

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost
11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary

The Words of Preparation

If you lack wisdom ask of God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given you. But ask in faith, not doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind. James 1:5-6

The Welcome

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

The Introit The Perfect Wisdom of Our God Keith Getty and Stuart Townend
Gretchen Bashforth, soloist

The perfect wisdom of our God, revealed in all the universe: All things created by His hand, and held together at His command. He knows the mysteries of the seas, the secrets of the stars are His; He guides the planets on their way, and turns the earth through another day. The matchless wisdom of His ways that mark the path of righteousness; His word a lamp unto my feet, His Spirit teaching and guiding me. And O the mystery of the cross, that God should suffer for the lost, so that the fool might shame the wise and all the glory might go to Christ! O grant me wisdom from above, to pray for peace and cling to love, and teach me humbly to receive the sun and rain of Your sovereignty. Each strand of sorrow has a place within this tapestry of grace; so through the trials I choose to say: “Your perfect will in Your perfect way”.

The Call to Worship

O Lord my God, you are very great!

Clothed with honor and majesty, wrapped in light as with a garment!

How wondrous are your works:

In wisdom you have made them all.

How deep is your love;

By grace you have redeemed the lost.

In Your mercy, you gave Your only begotten Son for the sins of the world.

How great is Your love, Your grace, Your mercy! How great is the Lord!

Let us stand in honor, and let us worship God!

Alleluia! Amen!

◆ **The Hymn 467** How Great Thou Art O STORE GUD

◆ **The Prayer of Adoration**

The First Reading I Corinthians 1:26-31

The Prayer of Confession

Lord of grace and goodness, you draw close to us in order to share life together. We come with our foolishness, You meet us in wisdom. We come with fickle hearts, You strengthen our faith. We come with anxiety and fears, You wrap us with peace and a steadfast hope. We come with sinful and scrambled lives, You meet us in mercy and redemption. We are lost but You come looking for us. Lord, give us what you alone have to offer. Open our hearts wide to welcome You afresh. Have your own way, dear Christ, and in your mercy, hear our prayers...*(in silence)*

COME, GROW YOUR FAITH!

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

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|---|---|------------------|
| Bible Walk <i>(All ages)</i> | Not meeting | E101 |
| Cornerstone <i>(All ages)</i> | <i>Gospel of Mark</i> , Bob Matthews | E204 |
| Covenanters <i>(Couples w/children)</i> | Not meeting | E201 |
| Faith and Family <i>(Parents)</i> | <i>Read the Bible in 180 Days</i> | West Parlor |
| Forum <i>(All ages)</i> | <i>Christianity's Family Tree</i> | E200 |
| Front Porch Team <i>(All ages)</i> | <i>Serving the American Church in Paris</i> , Julia Metcalf | E205 |
| Harbingers <i>(Singles/couples)</i> | <i>Gospel of Mark</i> , Bob Matthews | E204 |
| The Niche 2.0 <i>(Special needs)</i> | <i>The Bible Project</i> , Tim Clement | Kirkland Library |
| Pastor's Study | Not meeting | Miller Library |
| Reflections <i>(All ages)</i> | <i>Gospel of Mark</i> , Bob Matthews | E204 |
| Shepherds <i>(Singles/couples)</i> | <i>Mark for Everyone</i> , Steve Brill | E203 |
| Sojourners <i>(All Ages)</i> | <i>Gospel of Mark</i> , Bob Matthews | E204 |
| The Vine <i>(Singles/couples)</i> | Deep dive into <i>Matthew</i> | E100 |
| Westminster <i>(All ages)</i> | <i>Romans</i> | Tower Room |
| Young Adults <i>(20's & 30's)</i> | Classic Reflections on Faith | Pastor's Study |

EVENTS THIS WEEK

Today 8/11/19

Worship Services

8:00 a.m., Kerr Chapel;

8:30 a.m., Stephenson Hall;

11:00 a.m. Sanctuary, Stephenson Hall, Great Hall - Bernsen

First Family Swim Time 2:30 p.m., Camp Loughridge

Sunday Night Vespers 7:00 p.m., Powerhouse

Monday 8/12/19

Tuesday 8/13/19

Tuesday Morning Men's Bible Study 6:45 a.m., Room E313

Summer Precept Bible Study 10:00 a.m., Room E100

Exodus Night 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday 8/14/19

Marys and Marthas Bible Study 10:00 a.m., E101

Sanctuary Treasure Hunt 6:00 p.m., Sanctuary

TIF Fellowship 6:30 p.m., Outside Location

Thursday 8/15/19

Friday 8/16/19

Saturday 8/17/19

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

MARK YOUR CALENDARS WITH THESE EVENTS:

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| August 11, 18, 25 | Inquirers' Class |
| August 11 | Promotion Sunday |
| August 14 | Sanctuary Treasure Hunt |
| August 25 | Kindergarten Blessing |
| August 25 | Emerson Recruitment Lunch |
| August 31 | Wheels for Mission: Cycling for the 8:10 Project |
| September 4 | Awana Open House |
| September 7 | Habitat House Launch |
| September 8 | Breakfast on Boston |
| September 9 | Weekly Classes Begin |
| September 11 | WNDT Kick-off |
| September 15 | K Groups Begin |
| September 15 | Pastor's Study on Sunday's Begins |
| September 18 | Pastor's Study on Wednesdays Begins |

THE FIRST CHURCH UPDATES

Welcome to worship! We gather to remember God's goodness, pray for wisdom and faithfulness as a people, and lift our voices in praise. We pray that you'll sense the presence of Christ here —and the warmth and welcome of this congregation.

Register online for the First Church All-Family Retreat: Friday through Sunday, September 27-29 at New Life Ranch. Register at www.firstchurchtulsa.org/firstfamilyretreat or contact Courtaney Miller at 918-301-1019 for more information.

Wheels-for-Mission! The cyclists of First Church are eager to complete the 8:10 Mission effort. On Saturday, August 31, FPC cyclists will ride, sponsored by friends, and every dollar raised will bring us closer to the \$97,919 we need to finish this project. If you love cycling (and mission!), call the church office at 918-584-4701 and we'll send you more information.

Mark your calendar for a new small group, the Downtown Theological Roundtable, facilitated by Dr. Ryan Moore and Phillip Bowman. Modeled after J. R. R. Tolkien and C. S. Lewis and their Inklings group, the goal is to gather weekly for thoughtful discussion on important books to our theological heritage. Begins on Wednesday, September 11, from 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., in Kirkland Library, Bernsen building.

Four Week Class Offering – Retiring Faithfully, taught by Rev. Rebecca Morad. God created humanity to be creators and cultivators of the earth. Come explore what “a theology of work” looks like in the third third of life (aka retirement). During WNDT, September 11 – October 2, from 6:15 – 7:30 p.m.

Emerson Mentor Sunday is August 25. Come and enjoy a cookout in the courtyard and learn about the Emerson Mentoring program. If you would like more information about becoming a mentor/lunch buddy, please contact Cindy DeVore at 918-630-2636, or Tom Hillis at 918-633-9736.

AWANA, teaching and serving children, 2 year olds through 4th grade. Awana open house is Wednesday, September 4 a with Awana starting on September 11. Registration will open on August 19 through September 10.

First Family Summer Swim! Join us at Camp Loughridge on Sundays from 2:30-5:30 during the Summer for fellowship and fun with your First Church family. #Seeyouthere!

The Inquirers' Class meets today and every Sunday morning in August from 9:15 - 10:40 a.m. You're invited to learn more about First Church, ask questions, and enjoy a time of fellowship with our Pastors and others. To register, please contact Patricia Hall at 918-310-1028 or pball@firstchurchtulsa.org. You can also register at www.firstchurchtulsa.org/Inquirers.

Summer Sunday Vespers: TONIGHT, August 11, join us at Vespers, an informal community worship service at 7:00 p.m. in the Powerhouse. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. #Seeyouthere!

Precepts Bible Study returns this Fall. Taught by Denise Rounds, The study begins Tuesday, September 10, at 9:30 a.m. in E100. For more information, contact Denise at denisedrounds@gmail.com.

Save the date for the “Worship 101 Sanctuary Treasure Hunt” on Wednesday, August 14, from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. Join us as we explore the art and architecture of the sanctuary by following clues and a sanctuary treasure map. A special summer treat will follow in the courtyard.

Save the date for a new WNDT class, *Finding Your Form and Faith in Clay* taught by artist Whitney Forsyth. We will create work in clay that represents the natural environment around us and also reflects our faith. All ceramic forms will be fired, glazed, and finished in a variety of ways. On Wednesday, September 11 – October 16, from 6:15 – 7:30 p.m.

NEXT GENERATION MINISTRIES UPDATE

For questions or to make a reservation for any of the following events, please contact Kiona Tyler at 918-301-1008 or kt Tyler@firstchurchtulsa.org or visit our FPC website.

Exodus Night: Summer gatherings continue this Tuesday, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

UKIRK college group will be meeting all summer on Thursdays from 6:30- 8:30 p.m.

The Summer Choir welcomes you! You are invited to add your voice to the Summer Choir for the 11:00 a.m. Sanctuary service. The only time requirement is a brief rehearsal at 10:15 a.m. in the Choir Room. If you've always wanted to give it a try, here's your opportunity - please join us!

The Hymn Have Thine Own Way, Lord ADELAIDE

Have Thine own way, Lord, have Thine own way. Thou art the potter, I am the clay. Mold me and make me, after Thy will --while I am waiting, yielded and still.

Have Thine own way, Lord! Have Thine own way! Wounded and weary, help me, I pray! Power, all power, surely is Thine! Touch me and heal me, Savior divine.

The Invitation to Blessing

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**

Wonderful grace of Jesus, greater than all my sin; how shall my tongue describe it, where shall its praise begin? Taking away my burden, setting my spirit free; for the wonderful grace of Jesus reaches me.

Wonderful the matchless grace of Jesus, deeper than the mighty rolling sea; higher than the mountain, sparkling like a fountain, all-sufficient grace for even me! Broader than the scope of my transgressions, greater far than all my sin and shame; O magnify the precious Name of Jesus, praise His Name!

◆ **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 *The Strength of Togetherness*

Children in K - 2nd grade are excused to attend K2 Quest.

The Hymn Blest Be the Tie That Binds DENNIS

Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love; the fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.

We share our mutual woes, our mutual burdens bear, and often for each other flows the sympathizing tear.

The Second Reading Ecclesiastes 8:1-9, 16-17

The Sermon Politics and the Call to a Higher View Dr. Jim Miller

There's nothing better than being wise, knowing how to interpret the meaning of life. Wisdom puts light in the eyes. Ecclesiastes 8:1 (The Message)

The Prayer of Dedication

The Offertory Open Now Thy Gates Robert Wetzler

Open now thy gates of beauty, Zion let me enter there, where my soul, in joyful duty, waits for God who answers prayer; Oh, how blessed is this place, filled with solace, light and grace! Gracious God, I come before thee, come thou also down to me; where we find thee, and adore thee, there a heaven on earth must be. To my heart oh enter thou, let it be thy temple now. Here thy praise is gladly chanted, here thy seed is duly sown; let my soul, where it is planted, bring forth precious sheaves alone, so that all I hear may be fruitful unto life in me. Speak, O God, and I will hear thee, let thy will be done indeed; may I undisturbed draw near thee while thou dost thy people feed. Here of life the fountain flows, here is balm for all our woes. Amen.

The Sharing of Joys and Concerns

The Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

◆ **The Hymn 281** Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah CWM RHONDDA

◆ **The Charge and Benediction**

◆ **The Postlude** Voluntary on the tune CWM RHONDDA Paul Manz

◆ *Please stand*

PARISH REGISTER

Prayers for Healing: Alao Aruna, Jane Azlin, Vanessa Batchelor, Nancy Burns, Diane Cherry, Coleman Coates, Sandra Cousins, Marilyn Davis, Donna Droege, Fred Droege, Bill Dunning, Allan Edwards, Vivienne Edwards, Bill Farris, Wandie and Mary Fitzpatrick, Eugene Gilbert, Loise Gitau, Cynthia Hill-Meriwether, Nathan Homan, Dick Horkey, Meg Hubler, Larry Don Johnson, Ralph Kitch, Joyce Kunkel, John Lesch, Amy Lesh, Dottie MacMillian, Bob Matthews, Jimmie Mathews, Jo Matthews, George Matson, Ann McKellar, Gabriella Mungai, Pamela Neumann, Patti Parker, Penny Steinkuehler-Perkins, Don Perry, Robert Perryman, Sue Phelps, Rosemary Priest, Katherine Reid, Stephen Riungu, Jacob Rodehaver, Amy Russell, Ellen Ryan, Jerry Sisler, Cissy Ssettimba, Barbara Thomas, Bill Thompson, Chris Traband, Elaine Vinson, Joe Wanenmacher, Sandi Willhite, Jack Williams, Ruth Wilson, and Joe Woolslayer.

Our Sympathy and Prayers to: the Surface family on the death of Mary's mother, Velma White; and to the Combs family on the death of Lori's mother, Zada Watkins.

Letters of Well-Wishing are available for you to sign before or after the services. This week the letters go to Sophie Jenkins, and Erma Heath.

WORSHIP NOTES

The flowers for today's worship service in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Joyce Marsh, given by Tom Marsh and children Melanie and David.

THE FIRST CHURCH PASTORS

James D. Miller, Ph.D., *Co-Pastor* Ryan V. Moore, Ph.D., *Co-Pastor*
James Estes, M.Div., *Associate Pastor* Daniel Hutchinson, M.Div., *Associate Pastor*
Wambugu Gachungi, M.Div., *Associate Pastor*

Logo of First Presbyterian Church of Tulsa (a cross with a dove) and a logo of a person with a cross. Text: 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 call 918-301-1029. 709 South Boston Avenue ♡ Tulsa, Oklahoma 74119 (918) 584-4701 ♡ www.firstchurchtulsa.org



The People of God in Worship

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

AUGUST 11, 2019

**11:00 AM
SANCTUARY**

*First Presbyterian Church of Tulsa
Organized in 1885*