



# First Presbyterian Church OF OKLAHOMA CITY

## The Service for the Lord's Day — April 26, 2025 Marathon Weekend

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

*Andante*

George Frederic Handel

WORDS OF WELCOME, CHURCH LIFE

DEACONS' MOMENT

Blaine Moore

CHIME

INTROIT

*Lift High the Cross*

CRUCIFER

Sanctuary Singers

\*CALL TO WORSHIP - *from Psalm 24*

Leader: The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it. The world and all its people belong to him.

People: **For he laid the earth's foundation on the seas and built it on the ocean depths.**

All: **Open up, ancient gates! Open up, ancient doors, and let the King of glory enter.**

\*HYMN 681

*This Is the Day the Lord Hath Made*

NUN DANKET ALL' UND BRINGET HER'

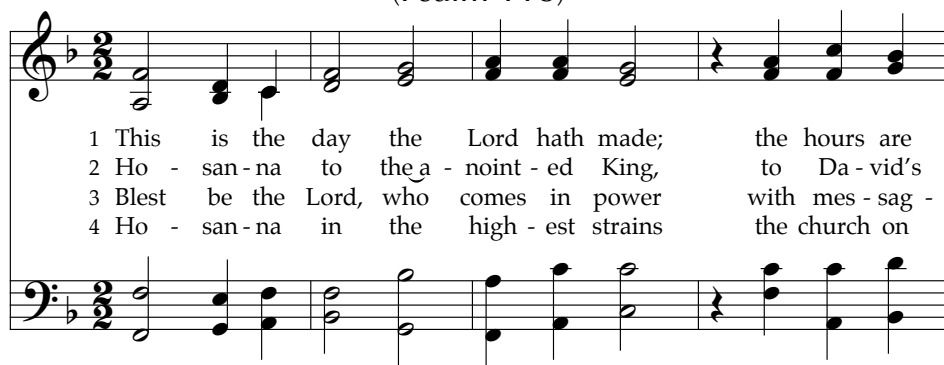
\*PRAYER OF THE DAY (Unison)

Mary Ann Doolen

Living God, you call us to be good stewards of this earthly home, strengthen us to care for your creation; forgive us when, through our greed and indifference, we abuse its beauty and damage its potential. Empower us, through your Spirit, to nurture and love the world, that all creation sings to your glory. Amen.

# 681 This Is the Day the Lord Hath Made

(Psalm 118)



1 This is the day the Lord hath made; the hours are  
 2 Ho - san - na to the a - nointed King, to Da - vid's  
 3 Blest be the Lord, who comes in power with mes - sag -  
 4 Ho - san - na in the high - est strains the church on



all God's own. Let heaven re - joice; let  
 ho - ly Son! Help us, O Lord; de -  
 es of grace, who comes in this ac -  
 earth can raise! The high - est heavens in



earth be glad, and praise sur - round the throne.  
 scend and bring sal - va - tion from the throne.  
 cept - ed hour to save our sin - ful race.  
 which God reigns shall now re - sound with praise.

These stanzas provide Watts's paraphrase of Psalm 118:24-29 (minus a stanza he inserted about Easter and Pentecost as part of his effort to Christianize the Psalms). They are set to a tune composed for and named by a Paul Gerhardt text, "Now Let All Thank and Bring Honor."

**\*LITANY OF ASSURANCE - Romans 8:1-2, 5-6**

Leader: There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

**People: For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set me free from the law of sin and death.**

Leader: For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh,

**People: but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on things of the Spirit.**

**All: To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace.**

**\*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.***

**MINUTE FOR MISSION**

Earth Day

Elizabeth Hatcher

## **We Proclaim God's Word**

**DISCOVERY TIME** Children are invited forward for a special message.

Jack Ogden

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.

**ANTHEM**

*Lord of the Dance*

Shaker Hymn, adapt. Sydney Carter

Sanctuary Singers

arr. John Ferguson

*I danced in the morning when the world was begun, and I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun, and I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth; at Bethlehem I had my birth. Dance then wherever you may be; I am the Lord of the Dance, said he, and I'll lead you all, wherever you may be, and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he. I danced for the scribe and the pharisee, but they wouldn't dance, and they wouldn't follow me; I danced for the fishermen, for James and John; they came with me and the dance went on. I danced on the Sabbath and I cured the lame; the holy people said it was a shame. They whipped and they stripped and they hung me high and left me there on a cross to die. I danced on a Friday when the sky turned black; it's hard to dance with the devil on our back. They buried my body and they thought I'd gone. But I am the dance and I still go on. They cut me down and I leapt up high: I am the life that'll never, never die; I'll live in you if you'll live in me. I am the Lord of the Dance, said he.*

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

### SCRIPTURE READING

Genesis 1:1-31 (pg. 1)

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

### SOLO

*In Christ Alone*

Keith Getty & Stuart Townend

Isaac Lynne, baritone

*In Christ alone my hope is found—He is my light, my strength, my song; this cornerstone this solid ground, firm through the fiercest drought and storm. What heights of love, what depths of peace when fears are stilled, when strivings cease. My Comforter, my All in All—here in the love of Christ I stand. In Christ alone, who took on flesh, fullness of God in helpless babe. This gift of love and righteousness, scorned by the ones He came to save, till on that cross as Jesus died the wrath of God was satisfied. For every sin on Him was laid—here in the death of Christ I live. There in the ground His body lay, light of the world by darkness slain. Then bursting forth in glorious day, up from the grave He rose again. And as He stands in victory, sin's curse has lost its grip on me. For I am His and He is mine—bought with the precious blood of Christ. No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the power of Christ in me. From life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny. No power of hell, no scheme of man, can ever pluck me from His hand. Till He returns or calls me home—here in the power of Christ I'll stand.*

### SCRIPTURE READING

Romans 9:19-20a (pg. 159)

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

### SERMON

*The Invisible Made Visible*

Rev. John C. McKinnon

## We Respond to God's Word

### \*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.**

### \*HYMN 14

*For the Beauty of the Earth*

DIX

## For the Beauty of the Earth

14

1 For the beau - ty of the earth, for the glo - ry of the skies,  
 2 For the won - der of each hour of the day and of the night,  
 3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de - light,  
 4 For the joy of hu - man love, broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,  
 5 For thy - self, best gift di - vine to the world so free - ly given;

for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies:  
 hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light:  
 for the mys - tic har - mo - ny link - ing sense to sound and sight:  
 friends on earth, and friends a - bove, for all gen - tle thoughts and mild:  
 for that great, great love of thine, peace on earth and joy in heaven:

*Refrain*

Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grate - ful praise.

In the course of many revisions, the original eucharistic emphasis of this text has shifted to a hymn of thanksgiving for a wide range of human experience, with a Christological summation. It is set here to the tune that is customary in North America, though not elsewhere.

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

### *A Prayer for Our Earth*

This prayer by Pope Francis appeared at the end of his 2015 papal letter to all bishops of the Roman Catholic Church. It is intended for all who believe in God, the all-powerful Creator.

All powerful God,  
you are present in the universe  
and in the smallest of your creatures.  
You embrace with your tenderness all that exists.  
Pour out upon us the power of your love,  
that we may protect life and beauty.  
Fill us with your peace, that we may live  
as brothers and sisters, harming no one.  
O God of the poor,  
help us to rescue the abandoned  
and forgotten of this earth,  
so precious in your eyes.  
Bring healing to our lives,  
that we may protect the world and not prey on it,  
that we may sow beauty,  
not pollution and destruction.  
Touch the hearts  
of those who look only for gain  
at the expense of the poor and the earth.  
Teach us to discover the worth of each thing,  
to be filled with awe and contemplation,  
to recognize that we are profoundly united  
with every creature  
as we journey towards your infinite light.  
We thank you for being with us each day.  
Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle,  
for justice, love and peace.

RESPONSE

*Amen*  
Sanctuary Singers

Peter C. Lutkin

## OFFERING

### CALL FOR THE OFFERING

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

### GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

#### OFFERTORY

*Calvary*  
Karen Schiler, flute

Paul Rodney  
arr. Clair W. Johnson

#### \*DOXOLOGY

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God all creatures here below; Alleluia, Alleluia.  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost;  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Amen.***

#### \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

## We Go in God's Name

#### \*HYMN 836

*Abide with Me*

EVENTIDE

#### \*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

#### \*POSTLUDE

*Toccata in F Major*

Dietrich Buxtehude

## Community Garden

We have a few plots available in the Community Garden! If you or someone you know is interested, please call (405-525-6584) or email ([office@fpcokc.org](mailto:office@fpcokc.org)) the church office to sign up or learn more.

**Give to  
FPC today!**



## 836

## Abide with Me

1 A - bide with me: fast falls the e - ven - tide.  
 2 Swift to its close ebbs out life's lit - tle day;  
 3 I need thy pres - ence ev - ery pass - ing hour;  
 4 I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;  
 5 Hold thou thy cross be - fore my clos - ing eyes;

The dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bide!  
 earth's joys grow dim; its glo - ries pass a - way;  
 what but thy grace can foil the tempt - er's power?  
 ills have no weight, and tears no bit - ter - ness.  
 shine through the gloom and point me to the skies.

When oth - er help - ers fail and com - forts flee,  
 change and de - cay in all a - round I see.  
 Who, like thy - self, my guide and stay can be?  
 Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy vic - to - ry?  
 Heaven's morn - ing breaks, and earth's vain shad - ows flee;

help of the help - less, O a - bide with me.  
 O thou who chang - est not, a - bide with me.  
 Through cloud and sun - shine, Lord, a - bide with me.  
 I tri - umph still, if thou a - bide with me.  
 in life, in death, O Lord, a - bide with me.

By blending end of day and end of life, the imagery of this well-known Victorian hymn has made it valuable for both evening services and funerals. Although the author wrote his own music for it, the present tune has been firmly associated with this text for over 150 years.



# Earth Day in Oklahoma City

Churches around the world recognize Earth Day by celebrating God's gift of creation and reaffirming our responsibility to care for it. This year, the Creation Care Team of Mission Council is highlighting local efforts to protect and care for God's creatures.

- **Lights Out, Oklahoma!**

Sponsored by the OKC Zoo, this initiative encourages residents and businesses to turn off non-essential lights at night to help migrating birds travel safely. The recommended hours are 11:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m., from April 15 through May 31.

[www.okczoo.org/lightsout](http://www.okczoo.org/lightsout)

- **Yard by Yard + Grounds by Grounds**

The Oklahoma Association of Conservation Districts offers guidance and financial support for creating eco-friendly gardens. Participants learn how to improve soil health, conserve water, support wildlife, and build resilient landscapes at home or in public spaces. Their website and staff are great resources for anyone wanting to improve their landscape.

[www.okconservation.org/yard-by-yard-grounds-by-grounds](http://www.okconservation.org/yard-by-yard-grounds-by-grounds)

- **Build a Backyard Wildscape**

The Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation compares designing a wildlife-friendly yard to baking a cake. It requires the right ingredients: food, water, cover, and space. Their team can help you bring it all together to create a backyard wildscape.

[www.wildlifedepartment.com/outdoorok/ooj/wildscape](http://www.wildlifedepartment.com/outdoorok/ooj/wildscape)

- **Okies for Monarchs**

Help support migrating butterflies by planting milkweed and other pollinator-friendly plants. Okies for Monarchs offers tips, resources, and encouragement for creating habitats that welcome monarchs during their spring and fall journeys through Oklahoma.

[www.okiesformonarchs.org](http://www.okiesformonarchs.org)

## 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., followed by an Evensong service from 5:30–6:00 p.m. Evensong is a short worship 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 the 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! Angela Rose leads the hour-long class in the Rec Room in the basement. All skill levels are welcome.

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

The choir meets 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](mailto:puffer@fpcokc.org)).**

### Deacons' Out & About: Riverboat Cruise — Saturday, May 3 | 5:00 p.m.

Welcome aboard FPC-OKC's Riverboat Cruise sponsored by the Deacons! This cruise is open to ALL AGES. *There are a limited number of tickets, so please sign up at [tinyurl.com/DeaconsCruise25](https://tinyurl.com/DeaconsCruise25) as soon as possible.*

We'll gather at Big Friendly (1737 Spoke St., just off S. Western & SW 17th St.) between 5:00-5:30 p.m. You'll be able to order food at Taco Nation, which is just a few steps away.

At 6:30 p.m., we'll move to the Regatta Landing (701 S. Lincoln Blvd, in the Boathouse District). Boarding begins at 6:45 p.m. for the two-hour trip up and down the Oklahoma River, returning to the same landing at 9:00 p.m.

Onboard, enjoy adult refreshments (at your expense) or free soft drinks, coffee, and snacks! **Please contact Blaine Moore (405-473-7893) if you have any questions.**

### First Sunday Lunch — Sunday, May 4 | 12:00 p.m.

Our First Sunday Lunches are a great time to share in fellowship with the congregation. After the worship service, we'll gather in Watchorn Hall to enjoy a delicious meal organized by Junebug Catering.

**Menu:** Taco Bar, Chips, Salsa, Queso, Sopapilla Cheesecake, and Mockaritas

## **Kemp Concert Series: Glenn Miller, Organ — Sunday, May 18 | 4:00 p.m.**

Former First Presbyterian Church staff member Glenn Miller returns to Oklahoma City for a special concert. The program will feature organ works by Franck, Vierne, and more. Glenn will also showcase his signature low bass voice in several selections, including the world premiere of pieces composed especially for him.

This concert celebrates the recently refurbished Sanctuary Organ. **The event is free and open to the public.**

## **Memorial Day Celebration — Sunday, May 25 | After 11:00 Service**

Join us after the 11:00 a.m. service on Sunday, May 25, for our annual Memorial Day celebration!

This year, we're mixing things up with patriotic-themed games and activities for all ages near the playground behind the church. We'll be serving up classic cookout favorites, hot dogs, chips, and drinks. Bring your festive spirit and enjoy a fun afternoon with the church family.

## **Urban Mission Annual Golf Scramble — Monday, June 9 | 7:30 a.m.**

Sign up now to reserve your spot and save the date! Register your foursome together or let The Urban Mission put you on a winning team. Prizes include a RedView rangefinder, a Caribbean cruise, and even a 25k prize!

Registration is \$125 per person. All proceeds from this event go to benefit The Urban Mission's programs, which support Oklahomans in need. Register at [tinyurl.com/urbanmissiongolf25](https://tinyurl.com/urbanmissiongolf25).

# **First Presbyterian Church**

1001 NW 25<sup>th</sup> Street, Oklahoma City, OK 73106 | 405-525-6584 | [www.fpcokc.org](http://www.fpcokc.org)