



First Presbyterian Church OF OKLAHOMA CITY

The Service for the Lord's Day – August 23, 2026 13th Sunday after Pentecost

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 *Sonata No. 1: Allegro moderato e serioso* Felix Mendelssohn

WORDS OF WELCOME, CHURCH LIFE

CHIME

INTROIT *Give Thanks to the Lord* Marina Quintanilla
Sanctuary Singers

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good.

People: God's steadfast love endures forever.

Leader: Present your bodies as a living sacrifice.

People: This is our spiritual worship.

All: Let us worship God!

*HYMN 81 *Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken* AUSTRIAN HYMN

*PRAYER OF THE DAY (Unison) John Harris

O God, you blessed Abraham and Sarah, and made them a great nation. Keep us in remembrance of the rock from which we are hewn, that the waste places of our lives may blossom to your glory. Amen.

*CALL TO CONFESSION

81 Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken



1 Glo - rious things of thee are spo - ken, Zi - on, cit - y of our God.
 2 Round each hab - i - ta - tion hov - ering, see the cloud and fire ap - pear
 3 See, the streams of liv - ing wa - ters, spring - ing from e - ter - nal love,



God, whose word can - not be bro - ken, formed thee for a blest a - bode.
 for a glo - ry and a cov - ering, show - ing that the Lord is near.
 well sup - ply thy sons and daugh - ters and all fear of want re - move.



On the rock of a - ges found - ed, what can shake thy sure re - pose?
 Thus de - riv - ing from their ban - ner light by night and shade by day,
 Who can faint while such a riv - er ev - er flows, their thirst to as - suage?



With sal - va - tion's walls sur - round - ed, thou may'st smile at all thy foes.
 safe they feed up - on the man - na which God gives them when they pray.
 Grace, so like the Lord the giv - er, nev - er fails from age to age.



The Nazi appropriation of this tune for propaganda purposes has clouded a noble piece of music first associated with this text in 1889. In a 1779 collection, the author indicated that this hymn is primarily based on Isaiah 33:20–21 with allusions to several other passages.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)**

Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment. Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image; through Jesus Christ, the light of the world. (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.

Afterwards, a nursery is provided in Room 119 for children four and under.

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 Room 215 or Room 119 (nursery).

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

With a Voice of Singing

Martin Shaw

Sanctuary Singers

With a voice of singing declare ye this, and let it be heard, Alleluia. Utter it even unto the ends of the earth. The Lord hath delivered his people, Alleluia. O be joyful in God, all ye lands, O sing praises to the honor of his name, make his praise to be glorious.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 51:1–6 (pg. 681)

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

ANTHEM

Step by Step

David Strasser

Ronn Burton, Sarah Gwatney, Puffer Jones, Marina Quintanilla

O God, you are my God, and I will ever praise you. I will seek you in the morning, and I will learn to walk in your ways. And step by step you'll lead me, and I will follow you all of my days.

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 16:13–20 (pg. 18)

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

SERMON

Simon Says

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 718

Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said

BOURBON

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

RESPONSE

Hear Our Prayer, O God

WHELPTON

Sanctuary Singers

OFFERING

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Sonata No. 1: Adagio

Felix Mendelssohn

*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

Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said 718

1 Take up your cross, the Sav - ior said, if
 2 Take up your cross; let not its weight fill
 3 Take up your cross; heed not the shame, and
 4 Take up your cross, then, in Christ's strength, and

you would my dis - ci - ple be; take up your cross with
 your weak spir - it with a - larm; Christ's strength shall bear your
 let your fool - ish pride be still; the Lord for you ac -
 calm - ly ev - ery dan - ger brave: it guides you to a -

will - ing heart, and hum - bly fol - low af - ter me.
 spir - it up and brace your heart and nerve your arm.
 cept - ed death up - on a cross, on Cal - vary's hill.
 bun - dant life and leads to vic - tory o'er the grave.

Written by a nineteen-year-old in Connecticut, this challenging text has been widely printed on both sides of the Atlantic. It is strengthened by its resolute repetition of the same four words at the beginning of each stanza and by the appropriately stark shape note tune.

We Go in God's Name

*HYMN 726

Will You Come and Follow Me

KELVINGROVE

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

Sonata No. 1: Andante (Recit) / Allegro assai vivace

Felix Mendelssohn

The Six Sonatas of Felix Mendelssohn Series

Today, John L. Edwards begins a series presenting all six of Felix Mendelssohn's organ sonatas during Sunday morning services. Mendelssohn (1809–1847), a German composer, pianist, organist, and conductor of the early Romantic era, helped revive interest in the organ music of Johann Sebastian Bach. His *Six Organ Sonatas*, Op. 65, published in 1845, are not written in the traditional classical sonata form but instead consist of varied collections of movements.

Today's Sonata No. 1 in F minor is in four movements, progressing from a majestic opening (prelude) through a melodic adagio (offertory) and dramatic recitative to a lively finale (postlude).

The remaining sonatas will be presented on the following Sundays: September 20, Sonata No. 2; November 22, Sonata No. 3; January 17, 2027, Sonata No. 4; February 14, Sonata No. 5; and March 14, Sonata No. 6.

Summer Item Donation Drive

FPC-OKC Youth are partnering with Key to Home Partnership to collect summer essentials to help people stay safe and healthy during Oklahoma's hot summer months. Through September 6, donations of sunscreen, DEET bug spray, and new adult-size underwear are needed.

*You can drop off donations at the front of the Sanctuary on Sunday mornings
or in the church office during the week.*

Get Your Ballot Notarized

You can get your absentee ballot notarized before or after service in the Reception Center. This is the last Sunday before the runoff election on Tuesday, August 25.

Contact Jean Nelson at jmn3925@swbell.net with any questions.

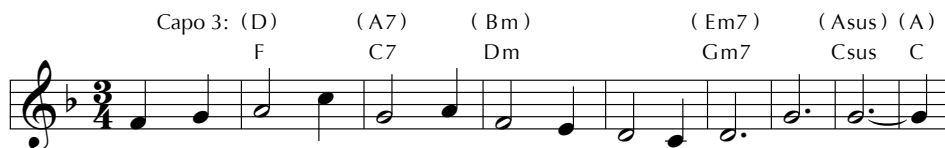
**Give to
FPC today!**



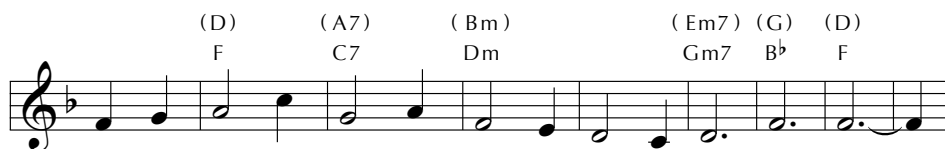
SCAN ME

726 Will You Come and Follow Me

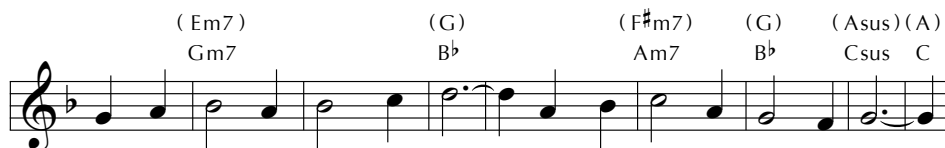
The Summons



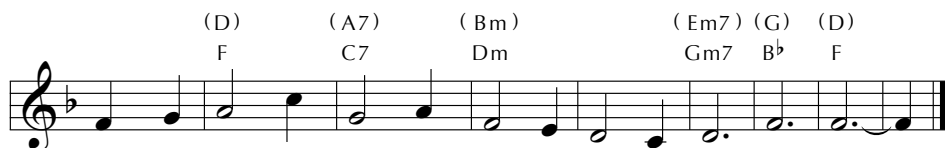
1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call your name?
2 "Will you leave your-self be-hind if I but call your name?
3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call your name?
4 "Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?
5 Lord, your sum-mons ech - oes true when you but call my name.



Will you go where you don't know and nev - er be the same?
Will you care for cruel and kind and nev - er be the same?
Will you set the pris - oners free and nev - er be the same?
Will you quell the fear in - side and nev - er be the same?
Let me turn and fol - low you and nev - er be the same.



Will you let my love be shown; will you let my name be known;
Will you risk the hos - tile stare should your life at - tract or scare?
Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as this un - seen,
Will you use the faith you've found to re-shape the world a - round,
In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and foot-steps show.



will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?"
Will you let me an - swer prayer in you and you in me?"
and ad - mit to what I mean in you and you in me?"
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?"
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

The first four stanzas of this ballad-like hymn are understood to be in the voice of Christ, with the fifth reflecting the individual singer's response. Created for this traditional Scottish tune, the text was written to mark the conclusion of a youth volunteer's time of ministry.

Called Congregational Meeting

The Session has called a Meeting of the Congregation to be held in the Sanctuary
after 11:00 a.m. worship on Sunday, August 23, for the election
of a Ruling Elder to the Class of 2029.
Susan Perry, Clerk of Session

Elder Nomination Bio

Melanie Duff

I am grateful for the opportunity to serve my church family as an Elder. It is an honor to be considered, especially in a church I have grown to love so much in the three years my family has been here.



Although I grew up in the Cooperative Baptist Church as a preacher's kid, my faith journey has led me and my husband, Jeff, down several different roads. We have been to Nazarene, Methodist, and other non-denominational churches in the area—on a quest to find an accepting place for our son Lancelot and his husband, Jason, so we could come to church together. We knew the first Sunday we visited that we had found a new home.

I have been working as a manager in a wealth management brokerage firm for the

past 30 years, and I specialize in helping clients go through the estate settlement process after the death of a family member.

I enjoy painting, drafting short stories, and cooking/baking for my family and friends.

Today

Sunday School Classes

- Evergreen | Room B-14 (9:30 a.m.)
- Builders | Room B-8 (9:45 a.m.)
- New Beginnings | Fireside Room (9:30 a.m.)

Getting to Know You, Me, and FPC-OKC | 9:30 a.m. | Room 122

Would you like to learn more about First Presbyterian Church, or are you interested in membership? If so, please join Pastor John in Room 122 on Sundays from August 23–September 20. **Contact Pastor John at 405-525-6584 with any questions.**

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

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

Vacation Bible School | 9:45–10:55 a.m.

Join us for Vacation Bible School! We're going on a tree-mendous adventure while exploring the nature of God through our *Rainforest Falls* series. We have activities for all age groups!

- 3- to 4-year-olds | Room 119
- 5- to 9-year-olds | Room 113
- 10 years old and up | Room B-10

Sanctuary Worship | 11:00 a.m.

Called Congregational Meeting | After 11:00 a.m. Worship

The Session has called a Meeting of the Congregation to be held in the Sanctuary after worship today for the election of a Ruling Elder to the Class of 2029.

Upcoming Events

Bridge Group — Mondays | 6:00–8:00 p.m. & Wednesdays | 9:00–11:30 a.m.

We meet in Room B-10 in the basement on Mondays from 6:00–8:00 p.m. and Wednesdays from 9:00–11:30 a.m. Whether you've never played, are returning after a break, or just want to join a friendly bridge group, we've got a spot for you!

Contact Barbara Charlet at barbara.charlet@outlook.com or David Ligon at david.m.ligon@gmail.com for more information.

Evening Prayer Service — 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 Evening Prayer Service from 5:30–6:00 p.m. This short worship service features sung psalms, readings, and prayers, offering a period of respite and contemplation after the workday and helping us transition into a restful night.

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

Choir Rehearsal — Wednesdays | 6:30–8:00 p.m.

The choir rehearses at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesdays. If you are interested in joining, please contact Puffer Jones at puffer@fpcokc.org.

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.

Rally Day — Sunday, September 6 | 12:00 p.m.

Kick off the fall season at Rally Day! Join us for lunch and discover the many different classes, ministries, and opportunities to learn and get involved at FPC-OKC.

Menu: Roasted turkey with apples and onions, wild rice salad with cranberries and butternut squash, harvest salad, and corn pudding with berries

Presbyterian Women

Joint Circle Meeting — Tuesday, September 8 | 10:00 a.m.

All Presbyterian Women are invited to gather for a joint circle meeting on Tuesday, September 8, at 10:00 a.m. in the Reception Center. Join us for fellowship and conversation as we begin a new season together!

Pastor John's 10th Anniversary Celebration

Sunday, September 20 | 12:00 p.m.

Join us as we celebrate Pastor John's 10th anniversary at FPC-OKC! Following worship, everyone is invited to gather in Watchorn Hall for a special lunch prepared by Junebug Catering.

Come enjoy good food and fellowship as we give thanks for John and his years of service at First Presbyterian Church!

Kemp Concert Series

4x4 Organ Concert — Sunday, September 20 | 4:00 p.m.

Save the date for this upcoming concert as part of our Kemp Concert Series!

Featuring Organists:

- Watchorn Hall, John L. Edwards
- Chapel, Tyler Stone
- Choir Room, Melissa Plamann
- Sanctuary, Nolan P. Reilly