Gilliam, Cynthia Hill-Meriwether, Meg Hubler, Harvey Hunt, Maggie Jones, Joyce Kunkel, Annelle Lanford, Amy Lesh, Bob Matthews, Jo Matthews, Jan Miller, Rosemary Priest, Janie Quint, Carly Rivers, Zach Rivers, Mary Ruddle, Susan Shults, Robert Shaw, Helen Marie Sisler, Cissy Ssettimba, Bill Weinrich, and Jack Williams.

With Gratitude for the Resurrection: Alan Ratliff, a member since 2003, died on March 21; and Jeff Stewart, a member since 2006, died on March 24.

First Church Updates

Today at 9:30, Dr. Miller leads the Pastor's Study in Stephenson Hall on C.S. Lewis' great essay: "The Poison of Subjectivism". Our next Pastor's study is focused on Lewis' *Mere Christianity* and begins Sunday, April 10 (9.30) and Wednesday, April 13 (11:30).

On this Palm Sunday we remember those who lack the basic needs of life. Our H2O Project (click on QR code) and the annual “One Great Hour of Sharing” offering are driven by these concerns. Giving is easy. For the H2O Project click on this QR code:



For the One Great Hour of Sharing, go to:
www.specialofferings.pcusa.org/offering/oghs/. Envelopes are also available in the pews and the Miller Atrium.

This Wednesday night we continue the all-church *Lenten Conversations*. Come at 6:15 p.m. in the Stephenson Hall, or join us for dinner at 5:15 p.m. This week, Phillip Bowman leads the conversation.

The Children’s Ministry is doing everything possible to welcome Jesus’ lambs on Sunday mornings! As COVID lifts and vaccines arrive, more and more folks are returning to Sunday worship and Sunday School. We love this problem! But it does present a few challenges. Our greatest need at the moment are folks willing to serve from 9:30 to 10:45. We guarantee joy in this service! There are many rotational models into which you could fit. Please call Courtney Miller, 918-301-1009.

FPC University Ministries: Join us right after this service in the Miller Library for lunch and an interactive prayer service as we journey with Jesus into Holy Week. (Follow us at [@ukirktulsa](https://twitter.com/ukirktulsa) for updates)

Are you interesting in learning more about First Church? The Inquirers Class is an opportunity ask your questions, meet the Pastors and others on this journey. Please join us on Sundays, April 18, 25, May 2 and 9 from 9:15-10:40 a.m. in room E104. We will also have lunch with Dr. Miller on Sunday, April 18 at 12:30 p.m. For more information or to register, go online or contact Patricia Hall at 918-301-1028 or phall@firstchurchtulsa.org.

Praying the Psalms in Color, Thursdays beginning April 8 – May 20 at 9:30 a.m.; Courtyard - Join Mary Lee Weaver and friends for *Praying the Psalms in Color*. This

class will dive into Bible art journaling as an artistic way to connect with scriptures through drawing, coloring, meditation and prayer. To sign up please contact Hannah Elliott at helliott@firstchurchtulsa.org or call 918-301-1019.

Want to wrap the arms of Jesus around children this summer? Camp Loughridge is now hiring counselors, aged 17 and up. You can find the application online at camloughridge.campbrainstaff.com.

Create something beautiful! Help us write the story of Masterwork Academy by being the one who connects hearts in our church with the pulse of our ministry. Masterwork Academy is looking for a part-time program coordinator. This important role provides support for Masterwork Academy by recruiting and scheduling volunteers. A full description of the role and requirements can be found on the First Church website: <https://firstchurchtulsa.org/about/employment> or contact Jenette McEntire at 918-370-0207 or jmcentire@masterworkacademy.org.

COME, GROW YOUR FAITH!

Adult Classes for NEXT Sunday, 9:30 a.m.

On Site:

Faith and Family	E204
Sojourners (All Ages) Sermon on the Mount and Parables, led by Cam Campbell	E204

On Site and Zoom:

The Vine (<i>Singles/couples</i>)	<i>Acts</i>	E100
Young Adults (<i>20's and 30's</i>)	<i>I Corinthians</i> , Rev. Dan Hutchinson	E202

Via Zoom: (*If you would like to join a Zoom class, please contact Hannah Elliott at 918-301-1019 or helliott@firstchurchtulsa.org.*)

Covenanters	The Pursuit of God, led by Tom Philp
Reflections	<i>Gospel accounts of the Resurrection</i> , led by Dr. Mark Hall (Meets Sunday's at 5:00 p.m.)

EVENTS THIS WEEK

Today 3/28/21

8:30 a.m.	Worship, Stephenson
11:00 a.m.	Worship, Sanctuary and Great Hall
5:00 p.m.	Vespers, Courtyard

Monday 3/29/21

Little Lambs	10:00 a.m., Bernsen Gym
Monday School	11:30 a.m., KRC
Guy's Monday Bible Study	11:45 a.m., Room E103

Tuesday 3/30/21

Precept Bible Study	9:30 a.m., Room E100
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Wednesday 3/31/21

Pastor's Study	will reconvene, Wed., April 14
WNDT Dinner	5:15 p.m., Stephenson Hall
Gloria Choir	5:45 p.m.
Awana, POW, Life Groups	6:00 p.m.
Confirmation	
Lenten Conversations	6:30 p.m., Stephenson Hall
Choir Ensemble Rehearsal	6:45 p.m., Choir Room

Thursday 4/1/21

Hearts for the Lord	10:00 a.m., Zoom
Maundy Thursday Service	7:30 p.m., Sanctuary

Friday 4/2/21

Good Friday Service	Noon, Sanctuary
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Saturday 4/3/21

Before the Rooster Crows	8:45 a.m., Room E103
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Please help us with contact tracing and attendance
by:

going the to link: bit.ly/fpcregister;

or

using the QR code below.



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