



## ***God's Resolve, and Ours***

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

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**JANUARY 22, 2023  
11:00 AM  
STEPHENSON HALL**

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

## ***Third Sunday after Epiphany***

*Stephenson Hall, 11:00 a.m.*

### **Words of Preparation**

The test of a “New Testament church” is not just doing the right things; it is more a matter of having the right attitudes – having the right heart – and maintaining right relationships. It wasn’t just what the church in Jerusalem did that Luke is trying to convey here; it was how and why they did these things.

Robert Deffenbaugh

### **Prelude**

I Thank God

Wandering into the night, wanting a place to hide, this weary soul, this bag of bones. I try with all of my might, but I just can't win the fight. I'm slowly drifting; a vagabond. And just when I ran out of the road, I met a man I didn't know, and He told me that I was not alone.

*You picked me up. You turned me around and placed my feet on solid ground. I thank the Master. I thank the Savior because You healed my heart. You changed my name, forever free, I'm not the same. I thank the Master. I thank the Savior. I thank God.*

I cannot deny what I've seen; got no choice but to believe. My doubts are burnin' like ashes in the wind. So, “so long” to my old friends, burden and bitterness. You can just keep them moving. They ain't welcome here. From now ‘til I walk streets of gold, I'll sing of how You saved my soul. This wayward son has found his way back home. *Refrain*

Hell lost another one. I am free. I am free. I am free.

*Refrain*

## **Welcome**

### **Songs of Praise**      God So Loved

Come all you weary, come all you thirsty, come to the well that never runs dry. Drink of the water; come and thirst no more.

Come all you sinners, come find His mercy, come to the table, He will satisfy. Taste of His goodness. Find what you're looking for.

For God so loved the world that He gave us His one and only Son to save us. Whoever believes in Him will live forever.

Bring all your failures, bring your addictions, come lay them down at the foot of the cross. Jesus is waiting there with open arms.

*For God so loved the world that He gave us His one and only Son to save us. Whoever believes in Him will live forever. The power of hell, forever defeated, now it is well; I'm walking in freedom. For God so loved, God so loved the world.*

Praise God, praise God, from whom all blessings flow.  
Praise Him praise Him for the wonders of His love. *Refrain*

## O Church, Be Filled with the Power of God

O church, be filled with the power of God, as from the day of your birth. Every nation and tribe and tongue; He's called to declare throughout the Earth; His Kingdom is coming, the Bride He's adorning, He's called us out of the grave. O church, be filled with the power of God, for He is mighty to save.

The room was filled with tongues of fire, and the world was never the same. The Spirit of God, come to dwell within, so that we can bear His name. For His Kingdom is coming, His people He's calling to share Gods love in His name. O church, be filled with the power of God, for He is coming to reign.

*O let's preach good news to the poor and freedom to all the enslaved. There's liberty and healing for all; we're set free in Jesus name.*

Once dead in sin, now alive in Christ; baptized in water and fire. The Spirit of God fills His church within and sends us out into the mire. For His Kingdom is coming, this race we are running, fixing our eyes on our King. O church, be filled with the power of God. For our joy and His glory we sing.

*Refrain*

### **The First Reading**

Psalm 1:1-6

Mikey Shelton

### **Prayer of Confession**

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not

loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent...*(in silence)*

## **The Reflection**                      New Wine

In the crushing, in the pressing, You are making new wine.  
In the soil I now surrender, You are breaking new ground.  
So, I yield to You and to Your careful hand. When I trust  
You I don't need to understand.

*Make me Your vessel. Make me an offering. Make me  
whatever You want me to be. God, I came here with  
nothing but all You have given me; Jesus, bring new wine  
out of me.*

'Cause where there is new wine, there is new power, there  
is new freedom, and the kingdom is here. I lay down my  
old flames to carry Your new fire today. *Refrain*

## **The Assurance of Pardon**

Believe the good news! God did not send the Son into the  
world to condemn the world, but in order that the world  
might be saved through him. In Jesus Christ there is  
forgiveness for all who call upon Him. **Alleluia! Amen!**

## **The Passing of the Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you! **And also with you!**

## **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**

### **Song of Preparation** 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*

### **The Second Reading** Acts 2:42-47

### **Sermon** A Disciplined Resolve Rev. Julia Metcalf

*They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Acts 2:42*

## **The Celebration of Communion**

Words of institution

Prayer of Blessing

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

## **Joys and Concerns of the Church**

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

### **Song of Sending**                      King of Kings

In the darkness we were waiting, without hope, without light, 'til from Heaven You came running; there was mercy in Your eyes. To fulfil the law and prophets, to a virgin came the Word. From a throne of endless glory to a cradle in the dirt.

*Praise the Father, praise the Son, praise the Spirit, three in one. God of Glory, Majesty, praise forever to the King of Kings.*

To reveal the kingdom coming and to reconcile the lost. To redeem the whole creation, You did not despise the cross. For even in Your suffering, You saw to the other side. Knowing this was our salvation, Jesus, for our sake You died. *Refrain*

And the morning that You rose all of heaven held its breath, 'til that stone was moved for good, for the Lamb had conquered death. And the dead rose from their tombs, and the angels stood in awe, for the souls of all who'd come to the Father are restored.

And the Church of Christ was born, then the Spirit lit the flame. Now this Gospel truth of old shall not kneel, shall not faint. By His blood and in His Name, in His freedom I am free for the love of Jesus Christ, who has resurrected me. *Refrain*

## **Charge and Benediction**

### **First Church Updates**

**A heartfelt welcome, and the joy of this Epiphany season,** to each and all of you! In this New Year, may the Lord cause His Light to shine brightly through this expression of the Body of Christ.

**Our *Letter of Well-Wishing*** (placed just outside the door of this space) is directed today to Ted and Emily Shults, son and daughter-in-law of Porter and Susan Shults.

### ***Today***

**Today! Annual Chili Cook-Off** in the atrium following the 11:00 a.m. services. Funds raised from the “popular vote” goes toward Springfield trips for Anderson Elementary. Join us for fellowship and great chili and learn more about the *Lunch Buddy* program at Anderson --and becoming a champion with the Masterwork Academy.

**Faith and Physics? A Different Angle!** Join us Sundays at 9:30 a.m. in the Stephenson Hall -- to hear Jerry McCoy, Professor of Physics at the University of Tulsa. A seven-week series on his soon-to-be-published (!) book: *God Is A LOT Bigger Than You Think: the Story Science Tells*. Jerry will teach this same

material on Wednesdays at 11:30 in room E104. Lunch is available on Wednesdays.

## **This Week**

**The January Series** – a fifteen-weekday lecture series every weekday through January 27; lunch (\$7) is available at 11:15 a.m. with free lecture starting at 11:30 a.m. in Stephenson Hall. If you would like to help set up and/or greet, please contact Patricia Hall at [phall@firstchurchtulsa.org](mailto:phall@firstchurchtulsa.org) or 918-301-1028.

### **Wednesday Night downtown: Six-Week Series Wednesdays**

Navigating the River (of Culture):  
What Christians Need to Know

Wednesdays: today through February 15  
5:30 dinner/6:15 class, Stephenson Hall

Examining our Culture: Healthy, Robust, or Not So Much?  
Examining the Church?

What kind of challenges face the Church?

What questions is the Culture asking the Church?

January 25: Father George Ebert, St. Antony Eastern Orthodox

February 1: The Rev. Terry Buxton, Agape Bible Fellowship

February 8: Bishop David Konderla, Catholic Diocese of Tulsa

February 15: Dr. Jeff Francis, Sharp Chaplain, University of Tulsa

**Seekers** - Wednesdays at 6:15 p.m. in room E104, this is an in-depth study of the weekly sermon scriptures, led by Rev. Wambugu Gachungi.

## Mark Your Calendar

***News from the Front (Feb. 4 – 5): a remarkable two-day opportunity*** to hear Dr. Ivan Rusyn, President of the Ukrainian Evangelical Theological Seminary speak on both the tragedy and the deep hope unfolding in Ukraine. Dr. Rusyn lives in Kiev with his wife, Luda, who will also be with us. Dr. Rusyn speaks in the Stephenson Hall on Saturday night, February 4, and Sunday, February 5 at the Pastor's class at 9:30 a.m., and he will preach at our all-church Festival Sunday service, 11:00 a.m. in the sanctuary.

**Mark your calendars! All-Church Retreat:** March 24-25, 2023: New Life Ranch. Dr. Wes Vander Lugt and family will lead the way. Dr. Vander Lugt serves as our keynote speaker.

## Ongoing Ministries

**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 Dan Hutchinson at 918-301-1040.

**Don't Forget: Faith Partners Addiction Ministry** – First Church is a member of a nationwide fraternity called *Faith Partners*. They provide intervention, education, and recovery support to individuals and families suffering from addiction. Questions? Please call the Church office at 918-584-4701 and leave your number. A team member will return your call.

**Internship Opportunity**– Are you a college student who loves the Lord Jesus and enjoys working with youth? Next Generation Ministries is now receiving applications for its summer youth ministry internship program. For more information, contact Steve Wilson at *swilson@firstchurchtulsa.org*.

**Presbyterian Women’s January Mission** project is Anderson Elementary School. To help the school begin the new year, they will be collecting boxes of tissue, pencils, crayons, erasers, copy paper, white construction paper, and disinfecting wipes. Their mission container will be in the atrium on Wednesdays and Sundays for your donations.

### **Opportunities to Serve the Master**

**Children’s Ministry opportunities** - Come serve with the youngest members of our congregation!

Two Second Grade Sunday School Classroom Assistants - Join us once a month to assist the lead Sunday school teacher in the classroom. Duties include assisting with crafts and helping with the lesson. 9:45 - 10:45 a.m.

Two Awana Substitute Leaders - Join us on Wednesday evenings 6:00 -7:30 p.m. when needed. Fill in as a group leader by moving children to activity stations and helping with scripture memory.

Infant/Nursery/Preschool 9:30 - 10:45 a.m. - Baby Rockers- Come help rock babies in the infant room. Sunday School Classroom Assistant-Help the classroom lead teacher with lesson, craft and general playtime.

**Memorial Service Greeting Ministry:** Serve as a greeter for memorial services. Approximately an hour commitment. Memorial services are usually on weekday afternoons and sometimes on Saturdays. If interested, please contact Kathy Wilson at [kwilson@firstchurchtulsa.org](mailto:kwilson@firstchurchtulsa.org)/918-301-1029.

**Book Table** – help provide books and resources to the congregation. Manage the inventory of books and assist congregants with selecting titles and authors. If interested, please contact Laura Stevens at [lstevens@firstchurchtulsa.org](mailto:lstevens@firstchurchtulsa.org)/918-301-1019.

**Masterwork Academy** is all about the arts—of serving, of being available, of encouraging, and of being a friend. Of course, we're all about dance, art, music, theater, fitness and learning the Bible too. We're not looking for skill, we're looking for heart. If yours beats with the love of Christ and you have an weekday afternoon from 3 – 5:00 p.m. to spare, please contact Jenette McEntire at [jmcentire@masterworkacademy.org](mailto:jmcentire@masterworkacademy.org) or Laura Voth, [lvoth@masterworkacademy.org](mailto:lvoth@masterworkacademy.org)/918-954-1100.

**Seeking writers and photographers** - We have volunteer opportunities to serve in our communications area as a writer or photographer. We publish a quarterly magazine and semimonthly newsletter; we are seeking folks who would love to tell or illustrate our stories. To volunteer, contact Louann Buhlinger at [lbuhlinger@firstchurchtulsa.org](mailto:lbuhlinger@firstchurchtulsa.org)/918-740-7055.

## Parish Register

**Prayers for Healing:** Jane Azlin, Beth Campbell, Dwight Creveling, Marilyn Davis, Paul Dick, Donna Droege, David Dunning, Mary Ann Elliott, JoAnn Gilbert, Gaye Graeler, Cynthia Hill-Meriwether, Mike Hopkins, Elaine Horkey, Rusty Houston, Meg Hubler, Warren Hubler, Jeannie Dickey Kelsay, Joyce Kunkel, Susan Lawrence, Carmelitti LeFlore, Amy Lesh, Ann McKellar, Jan Miller, David Morgan, Jane Mulkey, David Osterholt, Shari Postier, Rosemary Priest, Carly Rivers, Zach Rivers, Mary Ruddle, Susan Shults, Robert Shaw, Bill Smith, Jane Sneed, Cissy Ssettimba, Sally Stewart, Laurie Sundborg, Mike Tidwell, Susan Waldie, and Carolyn Wilcott

**The Sacrament of Baptism:** Obadiah Emmanuel Estes, son of Lindsey and James Estes, was baptized on January 15.

**The Joy of New Life! We welcome:** Maeven James McIntosh, daughter of Breana and Jacob McIntosh, was born on January 10; Charlotte Sutton Powers, daughter of Barrett and Carly Powers, was born on January 10.

**Sympathy and Prayers to:** Jennifer Just Anthony on the death of her sister, Carolyn Jeannette Just, on January 10; and to Libby Freeman on the death of her brother last week.

## Worship Notes

**The flowers in today's Sanctuary worship** are given to the glory of God and in honor of Diane Miller whose birthday is January 26, by Dr. Jim Miller and family.

**Services are broadcast** and 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*.

**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.

**THIS WEEK**

**TODAY 1/23**

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

**Monday 1/24**

- 11:45 am Guy's Monday Bible Study, E103

**Tuesday 1/25**

- 9:30 am Precepts, E100

**Wednesday 1/26**

- 11:30 am Pastor's Study, E104
- 11:30 am Downtown Theological Roundtable, 204
- 12:00 pm Pathways to Hope, 206
- 5:15 pm Wednesday Night Dinner, Stephenson Hall
- 6:00 pm Awana, Children's Area
- 6:15 pm Various Adult Classes
- 6:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room

**Saturday 1/28**

- 8:45 am Before the Rooster Crows, E103

**COME, GROW YOUR FAITH!**

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

Cornerstone	Minor Prophets	E102
Covenanters	Renovated: God, Dallas, & the Church That Transforms	E101
Forum	Prayers of Jesus study	E200
Harbingers	Hearing God	E202
Morning Glory	Prayers and Bible Study	E201
New Parents	Theology and Parenting	E205
Pastor's Study 1	Faith and Physics	Stephenson Hall
Pastor's Study 2	The Parables of Jesus	E104
Reflections	Christian Life in Ordinary Time	E103
Shepherds	Spiritual Disciplines	E203
Sojourners	Old Testament	E204
UKirk	The Parables of Jesus	E104
The Vine	The Life You've always Wanted	
Westminster	Theology Brewed in an African Pot	Tower Room
Young Adults	The Parables of Jesus	E104