

Third Sunday in Lent
The Sanctuary

The Words of Preparation

Seeking to help those burdened with intolerable perplexities about life and providence, history and destiny, the Christian must tell them there is no answer to their perplexities, none whatever, save in the death of our Lord on Calvary. *James Stewart, A Faith to Proclaim*

The Welcome and Ministries of the Church

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

The Presentation of the Bible and the Lighting of the Candles

Acolytes: Grace Stevens, Emily Stoepfelwerth, Eliza Stoepfelwerth

The Prelude Prelude on the tune HYFRYDOL

Paul Manz

The Call to Worship

Olivia Lane, student, Princeton Seminary

I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go up to the house of the Lord!" Friends, according to His promise the Lord is here among us. Come, let us stand in honor, **and let us worship God!**

◆ **The Hymn** Lord Jesus, Redeemer, You Come From Above

Lord Jesus, Redeemer, You come from above; the Alpha, Omega, God's incarnate Love! O Pow'r of Salvation, O Infinite Grace, we lift high your mercy, your great Name we raise!

Allelu! Allelu: with thanksgiving we sing! Allelu! Allelu: to our great and good King! O Christ: Lord of mercy, eternal I AM, incarnate from glory, the unblemished Lamb!

Good Lord, in your kindness you meet us today; by grace we are gathered to worship and pray. We bring many failures, our sin and our pain. O come, Great Physician, bring healing again! *Refrain.*

Come, now, through your Spirit and breathe on us, Lord! Awaken our worship and speak through your Word. Put us into service reflecting your love, that others may know Him who comes from above! *Refrain.*

◆ **The Prayer of Adoration, Confession and Thanksgiving**

The Anthem Grant, O God, Your Blessing

Michael Bedford

Carol, Chorister, and Gloria Dei choirs

Grant, O God, your blessing on us as we pray; grant, O God, your blessing on us all this day. Just as Jesus prayed to you in the wilderness, let us pray every day; hear, O Lord, and bless. Refrain. For the things that we do wrong, please, O God, forgive. Help us all, great and small, live as Jesus lived. AMEN.

The Time with the Young Disciples

The First Reading Matthew 18:1-5

David Fleischhauer

The Sacrament of Baptism

Elders Gary Mathews and Carol Elrod

Benjamin William Thomas, son of Daniel and Shannon Thomas

COME, GROW YOUR FAITH!

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

Bible Walk <i>(All ages)</i>	Rev. Rick Davis teaching	Room 221, BC
Christian Fellowship <i>(Seniors)</i>	<i>A Community to Redeem</i> , Bob Balch	Miller Library
Covenanters <i>(Couples w/children)</i>	<i>Bible Study</i>	Room 204
Forum <i>(All ages)</i>	<i>Jonab</i> , Dr. Warren Muller	Room 318, BC
Foundations <i>(Young couples)</i>	<i>Church History: 1st Century thru Augustine</i> , Dr. Jeff Francis	KRC, BC
Harbingers <i>(Singles/couples)</i>	<i>Church History: 1st Century thru Augustine</i> , Dr. Jeff Francis	KRC, BC
Mariners <i>(Seniors)</i>	<i>The Great I Am Statements</i> , Rev. Ryan Moore	Room 116
Pastors' Class <i>(All ages)</i>	<i>Church History: 1st Century thru Augustine</i> , Dr. Jeff Francis	KRC, BC
Shepherds <i>(Singles/couples)</i>	<i>Psalms</i> , Craig Hoster	Room 206
Sojourners <i>(All ages)</i>	<i>Prayer</i> , Kathleen Muller	Room 320, BC
Westminster <i>(All ages)</i>	<i>A Community to Redeem</i>	Tower Room

Adult Sunday Morning Classes for NEXT Sunday, meeting at 11:00

Reflections <i>(All ages)</i>	<i>Beloved Disciple</i> by Beth Moore	Room 318, BC
11:00 a.m. Bible Study <i>(All ages)</i>	<i>Sermon based study</i>	KRC, BC
Gateway <i>(18-24 yrs)</i>	<i>Bible studies</i>	PH

Youth Sunday Morning Classes for NEXT Sunday

Pathfinders <i>(Grades 6-8)</i>	<i>Selected studies</i> 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.	PH
Exodus <i>(Grades 9-12)</i>	<i>Selected studies</i> 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.	PH

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EVENTS THIS WEEK

Today 03/07/10 **Coffee and Fellowship Time.** Meet and greet old and new friends following the 9:30 (Great Hall Alcove) and 11:00 (Miller Library) worship services.

Book Table will be in the Miller Library after the 11:00 worship service. Book of the month for March is *Faith and Doubt* by John Ortberg, selected by Joshua Miles.

International Fellowship & Worship. 3:00 - 4:30 p.m. Lewis Conference Center.

Monday 03/08/10 **Christian Classics.** 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Wiseman Hall. Studying *The Rule of St. Benedict*. Rev. Ryan Moore and Dr. Warren Muller lead the discussions.

Men's Flannel Shirt Night. 6:30 p.m. Will Keith's home (1967 E. 45 Pl.)

Wednesday 03/10/10 **Men's Bible Study.** 6:45 - 7:45 a.m. Wiseman Hall.

Marys and Marthas Bible Study. 10:00 a.m. Tower Room.

Wiseman Lenten Preaching Series. Noon. Kerr Chapel. Lunch following in Wiseman Hall. Rev. Terry Buxton, Pastor, Agape Bible Fellowship Church, Tulsa, preaching.

Chancel Choir Rehearsal. 7:00 p.m. Choir Room.

Thursday 03/11/10 **Men's Ministry Bible Study.** 6:30 a.m. Panera Bread, 41st & Hudson.

Basics of Biblical Greek. 7:30 a.m. Room 206. Rev. Ryan Moore teaching.

Hearts for the Lord. 9:30 a.m. 1st Floor Reception, BC. Studying *Esther* by Beth Moore.

PW Gathering Luncheon. 11:30 a.m. Wiseman Hall. *(see more information on Insert)*

Friday 03/12/10 **Men's Breakfast Connection.** 6:30 - 7:30 a.m. Wiseman Hall. Dr. Miller leading discussion on *A Game Plan for Life* by Joe Gibbs.

Every Friday Socials. 1:00 p.m. Patterson Lounge. Friends, snacks, and fun. Do you like to play Bridge, Dominos, or other games? We invite you to join us.

8 Dates. 6:00 p.m. Miller Library. *(see more information on Insert)*

Saturday 03/13/10 **Men's Basketball Ministry.** 7:30 - 9:00 a.m. Robson Gym, BC.

Before the Rooster Crows. 8:45 a.m. Room 206.

Mark Your Calendars with these Events:

March 10	Wiseman Lenten Series. Rev. Terry Buxton preaching. Lunch follows.
March 11	PW Gathering Luncheon. Rev. Debbie Chase speaking.
March 11-14	EOP Cursillo #18.
April 1-4	Easter Prayer Vigil.
April 1	Maundy Thursday worship at 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary.
April 2	Good Friday worship at noon in Kerr Chapel.
April 4	Easter Sunday worship at 6:30, 8:00, 9:30, and 11:00 a.m.
April 17-18	<i>Celebration of Faith</i> with Dr. Greg Jones, Dean of Duke Divinity School.
May 2	Next Inquirer's Class begins.
May 30	Ground Breaking Ceremony and 125th Anniversary First Family Picnic.

THE FIRST CHURCH UPDATE

Regular and consistent worship is the very heart of Christian discipleship. And genuine "connection" within the Body of Christ is vital. If you're not yet part of a Life-Group, or simply yearn for a deeper connection within this congregation, please call the church (584-4701) and ask for any pastor. We'd be privileged to visit with you.

Praise the Lord! The FPC Capital Campaign "double-matching" gifts ended this past Monday, March 1: the results are clear indications of the Lord's mercy and great blessing! Elder Bobby Pielsticker will update the congregation at all three services today.

Wiseman Lenten Series on Wednesdays at noon: Local pastors lead us in worship:

March 10:	Rev. Terry Buxton, Agape Bible Fellowship
March 17:	Father George Eber, St. Antony's Orthodox Christian
March 24:	Dr. Hess Hester, Southern Hills Baptist

The Easter Prayer Vigil begins soon. Please join us to keep a continuous 57 hour chain of prayer from Maundy Thursday Eve, April 1, through Easter Sunrise, April 4. Sign-up sheets and prayer packets will be available after each service on the following Sundays: March 14, March 21, and March 28. For more information, contact Mickey Jednacz (664-5624).


The new study Guide Part 3 of the Gospel of John sermon-based series is now available in the Christian Growth and Life office and in the church reception office.

Historic FPC Groundbreaking: mark the date! Sunday, May 30, at 12:15 p.m. Lots of fun for the whole family. Details will follow.

Have you seen the new First Church e-newsletter? Each month we email information about the most current activities and events. Contact Meghan Beam at mbeam@firstchurchtulsa.org if you haven't been receiving it or would like to submit information. Submissions are due on the 25th of the month for the next month's e-newsletter.

NEXT GENERATION MINISTRIES UPDATE

Please go to www.firstchurchyouth.org or call 301-1009 for more information.

 **Join us on Friday, March 12 for the next 8 DATES** at 6:00 p.m. in the Miller Library. *Do Dads Matter? The Benefits of a Father-Figure Engaging in the Spiritual Development of a Child*, presented by Dr. Jim Miller. Mandatory reservations for childcare (\$2 per child) are needed by March 8. To RSVP please call Tekeda (301-1009).

Mark your calendar – VBS is scheduled for June 7 - 11. Exciting changes are planned for 4th and 5th graders – stay tuned!

All Youth: SNL not meeting tonight.

Help Malawi! All Exodus and 8th graders are invited to *30-Hour Famine* on Friday and Saturday, March 19 - 20, at Powerhouse. You and your (temporarily) empty stomach can help kids under the age of five who are dying from hunger, poverty and disease in Malawi.

H²O Project dates are March 21 - April 4. Drink only water and donate the money saved to dig water wells in Malawi! Your sacrifice will help hundreds of people have a sustainable well dug in their community. Get more information at the H²O table after the 9:30 and 11:00 services.

The FPC Talent Show will be on Saturday, May 1, from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. We only have 10 spots left; first come, first served. Youth signup at www.firstchurchyouth.com. We will also need ushers and behind the scene workers. All money raised will go to send our youth on FPC trips!

Pathfinders **Save the Date:** Pathfinder Mission Trip (for all incoming 7th and 8th graders) is on June 15 - 20 to Joplin, MO. Our free day will be in Branson!

EXODUS **Registration for the Exodus Mission Trip** to Denver, Colorado, June 12 - 20, has begun. We are over 25% full after only a week! Go to www.firstchurchyouth.com to sign up. Space is limited!

The Ignite Program is an intense seven week internship program for students currently in grades 10 - 12 that runs from June 6 - August 5. Information and applications can be found online at www.firstchurchyouth.com. The application deadline is on Wednesday, March 24.

GATEWAY **Welcome, University Students!** Today we meet at the Powerhouse following the 11:00 service for Gateway Lunch. Join us on Thursday nights at 9:00 p.m. on the campus of Tulsa University for Gateway worship. Call Rev. Michael Homan (301-1010) for more information and to get connected.

The Question of the Congregation

Jesus said that those who are baptized need encouragement and nurture. Do you, members of the Body of Christ, promise to do all you can to ensure that Ben comes to grow in his love, his faith and his service to Jesus his Lord?

The Prayer

Have your own way, Lord; have your own way! Take now this child, Lord, bless him we pray! Open his heart, Lord, grant him your grace; cause him to love you all of his days.

Have your own way, Lord; have your own way! Grant now, these parents, wisdom today; fill with your Spirit, guide them in grace; grant every blessing, Jesus, we pray.

The Second Reading Deuteronomy 30:15-20

Dr. Andrew J. Dearman
Fuller Seminary, Houston, TX

The Prayer of Dedication

The Offertory How Great Thou Art

arr. Craig Courtney

O Lord my God! When I in awesome wonder consider all the worlds Thy hands have made, I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder, Thy power throughout the universe displayed; *then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee: How great thou art!* And when I think that God, His Son not sparing, sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in; that on the cross, my burden gladly bearing, He bled and died to take away my sin; *Refrain.* When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in humble adoration and there proclaim, my God, how great Thou art! *Refrain.*

The Third Reading John 8:21-30

The Sermon Just How Urgent is the Good News?

Dr. Jim Miller

...you will die in your sins unless you believe that I AM. (John 8:24)

The Response

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul, what wondrous love is this, O my soul! What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul, to bear the dreadful curse for my soul.

To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing! To God and to the Lamb I will sing; to God and to the Lamb who is the great I AM, while millions join the theme I will sing, I will sing; while millions join the theme I will sing!

The Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

- ◆ The Hymn 376 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

HYFRYDOL

The Witness to God's Grace Update on Capital Campaign

Elder Bobby Pielsticker

- ◆ The Charge and Benediction

- ◆ The Postlude Voluntary on TO GOD BE THE GLORY

Don Hustad

- ◆ Please stand

2010: First Church 125th Anniversary

Did you know?

"Hat Ladies." Etiquette and formality have played their part in hat wearing. In the early 1900's, both men and women changed their hats dependent on their activity, but for many ladies of some social standing it would be several times a day. Etiquette articles suggest that it would be a disgraceful act to venture out of the house without a hat or even gloves.

Printed on the Sunday Worship Bulletin on January 25, 1925 was the following: "The Session requests that the ladies remove their hats during the sermon at least."

THE PARISH REGISTER

Prayers for Healing: John Benear, Steve Brill, Melissa Carlson, Connie and June Chapman, George Cheatham, Ellen Degen, Jeanne Yarberry Dobson, Betty Foote, Marge Glenn, Ruth Haight, Barbara Hight, Jim Houghton, Mary Ann Howard, Kathy Johnson, David Kallweit, Tom King, Norma Kramer, Fran Lazar, Doris Maher, Joyce Marsh, Tom Matson, Linda McGee, Judy Murray, Naomi Overton, Madeleine Ramey, Paula Remondet, Tom Rhodes, Curtis Roney, Suzanne Sartin, Jean Simms, Laven Sowell, Kay Spencer, Jeff Stewart, Shirley Taggart, Carolyn Wagner, Doris Wells, Ruth Wilson, Dr. William Wiseman, Beth Woodard, Carolyn Woodard.

The Sacrament of Baptism: Jeanne Margaret Yarberry Dobson was baptized on February 28.

With Gratitude for the Resurrection: Merle Bradford Inman, a member since 1936, died February 26; Julia Leone Johnson, a member since 1945, died on February 27; Thomas Wilson Beck, a member since 1961, died on February 27.

Letters of Well Wishing are available for you to sign before or after the services. This week letters go to Mary Ann Beck and to Jeanne Dobson.

WORSHIP NOTES

The flowers for the Sunday morning worship service in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Dwayne C. Pollard, Benjamin Dwayne Pollard, Cecil E. and Vaudiene Potts, by Judy and Larry Doyle and loving family.

First Church telecasts are: Sunday 11:00 a.m. (live broadcast) and 5:00 p.m. on [Cox 3](#); Saturday 6:00 p.m. on [Cox 7 & KWHB-UHF 47](#).

If you would like to notify the church of a birth, death, illness, hospitalization, change of address/phone number in your family or if you would like to request a pastoral visit at home or in the hospital, please contact Sara Studenmund (584-4701, ext. 257, or ssudenmund@first-churchtulsa.org).

For those who need hearing assistance in the Sanctuary, audio head-sets are available from the ushers. (Not available for Chapel or Great Hall services.)

THE FIRST CHURCH PASTORS

James D. Miller, Ph.D., *Pastor*
Richard K. Davis, M.Th., *Senior Associate Pastor*
Michael P. Homan, M.Div.,
Associate Pastor for Next Generation Ministries
Elaine H. Johnson, M.Div.,
Associate Pastor for Mission and Outreach

Ryan V. Moore, M.Div.,
Associate Pastor for Christian Growth and Life
Warren J. Muller, D.Min., *Parish Associate*
William J. Wiseman, S.T.D., Litt.D., *Pastor Emeritus*



Tulsa's First Church is a Stephen Ministry Congregation. If you or someone you know needs the support of a good listener who offers distinctively Christian caring, please contact Rev. Rick Davis or Sara Studenmund at 584-4701.

709 South Boston Avenue • Tulsa, Oklahoma 74119
(918) 584-4701 • www.firstchurchtulsa.org



THE GREAT



Before Abraham was, I Am
John 8:58

I am the Messiah
John 4:26

I am the Living Water
John 4:13-14

I am the Light of the World
John 8:12

I am the Bread of Life
John 6:35

I am the True Vine
John 15:1

I am Come from Above
John 6:51

I am the Way, the Truth
and the Life
John 14:6

I am the Eternal One
John 17:24-25

I am the Resurrection
John 11:25

I am the Door
John 10:7

I am the Son of God
John 10:36

I am the Lord and Master
John 13:13

I AM

MARCH 7, 2010
11:00 AM
THE SANCTUARY