

First Sunday in Lent
11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary

The Words of Preparation

Paul's letter to the Romans is truly the most important piece in the New Testament. It is purest Gospel. It is well worth a Christian's while not only to memorize it word for word but also to occupy himself with it daily, as though it were the daily bread of the soul. It is impossible to read or to meditate on this letter too much or too well. The more one deals with it, the more precious it becomes and the better it tastes.

Martin Luther, *Preface to the Letter of St. Paul*

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

The Introit My Faith Looks Up to Thee arr. Dale Wood
Ashley O'Banion, soloist

My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Calvary, Savior divine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my guilt away, O let me from this day be wholly thine! May thy rich grace impart strength to my fainting heart, my zeal inspire! As thou hast died for me, O may my love to thee pure, warm, and changeless be, a living fire! While life's dark maze I tread, and griefs around me spread, be thou my guide; bid darkness turn to day, wipe sorrow's tears away, nor let me ever stray from thee aside.

The Call to Worship

Why would we want to lift high the cross, to exalt the name of Jesus, to sing of His love?
Because in Christ the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through Him God reconciled to Himself all things by making peace through the blood of His cross. *(Col. 1:19-20)*
God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son! And we are called to welcome this love with all of our hearts?
Indeed! For in Christ we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our sins, according to the riches of His grace that He lavished upon us. *(Eph. 1:7)*
How wide and deep is the love of Jesus! Let us stand in honor, **and let us worship God!**

◆ **The Hymn** O The Deep, Deep Love of Jesus EBENEZER
Acolytes: Claire Winton, Will Scheiper, Elizabeth Harris and Regan Franzen

O the deep, deep love of Jesus, vast, unmeasured, boundless, free. Rolling as a mighty ocean in its fullness over me. Underneath me, all around me, is the current of thy love, leading onward, leading homeward, to that glorious rest above.

O the deep, deep love of Jesus, spread his praise from shore to shore! How he loves us, ever loves us, changes never, nevermore! How he watches o'er his loved ones, died to call them all his own; how for them he's interceding, watching o'er them from the throne.

O the deep, deep love of Jesus, love of every love the best. 'Tis an ocean vast of blessing, 'tis a haven sweet of rest. O the deep, deep love of Jesus 'tis a heaven of heavens to me; and it lifts me up to glory, for it lifts me up to thee.

◆ **The Prayer of Adoration** Meredith Rogers

The First Reading Matthew 4:1-11

COME, GROW YOUR FAITH!

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

Bible Walk <i>(All ages)</i>	<i>50 Days to Pentecost</i> , Mark Peterson	E101
Cornerstone <i>(All ages)</i>	<i>Lenten Study on Romans</i> , Class led	E102
Covenanters <i>(Couples w/children)</i>	<i>The Story of Christianity</i> , Class led	E201
Faith and Family <i>(Parents)</i>	<i>Worshipping with the Children</i>	Children's Area
Forum <i>(All ages)</i>	<i>Lenten Study on Romans</i> , Class led	E200
Front Porch Team <i>(All ages)</i>	<i>Class Discussion</i> by Elisa Mangesho	Bernsen Reception Area
Harbingers <i>(Singles/couples)</i>	<i>Lenten Study on Romans</i> , Bruce and Jean Lemmon	E202
The Niche 2.0 <i>(Special needs)</i>	<i>The Bible Project</i> , Tim Clement	Kirkland Library
Pastor's Study	<i>The Purpose Driven Life</i> , Dr. Jim Miller	Miller Library
Reflections <i>(All ages)</i>	<i>God is Closer Than you Think</i> , Video, John Ortberg	E103
Shepherds <i>(Singles/couples)</i>	<i>Jonah</i> , Rev. Roxie Sullivan	E203
Sojourners <i>(All ages)</i>	<i>Albert Schweitzer</i> , Ron Pearson	E204
The Vine <i>(Singles/couples)</i>	<i>Lenten Study on Romans</i> , Class led	E100
Westminster <i>(All ages)</i>	<i>Awakening to God's Beauty</i> , Class led	Tower Room
Young Adults <i>(20's & 30's)</i>	<i>Romans Study</i> , Rev. Daniel Hutchinson	316 Pastor's Study

EVENTS THIS WEEK

Today 3/10/19
Worship Services 8:00 a.m., Kerr Chapel; 8:30 a.m., Stephenson Hall; 11:00 a.m., Sanctuary, Stephenson Hall, Great Hall, BC

Monday 3/11/19
Moms on Mondays 9:30 a.m., Room E101
Little Lambs 10:00 a.m., Wiseman Hall
Monday School 12:00 p.m., Kirkland Library
Stephen Ministry 5:30 p.m., Miller Library
Overtone Bells rehearsal 7:00 p.m., Room 309

Tuesday 3/12/19
Precept Bible Study 9:30 a.m., Room E100

Wednesday 3/13/19
Pastor's Study 11:30 a.m., Miller Library
Marys and Marthas Bible Study 10:00 a.m., Room E101
Book Club 12:00 p.m., Room E101
WNDT Dinner, AWANA, and Confirmation 6:00 p.m.
Gloria Choir rehearsal 5:30 p.m., Room 308
Chancel Choir rehearsal 6:30 p.m., Choir Room.

Thursday 3/14/19
Hearts for the Lord 9:30 a.m., Bernsen Center Reception
Sisterhood of Widows Bible Study 2:00 p.m., Room E100

Friday 3/15/19

Saturday 3/16/19
Before the Rooster Crows 8:45 a.m., Room E103
Amass Exodus 6:30 p.m., Powerhouse

There will be **NO** Little Lambs, Awana, POW, Confirmation, or Life Groups during the week of March 18, due to Spring Break

MARK YOUR CALENDARS WITH THESE EVENTS:	
March 13	WNDT Lenten Worship begins
March 16	Family Mission Trip
April 5	Petra Kids Ministry Banquet
April 7	Author Sunday
April 7	Chancel Choir Concert
April 13	Spring Festival
April 18	Easter Prayer Vigil begins

THE FIRST CHURCH UPDATES

We're glad to welcome you to this historic congregation, the first organized Christian community in Tulsa. We yearn to be a thriving expression of the Church: loving the Lord Jesus, embracing Him as "the Way, the Truth and the Life" (John 14:6), and praying that we might grow in faithfulness in all matters of faith and practice. We're so glad you're here!

The 8:10 Mission Project: just \$234,600 to go! That sounds like a lot—but "many hands make light work" and "many hearts, beating for Christ's sake, will get us to the finish line!" We can't launch the 8:10 Mission Endowment until our commitment is paid off. If 235 people were to give \$1,000 we'd reach the goal today. Any size gift will move us along!

Wednesday Night Lenten Worship: Beginning on March 13, we'll gather in the Sanctuary to reflect on the cross of Christ, what it says about humanity, and more importantly what it says about our Lord Christ.

AUTHOR Sunday on April 7: Are you gifted with a creative mind? If you are someone who is writing, or has written a book, or body of work, we would love to celebrate you and see what inspires you. For more information, call the church office or email cmiller@firstchurchtulsa.org.

First Church is currently recruiting for a full-time Director of Children's Ministries that teaches and equips our youngest disciples, birth through 4th grade, to come to know love, and serve Jesus Christ. The ideal candidate has an ability to relate the Gospel to children and their families, lead a team of volunteers and paid staff, and provide family-friendly faith based events. Bachelor's degree, in Christian education or child development is preferred. Please send resumes to Tonye Briscoe at tbriscoe@firstchurchtulsa.org.

It's a good time to join the Tuesday Morning Men's Bible study! This Tuesday we begin the Gospel of John at 7:00 a.m. in the Conference Room overlooking Stephenson Hall. Good friends, good donuts, pretty good coffee! Dr. Miller leads the study.

Love kids, education, the arts? First Presbyterian Church is now accepting applications for the position of Program Coordinator, Masterwork Academy. This fun-filled and pivotal role provides administrative, organizational, volunteer scheduling support and more for Masterwork Academy. If you or someone you know is interested, download an application online or contact Tonye Briscoe at 918-301-1035 for more information.

Internship Opportunity. Are you a college student who loves God and enjoys working with youth? Next Generation Ministries is now receiving applications for its summer youth ministry internship program. Contact Jackson Seibert (jseibert@firstchurchtulsa.org) or Steve Wilson (swilson@firstchurchtulsa.org) for more information or an application.

First Church Scholarships. Reminder! The deadline for applications for various scholarships administered by FPC is Monday, April 1. An application is available on our website, www.firstchurchtulsa.org.

Save the Date: Spring Festival: Saturday, April 13, at 10:00 a.m. in the Courtyard. An Easter Egg Hunt for toddlers through 3rd grade will begin at 10:00 a.m. Bring your children, grandchildren, and friends to join the fun.

First Church welcomes these new members today during the 11:00 a.m. worship in the Sanctuary :	
<i>Reaffirmation of Faith</i> Judy Muyange	
<i>Letter of Transfer</i>	
Jennifer and Jonathan Anthony	Jake King
Kathleen and Tom Reynolds	Rachel and Scott Stulen
<i>Confession of Faith</i> Marianne Evans-Lombe	

The Prayer of Confession

Rev. James Estes

Almighty God, Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness where He encountered the evil one and experienced temptation first-hand. He knows our condition: that we live in a wilderness of our own making, that we are prone to give in to temptation, and that our addiction to sin has a mighty grip on our lives. Lord Jesus Christ, come into our messiness, meet us in our sin, bring your liberating power and free us to serve you with all of our hearts. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayers. . . . *(in silence)*

The Offering of Forgiveness

God proves His love for us in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more surely, then, now that we have been justified by His blood, will we be saved through Him from the wrath of God *(Rom. 5:7-8)*. 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 The Old Rugged Cross RUGGED CROSS

On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross, the emblem of suffering and shame; and I love that old cross where the dearest and best for a world of lost sinners was slain.

*So I'll cherish the old rugged cross, till my trophies at last I lay down;
I will cling to the old rugged cross, and exchange it some day for a crown.*

In that old rugged cross, stained with blood so divine, a wondrous beauty I see, for 'twas on that old cross Jesus suffered and died to pardon and sanctify me. *Refrain*

◆ The Affirmation of Faith (from The Christian Reformed Church)

We believe that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, that this same Jesus remains with us through the Holy Spirit, renewing our hearts, moving us to faith, leading us in the truth, standing by us in our need, making our obedience fresh and vibrant. We believe that the Spirit offers His gifts in rich variety—fitting responses to timely needs.

Through the Spirit, we see each other as gifted members of the fellowship which delights in the Spirit's work. We believe that the Spirit gives more than enough to each believer for God's praise and our neighbor's welfare.

We believe we have these gifts because God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son—that whoever believes in Him would not perish but have everlasting life.

The Blessing of the Young Disciples

The Response Who Loves Stories?

During the response, children in K - 2nd grade are excused to attend K2 Quest.

I love to tell the story of unseen things above, of Jesus and His glory, of Jesus and His love, I love to tell the story, because I know 'tis true; it satisfies my longings as nothing else can do. *I love to tell the story, 'twill be my theme in glory, to tell the old, old story of Jesus and His love.*

I love to tell the story, for those who know it best seem hungering and thirsting to hear it like the rest. And when, in scenes of glory, I sing the new, new song, 'twill be the old, old story, that I have loved so long. *Refrain*

The New Testament Reading Romans 1:1-17

The Sermon The Strongest Antidote to Cynicism Dr. Jim Miller
I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ; it is the power of God... (Romans 1:16)

The Prayer of Dedication

The Offertory Now to Praise the Name of Jesus Michael Bedford

Now to praise the name of Jesus, now to bow before his throne; in this blessed hour of sharing we are one in him alone; Alleluia, blessed Savior, make us evermore your own. Now to come before the Table, now the Spirit from above; bread and wine in fullest measure, prayers ascending as a dove; Alleluia, gracious Savior, we are sanctified in love. Now the voice of every Christian soars to heaven with the song; heavenly hosts and choirs of angels now make haste to join the throng: Alleluia, living Savior, we will serve you all along. Amen.

The Invitation to the Lord's Table

Words of Institution

Prayer of Consecration

Sharing the Bread and the Cup

The Prayers of Thanksgiving

◆ **The Hymn 85** What Wondrous Love is This WONDROUS LOVE

◆ **The Charge and Benediction**

◆ **The Postlude** Voluntary on the tune EBENEZER Healey Willan

◆ *Please stand*

PARISH REGISTER

Prayers for Healing: Alao Aruna, Jane Azlin, Vanessa Batchelor, Nancy Burns, Diane Cherry, Coleman Coates, Sandra Cousins, Marilyn Davis, Fred Droege, Carol Dunning, Allan Edwards, Vivienne Edwards, 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, Kathy Marshall, Jimmie Mathews, George Matson, Ann McKellar, Gabriella Mungai, Pamela Neumann, Patti Parker, Kim Pedersen, Don Perry, Robert Perryman, Sue Phelps, Rosemary Priest, Katherine Reid, Stephen Riungu, Jacob Rodehaver, Amy Russell, Ellen Ryan, Jerry Sisler, Jane Sneed, Cissy Ssetimba, Barbara Thomas, Dan Thomas, Bill Thompson, Chris Traband, Elaine Vinson, Joe Wanenmacher, Sandi Willhite, Jack Williams, and Ruth Wilson.

The Sacrament of Baptism: Luke Andrew McCracken, son of Ryan and Carrie McCracken was baptized on February 24; Sutton Paige Moore, daughter of Bradford and Paige was baptized on March 3

With Gratitude for the Resurrection: Dorothy "Dorry" Efron, a member since 2013, died on March 2, 2019

Letters of Well-Wishing are available for you to sign before or after the services. This week the letters go to Jonnie and Barlow Nelson and Frank Efron.

WORSHIP NOTES

The flowers for today's worship service in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in memory of Vicki Grant and in honor of William Grant, Jr., by their children.

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*



*The People
of God
in Worship*

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

MARCH 10, 2019

11:00 AM
SANCTUARY

*First Presbyterian Church of Tulsa
Organized in 1885*