



First Presbyterian Church
OF OKLAHOMA CITY

The Service for the Lord's Day – May 11, 2025
Fourth Sunday of Easter
Mother's Day

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

Be Still, My Soul (hymn 819)

Jean Sibelius
arr. Eleanor Whitsett

WORDS OF WELCOME, CHURCH LIFE

KEMP CONCERT

Puffer Jones

FIRST CHIME

INTROIT

Lift High the Cross

CRUCIFER

Sanctuary Singers

***CALL TO WORSHIP - Psalm 100:1-2, 5**

Leader: Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness.

Come into God's presence with singing!

**People: For the Lord is a gracious God, whose mercy is everlasting; and whose
faithfulness endures to all generations.**

All: Let us worship God!

***HYMN 65**

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

CWM RHONDDA

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah 65

1 Guide me, O thou great Je - ho - vah, pil - grim through this
 2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain, whence the heal - ing
 3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious

bar - ren land. I am weak, but thou art might - y. Hold me
 stream doth flow. Let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me
 fears sub - side. Death of death, and hell's de - struc - tion, land me

with thy power - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,
 all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - erer, strong de - liv - erer,
 safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs of prais - es, songs of prais - es

feed me till I want no more; feed me till I want no more.
 be thou still my strength and shield; be thou still my strength and shield.
 I will ev - er give to thee; I will ev - er give to thee.

Few Welsh hymns are as well known or loved as this 18th-century text that did not gain its popular tune until the early 20th century. In both its original text and in English translation, it is a stirring hymn of pilgrimage filled with vivid imagery from Hebrew Scripture.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY (Unison)

Amanda Ogden

O God, to those who seek you with a sincere heart you reveal the beauty of your face. Strengthen us in faith to embrace the mystery of the cross and open our hearts to its transfiguring power; that, clinging in love to your will, we may walk the path of discipleship as followers of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

*LITANY OF ASSURANCE - 1 Peter 1:3-6a

Leader: Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!

People: By his great mercy, he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

Leader: and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you,

People: who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

All: In this we rejoice!

*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 Room 215 or Room 119 for the 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

Hark! I Hear the Harps Eternal

Craig Carnahan

Sanctuary Singers

Hark, I hear the harps eternal ringing on the farther shore, as I near those swollen waters with their deep and solemn roar. Alleluia! Praise the Lamb! Glory to the great I AM! And my soul, though stained with sorrow, fading as the light of day, passes swiftly o'er those waters to the city far away. Souls have crossed before me, saintly, to that land of perfect rest; and I hear them singing faintly in the mansions of the blest.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Psalm 23 (pg. 501)

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

SOLO

Soon

Brooke Ligertwood

Marina Quintanilla, mezzo-soprano

Soon and very soon, my King is coming, robed in righteousness and crowned with love. When I see Him I shall be made like Him— Soon and very soon. Soon and very soon, I'll be going to the place He has prepared for me. There—my sin erased, my shame forgotten—soon and very soon. I will be with the One I love, with unveiled face I'll see Him. There my soul will be satisfied, soon and very soon. Soon and very soon, see the procession, the angels and the elders around the throne. At His feet I'll lay my crowns, my worship, soon and very soon. Though I have not seen Him, my heart knows Him well, Jesus Christ the Lamb, the Lord of heaven.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Revelation 7:9-17 (pg. 249)

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

SERMON

No More

Rev. Abbey Walker

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 375

Shall We Gather at the River

HANSON PLACE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

RESPONSE

Amen

Peter C. Lutkin

Sanctuary Singers

OFFERING

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

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

375 Shall We Gather at the River



1 Shall we gath-er at the riv-er, where bright an-gel feet have trod,
 2 On the mar-gin of the riv-er, wash-ing up its sil-ver spray,
 3 Ere we reach the shin-ing riv-er, lay we ev-ery bur-den down;
 4 Soon we'll reach the shin-ing riv-er; soon our pil-grim-age will cease;



with its crys-tal tide for-ev-er flow-ing by the throne of God?
 we will walk and wor-ship ev-er, all the hap-py gold-en day.
 grace our spir-its will de-liv-er, and pro-vide a robe and crown.
 soon our hap-py hearts will quiv-er with the mel-o-dy of peace.



Refrain



Yes, we'll gath-er at the riv-er, the beau-ti-ful, the beau-ti-ful riv-er;



gath-er with the saints at the riv-er that flows by the throne of God.



A Baptist pastor wrote this hymn while seated at his parlor organ. Created as an alternative to gloomy "river of death" hymns, it is a celebration of the "pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb" (Revelation 22:1 KJV).

OFFERTORY

Beautiful Savior
McKenzie Lofgren, violin

Tom Fettke

*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 39

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

FAITHFULNESS

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

Toccata

Rachel Laurin

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to Teresa Vassar, Leslie Miller, Joni Welch, and Nelson Dougherty upon the death of their mother, Kathleen Mae Dougherty, on May 3, 2025. Please keep Kathleen's family and friends in your thoughts and prayers during this time of loss.

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to Tim Kunkel and Julie Wilkinson upon the death of their mother, Sue Kunkel, on May 8, 2025. Sue had recently been residing in West Rockport, Maine. Service details will be shared when available. Please keep the Kunkel and Wilkinson families, as well as Sue's friends, in your thoughts and prayers during this time of loss.

It is our pleasure to welcome Rev. Abbey Walker to the pulpit this morning while Rev. McKinnon is away. Thank you, Abbey!

The flowers in the Sanctuary today are given to the glory of God.
Happy Mother's Day to all and a Happy Heavenly 100th Birthday
to my mother, Mary Louise Thomas!
- Paula and Ron Grace

**Give to
FPC today!**



SCAN ME

39 Great Is Thy Faithfulness

1 *Great is thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther;
 2 Sum - mer and win - ter, and spring - time and har - vest,
 3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth,

there is no shad - ow of turn - ing with thee.
 sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove
 thine own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide,

Thou chang - est not; thy com - pas - sions they fail not.
 join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness
 strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row:

As thou hast been thou for - ev - er wilt be.
 to thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.
 bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

*Or "Great is thy faithfulness, O God, Creator."

Written as a meditation on Lamentations 3:22-23, this text is one of the few hymns among the 1200 poems by this Methodist writer and pastor that has gained much currency. The tune that appears here was composed especially for these words, and the pairing has proved enduring.

Refrain

Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Great is thy faith - ful - ness!
 오 신 실 하 신 주 오 신 실 하 신 주

Morn - ing by morn - ing, new mer - cies I see.
 날 마 다 자 비 를 베 푸 시 며

All I have need - ed thy hand hath pro - vid - ed.
 일 용 할 모 든 것 내 려 주 시 니

Great is thy faith - ful - ness, Lord un - to me!
 오 신 실 하 신 주 나 의 구 주

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., 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).**

Priscilla Circle Meeting — Tuesday, May 13 | 10:00 a.m.

Meeting in Room 122 at the church.

Phoebe Circle Meeting — Tuesday, May 13 | 1:30 p.m.

Meeting at the home of Dorothy Hays.

Reserve the Third — Saturday, May 17 | 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

The Reserve the Third Crew is volunteering at the Urban Mission this month! **Please contact Roane Pittman (johnpittmanmd@gmail.com) for more details or to RSVP.**

Abigail Circle Meeting — Tuesday, May 20 | 6:00 p.m.

Location TBD.

MORE EVENTS ON BACK

Norman Care-A-Vans Presentation — Sunday, May 18 | 9:45 a.m.

As part of an ongoing effort by the Mission Council to help our congregation learn more about the missions we support, the Evergreens Sunday School class invites you to a special presentation from Norman Care-A-Vans during the Sunday School hour on May 18 at 9:45 a.m. in the Chapel.

Founded by our own Alan Hatcher, Care-a-Vans is a grassroots ministry dedicated to supporting some of Norman's most vulnerable residents. All classes and members of the congregation are warmly invited to attend. Come hear their story and be inspired by the work they're doing in our community!

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 south of the parking lot. 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.