



First Presbyterian Church OF OKLAHOMA CITY

The Service for the Lord's Day — January 12, 2025

Baptism of the Lord

A special welcome to those visiting with us today!

We are grateful for your presence with us and hope you find this time of worship to be meaningful.

When you see an asterisk *, please rise in body or spirit, however you are comfortable.

Children are welcome in worship! A nursery is also available for infants and toddlers in Room 119.

We Gather to Worship

PRELUDE *If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee*, BWV 647 (hymn 816) J.S. Bach

WORDS OF WELCOME, CHURCH LIFE

CHIME

INTROIT *Stand Up and Bless the Lord* CARLISLE
Sanctuary Singers

*CALL TO WORSHIP Rev. John Singleton

Leader: God of the past, who has created and nurtured us, we are here to thank you.

People: God of the future, who is always ahead of us, we are here to thank you.

Leader: God of the present, who is here in the midst of us, we are here to thank you.

People: God of life, who is beyond us and within us, we rejoice in your glorious love.

All: Let us worship God!

*HYMN 96 *On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry* WINCHESTER NEW

*PRAYER OF THE DAY (Unison) Erica Taylor

God of love, in whose name we have been claimed for discipleship and service, encounter us in this hour, that we may grow in knowledge and understanding. Disturb our certainties so we will be open to new insights. Upset our priorities to make room for faith, hope, and love. Transform us in the presence of your love, we pray. Amen.

96 On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an -
 2 Then cleansed be ev - ery life from sin; make
 3 We hail you as our Sav - ior, Lord, our
 4 Stretch forth your hand; our health re - store, and

nounc - es that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,
 straight the way for God with - in, and let us all our
 ref - uge and our great re - ward; with - out your grace we
 make us rise to fall no more. O let your face up -

for he brings glad ti - dings of the King of kings!
 hearts pre - pare for Christ to come and en - ter there.
 waste a - way like flowers that with - er and de - cay.
 on us shine and fill the world with love di - vine.

This hymn shows how once-unconnected parts can work together. The text about John the Baptist was written in Latin in the 18th century and translated into English in the 19th century. Similarly, the 17th-century melody was adapted to its present form in the 19th century.

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)**

Merciful God, you pardon all who truly repent and turn to you. We humbly confess our sins and ask your mercy. We have not loved you with a pure heart, nor have we loved our neighbor as ourselves. Have mercy on us, O God. In your great compassion, cleanse us from our sin and renew a right spirit within us. Restore to us the joy of your salvation and sustain us with your bountiful Spirit through Jesus Christ, our Lord. (silent confession)

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

***PASSING OF THE PEACE** Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts.
To this peace we are called as members of a single body.
The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

***HYMN OF RESPONSE 582** *Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me* GLORY TO GOD (Vasile)
Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning,
is now and ever shall be. Amen.

We Proclaim God's Word

DISCOVERY TIME Children are invited forward for a special message. Cyndi Lockwood
Children seated on the Chancel steps will be in view of the livestream image;
those on the floor facing the steps will not.

Children—5 years old to 4th grade—are invited to attend Children's Church in Room 215. Parents may pick up children after worship from those locations.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

ANTHEM

Be Not Afraid

Craig Courtney

Sanctuary Singers

Isaiah 43:1-4

Be not afraid: for I have redeemed you; Be not afraid: I have called you by name. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; When you pass through the floods, they will not sweep o'er you; When you walk through the fire, you will not be consumed; You are mine, you are precious in my sight.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Proverbs 3:1-6 (pg. 588)

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SOLO

Lord of All Hopefulness

David Schwoebel, Jan Struther

Puffer Jones, baritone

Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy, whose trust, ever childlike, no cares could destroy: be there at our waking and give us, we pray, your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day. Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith, whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe: be there at our labors and give us, we pray, your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day. Lord of all kindness, Lord of all grace, your hands swift to welcome, your arms to embrace: be there at our homing and give us, we pray, your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day. Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm, whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm: be there at our sleeping and give us, we pray, your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 6:25-34 (pg. 6)

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

The Serenity of Letting Go

Rev. John Singleton

We Respond to God's Word

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Nicene Creed

Let us confess the faith of the universal church.

We believe in one God,

**the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is,
seen and unseen.**

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 at 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.

*HYMN 816

If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee

WER NUR DER LIEBEN GOTT

OFFERING

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

(Collection plates are located by the doors as you exit the Sanctuary.)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

PRAYER OF GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Eternal God, holy and mighty ... who forever sing to the glory of your name:

HYMN 562

*Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full, full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.*

You are holy, O God of majesty ... Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

HYMN 563

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit ... all glory and honor are yours, eternal God,
now and forever.

If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee 816

1 If thou but trust in God to guide thee, with hope - ful
 2 On - ly be still, and wait God's lei - sure in cheer - ful
 3 Sing, pray, and swerve not from God's ways, but do thine

heart through all thy ways, God will give strength, what - e'er be -
 hope, with heart con - tent to take what - e'er thy Keep - er's
 own part faith - ful - ly. Trust the rich prom - is - es of

tide thee, to bear thee through the e - vil days. Who trusts in
 plea - sure and all - dis - cern - ing love hath sent. No doubt our
 grace; so shall they be ful - filled in thee. God nev - er

God's un - chang - ing love builds on the rock that nought can move.
 in - most wants are clear to One who holds us al - ways dear.
 yet for - sook at need the soul se - cured by trust in - deed.

This hymn is a testimony of experience. The original seven-stanza German text (based on Psalm 55:22) and its tune were created by the author/composer at the age of twenty in thanksgiving for finding employment many weeks after being left almost penniless following a robbery.

HYMN 564 *Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen.*

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

COMMUNION VOLUNTARY *Let us Break Bread Together* Arr. Dale Wood

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We Go in God's Name

*HYMN 547 *Go, My Children, with My Blessing* AR HYD Y NOS

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE *Finale: Grand Chorus* Alexandre Guilmant

It's our pleasure to welcome Rev. John Singleton to our pulpit this morning.

Rev. Singleton was ordained at FPC Edmond in 1995, and he served their congregation for six years.

He then served as solo pastor at Grace Presbyterian, OKC and then as head of staff at FPC Conroe, TX. Currently, he works in sales for Vox Printing in Oklahoma City. He and his wife Mary have three grown children and one tremendous granddaughter.

Thank you, Rev. Singleton!

**Give to
FPC today!**



SCAN ME

Go, My Children, with My Blessing 547

1 "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, nev - er a - lone.
 2 "Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.
 3 "Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, clos - er to me.

Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.
 Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
 Grow in love and love by serv - ing, joy - ful and free.

In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for -
 Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry; here you touched him, saw his
 Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you; here my ten - der com - fort

ev - er. Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, you are my own."
 glo - ry. Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure."
 stilled you. Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, joy - ful and free."

Because this Welsh melody usually sets evening texts, the author was asked to create one for use in daytime. His recasting of the Aaronic blessing in Numbers 6:22–27 imagines that passage as a benediction that might be spoken by God at the conclusion of a worship service.

Today

Sunday School Classes

- Evergreen | Room B-14 (9:30 a.m.)
- New Beginnings | Fireside Room (9:30 a.m.)
- Builders | Room B-8 (9:45 a.m.)
- High School | Youth Lounge (9:45 a.m.)
- Middle School | Room B-10 (9:45 a.m.)
- Children | Room 213 (9:45 a.m.)

Coffee & Cookies Fellowship | 9:30-10:55 a.m.

Coffee, cookies, and fellowship are available in the Reception Center every Sunday before worship!

Sanctuary Worship | 11:00 a.m.

Upcoming Events

Individual Prayer & Evensong Worship — Wednesdays | 5:00 & 5:30 p.m.

The Sanctuary is open on Wednesdays for individual meditation and prayer at 5:00 p.m. and an Evensong service from 5:30–6:00 p.m. Evensong is a short church service, featuring sung psalms, readings, and prayers, offering a period of respite and contemplation after the workday, to help transition into the restful night.

After service, we'll have a time of fellowship in the Reception Center from 6:00-6:30 p.m.

Free Yoga Class — Wednesdays | 6:00 p.m.

Our Free Yoga Class is available weekly on Wednesdays! We'll meet in the Rec Room in the basement. Angela Rose will lead our hour-long class. All skill levels are welcome!

Choir Practice — Wednesdays | 6:30 p.m.

The choir will begin meeting again on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. to practice. **If you are interested in joining or have any questions, please reach out to Puffer (puffer@fpcokc.org).**

Priscilla Circle Meeting — Tuesday, January 14 | 10:00 a.m.

Room 122 on the first floor of the church.

Phoebe Circle Meeting — Tuesday, January 14 | 1:30 p.m.

Linda Herider will host in the Reception Center.

Reserve the Third — Saturday, January 18 | 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

We're volunteering at the Urban Mission this month! **Please contact Roane Pittman (johnpittmanmd@gmail.com) if you're interested in serving or have any questions.**

Abigail Circle Meeting — Tuesday, January 21 | 6:00 p.m.

Location TBD.

Kemp Concert Series

4x4 Organ Concert — Sunday, February 2 | 4:00-6:00 p.m.

In this moveable musical feast, audience members begin in the Chapel, then move to the other organ rooms in the church, hearing a short recital in each location. Music is chosen to highlight the special characteristics of each instrument. *This is a free concert.*

Featuring:

- Alvez Barkoskie IV of St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church, OKC
- Christopher Evatt of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Edmond
- Steven McConnell of First Baptist Church, OKC
- Carolyn Sargent of Mayflower Congregational Church, OKC

