

# WELCOME TO ST. LUKE'S METHODIST CHURCH

We're so glad you've joined us for worship today. Our mission is to share God's love and bring hope to the world. We hope you leave inspired by a message of hope and ready to embrace life in the week ahead.



## DOWNTOWN CAMPUS SERVICE OF WORSHIP

Baptism of the Lord

January 19, 2025

8:15 and 10:50 A.M

(†Those who are able, please stand in honor of God.)

PRELUDE

arr. Walter H. Barnes

*Three Spirituals*  
St. Luke's Brass

RINGING OF THE BELLS

WELCOME AND GREETING

Ashleigh Robinson

†HYMN

EIN' FESTE BURG

*A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*

*A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing; our helper He amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing. For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe; his craft and power are great, and armed with cruel hate, on earth is not his equal.*

*Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing, were not the right man on our side, the man of God's own choosing. Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is He; Lord Sabaoth, His name, from age to age the same, and He must win the battle.*

*And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us, we will not fear, for God hath willed His truth to triumph through us. The Prince of Darkness grim, we tremble not for him; his rage we can endure, for lo, his doom is sure; one little word shall fell him.*

*That word above all earthly powers, no thanks to them, abideth; the Spirit and the gifts are ours, thru Him who with us sideth. Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also; the body they may kill; God's truth abideth still; His kingdom is forever.*

†CALL TO WORSHIP

We are told how we should love God: with all our heart - so that we more freely love all of humanity;

**with all our soul - so that we become the people we were created to be;**  
**with all our mind - so that we better understand the will of God;**  
**and with all our strength - so that all that we are reflects God's love to the world.**

†AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

As a family of faith, let us affirm our faith together.

**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 Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,**

suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;  
The third day He rose from the dead;  
He ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth at 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 Spirit;  
the holy catholic\* church;  
the communion of saints;  
the forgiveness of sins;  
the resurrection of the body;  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

(\* universal)

## †GLORIA PATRI

MEINEKE

*Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.*

## CALL TO PRAYER

Rev. David Poteet

The peace of the Lord be with you.  
And also with you.

## CHORAL CALL TO PRAYER

## PASTORAL PRAYER

## 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

## CHORAL RESPONSE

## 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 plates or in the offering boxes located in the Narthex.

## DEDICATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Dr. Robert E. Long

- \* 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 in the Narthex.

## OFFERTORY

arr. Jester Hairston

*In Dat Great Gittin' Up Mornin'*

St. Luke's Choir and Brass

Tim Troilo, soloist

Robert Fasol, piano/conductor

*I'm gon' tell you 'bout de comin' of de judgement, fare ye well, fare ye well. I'm gon' tell you 'bout de comin' of de judgement, fare ye well, fare ye well. Dere's a better day a-comin', fare ye well, fare ye well.*

*In dat great gittin' up mornin', fare ye well, fare ye well. In dat great gittin' up mornin', fare ye well, fare ye well.*

*O preacher fold yo' Bible, fare ye well, fare ye well. O preacher fold yo' Bible, fare ye well, fare ye well. For' de last souls converted, fare ye well, fare ye well. For' de last souls converted, fare ye well, fare ye well.*

*In dat great gittin' up mornin', fare ye well, fare ye well. In dat great gittin' up mornin', fare ye well, fare ye well.*

*Blow yo' trumpet Gab'el, fare ye well, fare ye well. Blow yo' trumpet Gab'el, fare ye well, fare ye well. Lord, how loud shall I blow it? Fare ye, well, fare ye well. Blow it right calm and easy, fare ye well, fare ye well. Do not 'larm all My people, fare ye well, fare ye well. Tell dem all to come to de judgement, fare ye well, fare ye well.*

*In dat great gittin' up mornin', fare ye well, fare ye well. In dat great gittin' up mornin', fare ye well, fare ye well.*

*Den you see dem coffins bustin', fare ye well, fare ye well. Den you see de folkes risin', fare ye well, fare ye well. Den you see de world on fiyer, fare ye well, fare ye well. Den you see de stars a tumblin', fare ye well, fare ye well. Did you see dat forked lightnin', fare ye well, fare ye well. Den you hear dat rumblin' thunder, fare ye well, fare ye well.*

*Fare ye well, poor sinner, fare ye well, fare ye well. Fare ye well, poor sinner, fare ye well, fare ye well.*

*In dat great gittin' up mornin', fare ye well, fare ye well. In dat great gittin' up mornin', fare ye well, fare ye well.*

## †DOXOLOGY

OLD 100th

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

## †THE GOSPEL

Rev. Linda Harker

And one of the scribes came up and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, asked him, "Which commandment is the first of all?" Jesus answered, "The first is, 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one; and you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these." And the scribe said to him, "You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that he is one, and there is no other but he; and to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the strength, and to love one's neighbor as oneself, is much more than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices." And when Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of God." And after that no one dared to ask him any question. (Mark 12:28 - 34)

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## SERMON

Dr. Robert E. Long

*We Have Begun to Understand It Better*  
From the Sermon Series: The Most Important Things

## MUSICAL REFLECTION

arr. Mac Huff

*Up to the Mountain (MLK Song)*  
St. Luke's Choir and Brass  
Zane Brolin, soloist  
Robert Fasol, piano/conductor

*I went up to the mountain because You asked me to, up over the clouds to where the sky was blue. I could see all around me, everywhere. I could see all around me, everywhere.*

*Sometimes I feel like I've never been nothing but tired, and I'll be walkin' till the day I expire. Sometimes I lay down, no more can I do; but then I go on again because You asked me to.*

*Some days I look down afraid I will fall, and though the sun shines, I see nothing at all. And then I hear Your sweet voice, oh, oh, come and then go; telling me softly You love me so.*

*The peaceful valley just over the mountain, the peaceful valley few come to know. I may never get there, ever in this lifetime, but sooner or later, it's there I will go. Sooner or later, it's there I will go.*

# INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

## †HYMN

LANCASHIRE

### *The Love of Jesus Calls Us*

*The love of Jesus calls us our joyous praise to sing; our deeply felt thanksgivings we now together bring, for all God's many blessings, unasked yet still received, and for the generations who faithfully believed.*

*The love of Jesus calls us, that we may always be companions on a journey, where all the world may see that serving Christ is freedom which time does not destroy; where Christ's command is duty, and every duty joy.*

*The love of Jesus calls us to go where He would go, to challenge all that limits, to change, to learn, to grow, to know that Christ has freed us, that prisons are no more; for those who seek His kingdom, Christ opens every door.*

*The love of Jesus calls us in swiftly changing days, to be God's co-creators in new and wondrous ways; that God and men and women may so transform the earth, that love and peace and justice may give God's kingdom birth.*

## †SENDING FORTH

Dr. Robert E. Long

We are going out into the world to follow God;  
**our words, actions, and thoughts reveal our love for Him.**  
When we love God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength;  
**it is seen in how we treat ourselves and others.**  
The most important thing  
**is to love God with all that we are.**

## †POSTLUDE

P. O'Neill/R. Kinkel

*Winter Scherzo*  
Robert Fasol, *organist*

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## LEADING IN WORSHIP

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**Dr. Robert E. Long**  
Senior Pastor

**Rev. Wendy Lambert**  
Senior Executive Pastor

**Rev. Linda Harker**  
Online Campus Pastor

**Rev. David Poteet**  
Pastor of Congregational Care

**Ashleigh Robinson**  
Director of Church and Community Engagement

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## MUSICIANS

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**Robert Fasol, Organist/Choirmaster**  
**St. Luke's Choir and Brass**

**Tim Troilo, Soloist**  
**Zane Brolin, Soloist**



Wouldn't it be great to know the most important things in life; to somehow have that knowledge to guide us so that we could make the most of each moment? Jesus told us the most important information to know about the Bible when He summarized it into the greatest commandment, "Love God and love your neighbor as yourself." In that statement, Jesus told us that we are called to love God, other people, and ourselves. Join us for a year of looking at the *Most Important Things of Life*.



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## MINISTERS

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**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. David 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*

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### Congregational Care Ministry

The St. Luke's family of faith desires to extend care to you in the times of concern and joy and all that is in-between. Prayer Cards can be found at the Welcome Center and completed cards can be returned there. You are also welcomed to email your prayer concerns to [ccm@stlukesokc.org](mailto:ccm@stlukesokc.org) or you may also call 232-1371 with your prayers and concerns.

### Online Worship Service

If you are unable to attend worship on any Sunday, you can join us online for our live-stream of the Edmond Campus Services (LL at 9 a.m. and Traditional at 11 a.m.) and the Downtown Campus Traditional Service (8:15, 9:40 and 10:50 a.m.) at [stlukesokc.org/live](http://stlukesokc.org/live). Live services are also available on Roku and Apple TV apps. To install search - stlukesokc or St. Luke's Methodist Church.

### TV Programming

St. Luke's Traditional service can be seen as an hour long television program on KOCO channel 5 at 10:30 a.m. every Sunday morning. The program is a week delayed.

### 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 at [ttategarcia@stlukesokc.org](mailto:ttategarcia@stlukesokc.org).

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## One Church with Multiple Campuses

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**Downtown Campus**  
222 NW 15th Street  
OKC, OK 73103  
(405) 232-1371  
[stlukesokc.org](http://stlukesokc.org)

**Edmond Campus**  
900 N. Sooner Road  
Edmond, OK 73034  
(405) 285-2002  
[stlukesedmond.org](http://stlukesedmond.org)

**Online Campus**  
Watch service live, chat with clergy, request prayer, give online during every worship service  
[stlukesokc.org/online](http://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.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

LEARN MORE AT [STLUKESOKC.ORG/EVENTS](http://STLUKESOKC.ORG/EVENTS)

#### WEDNESDAY NIGHT ALIVE | STARTS JANUARY 29

The next session of Wednesday Night Alive (WNA) which offers classes for children, youth, and adults and starts January 29. Dinner is served at 5:15 p.m. and there are classes that meet before dinner at around 4 and after dinner at 6:30 p.m. WNA is a great opportunity for the entire family to grow in their faith. Class descriptions, dinner menus, and registration forms are available at the Welcome Center and online at [stlukesokc.org/wna](http://stlukesokc.org/wna).

#### SUNDAY SESSIONS – THE GARDEN | JANUARY 26

All adults are invited to participate in Sunday Sessions – a series of short-term Bible studies that will take place throughout the year following the LifeLight worship service at the Downtown Campus. The first session will be a profound exploration of the Garden of Eden. Looking for the answers to questions like: What is paradise? Why was it lost? What does it mean for humanity? During this three-week study you will dive into scripture and reflect on the origins of God's relationship with creation. This class will meet on Sundays, January 27 – February 9, in the Parlor (Room 120) from 11 – 11:45 a.m. at the Downtown Campus. For more information contact Ashley Carr Soter at [acarr@stlukesokc.org](mailto:acarr@stlukesokc.org).

#### MEMBERSHIP SUNDAY | JANUARY 26

Have you thought about becoming a member of St. Luke's? We would love to welcome you into membership on Sunday, January 26, when you can join in a more private setting. Stop by the Mansion Chapel at the Downtown Campus, or Threefold at the Edmond Campus, where a St. Luke's pastor or staff member will be available to answer any questions you have and welcome you into membership. If you are not able to attend in person, you can text the word "Join" to the number (405) 351-4001 to arrange a joining moment. For more details about membership, contact Susan Meharg at [smeharg@stlukesokc.org](mailto:smeharg@stlukesokc.org) or call (405) 232-1371.

#### THE TABLE SMALL GROUP | JANUARY 25

The Table Small Group is starting back up on Saturday, January 25! This is a group for 20's and 30's focused on community and studying the Bible. The group will meet on the 2nd and 4th Saturday of each month at 10:30 a.m. in the Downtown Mansion Library. The first topic of the year, they will be studying the five characteristics of God as depicted in Exodus - compassionate, gracious, slow to anger, loyal love, and faithfulness. Join them on Saturday mornings for coffee and conversations as you grow closer together and closer to God.

#### SENIOR ADULT BIBLE STUDY | JANUARY 27

Seniors, get your week off to a great start with a Monday Morning Bible Study. The Senior Bible Study is comprised of mostly retired adults and meets throughout the year (with breaks over the holidays). We go through various video-based studies. A new study is starting January 27. This is a good and faithful small group for discussion, care, and prayer. We are open to others joining us anytime on Monday mornings from 9:30 – 10:30. We meet in the Parlor and also have a Zoom option.

## **FAMILY SERVICE DAY | FEBRUARY 1**

Your family can help bless the lives of others by attending St. Luke's 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. Registration is almost full, register online at [stlukesokc.org/events](http://stlukesokc.org/events).

## **POTEET THEATRE MARY POPPINS AUDITIONS | FEBRUARY 1**

Poteet Theatre is excited to announce auditions for their upcoming production of Mary Poppins! If you're ready to showcase your acting and singing talents, auditions will take place on February 1. Sign up online to reserve your audition time slot at [stlukesokc.org/events](http://stlukesokc.org/events). Callbacks are scheduled for February 2, with rehearsals beginning on March 4. Performances will run from May 2-11, featuring both evening and matinee shows. Please note, a current background check is required for all adults (18+). For more information, reach out to Logan Fish at [lfish@stlukesokc.org](mailto:lfish@stlukesokc.org).

## **CHILDREN AND YOUTH SUMMER EVENTS**

Get ready for an unforgettable summer filled with fun, friendships, and growth! Whether you're looking for exciting overnight camps like Dayspring Camp or Disciple Camp, mission opportunities during Youth Week and YF Tulsa, or the creative magic of Theatre Camps featuring Disney's most iconic stories, there's something for everyone. These camps are tailored to different ages and interests, offering adventure, creativity, and meaningful connections. Mark your calendars and don't miss out - this summer promises to be one to remember! Learn more online at [stlukesokc.org/events](http://stlukesokc.org/events)

- May 27 - 31: **Dayspring Camp** Grades 9 - 12
- June 2 - 5: **Edmond Campus Vacation Bible School** Grades K - 5
- June 8 - 22: **Disney's Lion King** Kids Ages 6 - 10
- June 15 - 20: **YF Tulsa** Grades 7 - 12
- June 23 - 26: **Downtown Campus Vacation Bible School** Grades K - 5
- July 7 - 19: **Disney's Frozen Kids** Ages 6-10
- July 6 - 27: **Disney's Descendants** (One-Act) Ages 11 - 18
- July 9 - 12: **Youth Week** Grades 6 - 12
- July 23 - 26: **Disciple Camp** Grade 6 - 9
- July 28 - 30: **Camp Credo** Grades 2 - 5

## **YOUTH MINISTRY | GRADES 6 - 12**

### **YOUTH SERVICE NIGHT | JANUARY 22**

Youth, 6th -12th grades, will be working at the Regional Food Bank on Wednesday, January 22, 5:30 - 9 p.m. Youth from both campuses will be leaving from both campuses and will be serving their community together.

### **YOUTH ICE SKATING | JANUARY 26**

All 6th - 12th grade students are invited to enjoy an afternoon at the Devon Ice Rink for ice skating. On Sunday, January 26, 12:15 - 3 p.m., we'll meet at the Youth Room and travel to the Ice Rink. The cost is \$20. We will return to the church at 3 p.m.

### **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. Please register online at [stlukesokc.org/events](http://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](mailto:agivens@stlukesokc.org).

For more details about any of the Youth events, please email Amy Givens - [agivens@stlukesokc.org](mailto:agivens@stlukesokc.org).