



Welcome to St. Luke's Methodist Church. We're so glad you've joined us for worship this morning. Our mission is to share God's love and bring hope to the world. We hope you are inspired by a message of hope and ready to embrace life in the week ahead.

Prelude

LifeLight Singers

Hallelujah

Time of Praise

LifeLight Band

O, Come All Ye Faithful

Hark the Herald Angels Sing

Let There Be Peace on Earth

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Jason, Katie and Emery Schumacher

The season of Advent consists of the four Sundays leading to Christmas Eve. It is a time of anticipation and preparation, as we look forward to the birth of the Messiah.

Life at St. Luke's

Rev. Wendy Lambert

To register your attendance please text "guest" or "member" to (405) 351-4001. Prayer requests can be submitted by texting your request to (405) 351-4001 or a prayer card can be dropped in the Offering Plate or in the offering boxes located at the back of the CLC.

Mission Moment

Dedication of Tithes and Offering

Text the letters SLM to the number 73256 to give on a secure website.

Cash and checks can be placed in the Offering Plates or dropped in the offering boxes located at the back of the CLC.

Offertory

LifeLight Band

Messiah

The Gospel

Rev. Wendy Lambert

Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star appeared; and he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him bring me word, that I too may come and worship him." When they had heard the king they went their way; and lo, the star which they had seen in the East went before them, till it came to rest over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy; and going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way. Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there till I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." And he rose and took the child and his mother by night, and departed to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfil what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, "Out of Egypt have I called my son." (Matthew 2:7 - 15)

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Message

The Children Cry for Peace

From the Sermon Series: Peace on Earth Goodwill to All

Dr. Bob Long

Invitation

Away in a Manger

Rev. Keith King

LifeLight Band

Sending Forth

Rev. Keith King

Leading in Worship

Dr. Bob Long

Senior Pastor

Rev. Wendy Lambert

Senior Executive Pastor

Rev. Keith King

Pastor of Worship

Mervin Tay

Music Director and
Composer

Kelsey Paul

Worship Leader

LifeLight Band



Advent is the season of preparation. It is a time to prepare to fully celebrate the birth of Jesus. But in the most practical sense, it is a time when everyone prepares for Christmas. We clean and decorate our homes; we shop for and prepare food for entertaining; and we purchase, wrap, and deliver gifts for our loved ones. All of this busyness can sometimes distract us from the true business of Advent – to ready our hearts and minds to focus on the birth of Christ. Dwelling upon Emmanuel, God with us, helps bring peace in the stress of the season so that we might share goodwill to all.

Want to Join St. Luke's?

Are you interested in joining the St. Luke's mission to share, grow and serve? You can join St. Luke's on Sunday morning during Worship. For more information about membership contact Tisha Tate Garcia, Hospitality Coordinator, at ttategarcia@stlukesokc.org.

St. Luke's Clergy

Dr. Robert E. Long

Senior Pastor

blong@stlukesokc.org

Rev. Wendy Lambert

Senior Executive Pastor

wlambert@stlukesokc.org

Rev. Josh Attaway

Edmond Campus Pastor

jattaway@stlukesokc.org

Rev. Dave Poteet

Pastor of
Congregational Care
dpoteet@stlukesokc.org

Rev. Keith King

Pastor of Worship
kking@stlukesokc.org

Rev. Linda Harker

Online Campus Pastor
lharker@stlukesokc.org



One Church with Multiple Campuses

Downtown Campus

222 NW 15th Street
OKC, OK 73103
(405) 232-1371
stlukesokc.org

Edmond Campus

900 N. Sooner Road
Edmond, OK 73034
(405) 285-2002
stlukesedmond.org

Online Campus

Watch service live, chat with clergy, request prayer; give online during every worship service
stlukesokc.org/online

Sharing God's Love and Bringing Hope to the World

The mission of St. Luke's is to share God's love and bring hope to the world.
We accomplish that by sharing the message of Christ, growing in our faith, and serving the community.

HELPFUL INFORMATION

- Register your attendance by texting guest or member to (405) 351-4001.
- Prayer requests can be submitted via text message or dropped in the offering box.
- Give today - text the letters SLM to the number 73256 to give on a secure website.
- Large print bulletins and hearing assistance devices are available in the Narthex.
- A live feed of the service is available for parents with active or tearful children.
- A Hospitality Team member is at the Welcome Center to help.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services

Enjoy the magic of a Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at St. Luke's! All services will end with everyone lighting candles as we sing *Silent Night*.

Downtown Campus

- Noon Traditional Candlelight Service, sermon by Dr. Bob Long
- 2 p.m. Traditional Candlelight Service, sermon by Dr. Bob Long
- 4:30 p.m. Family Candlelight Service, sermon by Dr. Bob Long
- 6:30 p.m. Traditional Candlelight Service, sermon by Dr. Bob Long

Edmond Campus

- 11 a.m. Family Candlelight Service, sermon by Rev. Josh Attaway
- 4 p.m. Family Candlelight Service, sermon by Rev. Josh Attaway
- 6:30 p.m. Traditional Candlelight Service, video sermon by Dr. Bob Long
- 11 p.m. Traditional Candlelight Service, video sermon by Dr. Bob Long

Online Campus

All services are available at stlukesokc.org/live

Local Television Services

10:35 p.m. on KFOR News Channel 4

ANGEL OF HOPE WORSHIP SERVICE

You are invited to this special service and encouraged to invite others who might find comfort and strength in sharing faith and hope together. The service will take place in the Mansion Library (201 NW 14th Street) today at 5 p.m. There will be special music and a short message of hope from the Rev. Dave Poteet. At the end of the service family members are invited to place a rose at the base of the Angel of Hope sculpture in memory of their loved one.

CHRISTMAS OFFERING

Each year, the St. Luke's family of faith joins together in a special, second-mile offering. 100% of the funds raised will be used to bless the lives of others through ministries and missions supported by St. Luke's. Simply text "SLM Christmas" to 73256 and follow the links to donate to the Christmas Offering. Donations can be made during service or by contacting the Finance Department at (405) 232-1371

MISSION TREE

Visit the Mission Tree located in the Gallery to make a difference for those in need this Christmas. Simply choose an ornament from the Mission Tree; each tag lists items needed that you can donate to students at El Sistema Oklahoma, Coolidge Elementary, Will Rogers Elementary, and the Homeless Alliance. Return the gifts to the drop boxes by Christmas Eve. We are also partnering with Maisha Project and you can sponsor a child in Kenya to help with food and education. Just complete the card with your information and drop it in the box and Maisha will contact you about sponsoring a child in need.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LEARN MORE AT [STLUKESOKC.ORG/EVENTS](https://stlukesokc.org/events)

CHRISTMAS ORNAMENT

St. Luke's annual Christmas Ornaments were given away at the All Church Christmas Parties. If you were unable to attend, you can pick up your St. Luke's Year in the Bible Christmas Ornament at the Welcome Center today while supplies last.

ENDING THE YEAR WELL

Help us end 2024 well at St. Luke's! Did you know that you can provide additional financial support to your family of faith without having to access your checking or savings account? It could also provide tax benefits to you. Did you know you can use your IRA to give up to \$105,000 this year if you are over age 70 ½ without paying any federal income taxes? And, if you are age 73 or older, you can make a qualified charitable distribution from your IRA to count toward your required minimum distribution. Also, you could make a gift of appreciated stock, avoid paying any capital gains taxes, receive an income tax deduction for the full market value of the stock, and the church would receive the full value of the stock as well since we do not pay taxes. Contact Rev. Josh Attaway, CFO, (jattaway@stlukesokc.org) for more information about strategies to meet your stewardship goals.

LITTLE WOMEN AUDITIONS | JANUARY 4

All actors aged 11 and older are encouraged to audition for the upcoming Potteet Theatre production: "Little Women." Auditions are Saturday, January 4, with callback auditions the following day. Rehearsals begin on January 14. Performances will be held on March 7 - 9. Learn more at stlukesokc.org/potteet.

SPIRIT SISTERS BIBLE STUDY | JANUARY 14

Rev Linda Harker and the Spirit Sisters Bible Study group invite you to a new study that begins January 14. This 24-week "Fast Track Disciple Study" will immerse you in the books of Luke and Acts. Spirit Sisters provides a safe, fun, and inspiring place to explore your faith and fellowship with other women. Spirit Sisters meet 10:30 a.m. - noon in Room 202. Please sign up for the class online.

FAMILY SERVICE DAY | FEBRUARY 1

Start the new year with a family outing that will bless the lives of others. Join your St. Luke's family of faith for Family Service Day at the Regional Food Bank on February 1 from 9:30 a.m. to noon. Volunteers will sort, pack, and prepare food for a variety of Regional Food Bank Programs benefiting students, seniors on fixed incomes, and other Oklahomans. An adult must accompany volunteers from ages 8 to 15. Register online at stlukesokc.org/events.

YOUTH MINISTRY - GRADES 6 - 12

YOUTH DISCOVERY WEEKEND

Get ready to have a blast at Youth Discovery Weekend on January 18 - 19! This is a middle-school focused, overnight event at the church where our high school students help with the planning and leadership of the activities. There will be worship, small groups, and lots of fun and games! The cost for both days is \$50 which includes three meals, a shirt, and lots of fun! Register and pay at stlukesokc.org by January 8.

SPRING BREAK MISSION TRIPS | WEEK OF MARCH 16

Each year, the youth travel during their Spring Break to bring hope to another area of our world. The Middle School Youth (grades 6 - 8) will be going to Lakeview MCC in Texas on March 16 - 19, costing \$350. High School Youth (grades 9 - 12) will be going to Perry, FL, March 16 - 22, to help with hurricane relief in this community. and the cost is \$1,250. Each trip will be full of memories and service opportunities. Students can earn Mission Bucks to help with the cost of their trip in December and beyond. Please register online at stlukesokc.org/events and pay a trip deposit. Adult volunteers are needed for both trips. If you are interested, please contact Amy Givens at agivens@stlukesokc.org.

For more details about any of the Youth events, please email Amy Givens - agivens@stlukesokc.org.