



ROADMAP TO BETHLEHEM

Third Sunday of Advent
December 11, 2016
at Ten Fifty A.M.



St. Luke's
United Methodist Church



SERVICE OF WORSHIP

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

PRELUDE

arr. Larry Visser

Angels We Have Heard on High
Robert Fasol, organist

RINGING OF THE BELLS

†HYMN 245

THE FIRST NOEL

The First Noel

The first Noel the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay; in fields where they lay keeping their sheep, on a cold winter's night that was so deep. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

They looked up and saw a star shining in the east, beyond them far; and to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day and night. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

And by the light of that same star three Wise Men came from country far; to seek for a king was their intent, and to follow the star wherever it went. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

Then entered in those Wise Men three, full reverently upon the knee, and offered there, in His presence, their gold and myrrh and frankincense. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

†CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Wendy Lambert

When we gather to worship Christ, we aren't coming to find Him.

We are coming to focus our attention upon Him.

God is not distant; when we make a journey of faith,

it is to grow in our understanding of God's love.

The birth of the Christ Child is a reminder of God's presence in our midst;

Christ came to be Emmanuel, "God with us."

A roadmap to Bethlehem shows us the way to encounter God in our daily lives.

Christ surprises us with the gift of His presence.

†AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

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

We are not alone, we live in God's world.

We believe in God:

who has created and is creating,

who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,

to reconcile and make anew,

who works in us and others by the Spirit.

We trust in God,

We are called to be the church:

to celebrate God's presence,

to love and serve others,

to seek justice and resist evil,

to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,

our judge and our hope,

In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us,

We are not alone.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

†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

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

Rev. Jeremy Sanders

CHORAL CALL TO PRAYER

Along the little road to Bethlehem, the road to Bethlehem.

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

ANTHEM

arr. David Hamilton

Worship Christ, the Newborn King
Chancel Choir and Orchestra
Robert Fasol, *piano*
Eric Bradford, *conductor*

God rest ye merry, gentlemen, let nothing you dismay, remember Christ, our Savior, was born on Christmas Day to save us all from Satan's power when we have gone astray: O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy, O tidings of comfort and joy.

Now to the Lord sing praises, all you within this place, and with true love and brotherhood each other now embrace. This holy tide of Christmas all others doth deface: O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy, O tidings of comfort and joy!

Joy to the world! The Lord is come; let earth receive her King. Let every heart prepare Him room, and heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the nations prove the glories of His righteousness, and wonders of His love, and wonders of His love, and wonders, wonders of His love.

Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King; peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!" Joyful, all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies; with the angelic hosts proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!" Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."

Come and worship, come and worship. Worship Christ, the newborn King! Come and worship, come and worship. Worship Christ, the newborn King! Worship Christ, the newborn King! Worship Christ, the newborn King! Worship Christ, the newborn King!

LIFE AT ST. LUKE'S

Rev. Phil Greenwald

MISSION MOMENT

DEDICATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Dr. Robert E. Long

OFFERTORY

A Christmas Festival
Boulevard Brass

Leroy Anderson

†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.*

†GOSPEL LESSON

Rev. Brian Bakeman

In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a city of Judah, and she entered the house of Zechari'ah and greeted Elizabeth. And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the babe leaped in her womb; and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and she exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! And why is this granted me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For behold, when the voice of your greeting came to my ears, the babe in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her from the Lord." (Luke 1:39-45)

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Dr. Robert E. Long

The Surprises of Christmas

From the Sermon Series: Roadmap to Bethlehem

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

If you desire to become a member of St. Luke's United Methodist Church, please refer to the announcement insert for additional information.

†HYMN

TEMPUS ADEST FLORIDUM

We Are People of God's Peace

We are people of God's peace as a new creation. Love unites and strengthens us at this celebration. Sons and daughters of the Lord, serving one another, a new covenant of peace binds us all together.

We are children of God's peace in this new creation, spreading joy and happiness, through God's great salvation. Hope we bring in spirit meek, in our daily living. Peace with everyone we seek, goodness we are giving.

We are servants of God's peace, of the new creation. Choosing peace, we faithfully serve with heart's devotion. Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace, confidence will give us. Christ the Lord is our defense; Christ will never leave us.

†SENDING FORTH

Dr. Robert E. Long

In unexpected ways, we encounter God.

Christ came to be with us.

We will see grace moments,

if we look for them.

The birth of a baby in Bethlehem

sets us free to love and encourage others.

POSTLUDE

Peter Dickinson

Toccata: Adeste Fidelis

Robert Fasol, *organist*



St. Luke's

United Methodist Church

Dr. Robert E. Long

Senior Pastor

blong@stlukesokc.org

Rev. Wendy Lambert

Senior Executive Pastor

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Rev. Jeremy Sanders

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Rev. Andrew Haynes

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Rev. Josh Attaway

Edmond Campus Pastor

jattaway@stlukesokc.org

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. Please write your prayer concerns on an attendance card during Sunday services or email to ccm@stlukesokc.org. You may also call 232-1371 with your prayers concerns.

Faith Partners

Faith Partners seeks to educate, refer and walk with people along their journey towards recovery from addiction. If you or someone you love struggles with addiction and would like help, please go online to faithpartners.stlukesokc.org or email to ccm@stlukesokc.org.

Radio Programming

Listen to "Something to Think About" with Dr. Bob Long between 7:30 a.m. and 8 a.m. on following radio stations: 98.1 The Sports Animal and Magic 104.1. The sermon can be heard on KREF AM 1400 at 9:30 a.m. every Sunday morning.

TV Programming

St. Luke's Traditional service can be seen as a half-hour television program on KOCO channel 5 at 10:30 a.m. every Sunday morning. CDs are available in Threefold or contact Bev Barnes at 232-1371. We will be glad to mail a copy of the service to you. Cost is \$5 for a CD or \$10 for a DVD.

Online Worship Service

If you are unable to attend worship on any Sunday, you can join us online for the 10:50 a.m. Traditional Worship Service broadcast live from the Downtown Campus. You can watch on your computer, smartphone, or tablet. Simply look for the "Online Worship" link on the stlukesokc.org website. A link is also available on the St. Luke's App.

Welcome to Our Newest Members Joining in November:

Downtown: Ashley Conklin, Russal Brawley, Lindsey and K.W. Cryer, Meredith and Bobby Wegener, Carolyn and George McKoy, Shelby Love and Michael Reece, and Megan and Brian Stacy

Edmond: Linda and Jim Sanders, Lori Stevens, Loriann Cook, Kathy and Clay Van Meter, Jayne and Matt Lusty, Kaila Ratliff, Bridget White, Sharon McElroy, Katie and Elliot Wright

222 N.W. 15th Street, Oklahoma City, OK 73103 Phone: (405) 232-1371

Web Site: stlukesokc.org E-mail: Info@stlukesokc.org

Welcome to St. Luke's United 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 leave here today inspired by a message of hope and ready to embrace life in the week ahead.

Helpful Information

Hymnals and Bibles are located in the arm rest of the seat.

Large print bulletins and hearing assistance devices are available in the Narthex.

Children's Ministry is available during the worship service for infants - 5th grade.

Parents with active or tearful children can watch a live feed of the service in the Watchorn Chapel. A children's activity bag is also available in the Narthex.

A Hospitality Team member is at the Welcome Center to help.

Announcements

Call (405) 232-1371 for more info or visit stlukesok.org.

Celebrate Advent at St. Luke's

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. You can make a donation to this special offering by using the Christmas Offering envelope, calling the church office, or online at stlukesok.org/give.

Mission Trees

Mission Trees are a way for you to make a difference this Christmas season. Look for the Mission Trees around campus. Near the trees are lists of items that are needed to help support El Sistema, Mobile Meals, Rancho Village and Studio 222. There will be directions regarding where to drop off your item on the list. Donations can be made in Threefold.

Poinsettia Sale Ends Monday

December 12 is the last day you can order a Poinsettia. This is a special way to honor and remember loved ones and special people in your life this Advent season. Take advantage of the opportunity to donate Christmas poinsettias for \$20 each. These poinsettias are a part of our beautifully decorated facilities and displayed throughout the season to be enjoyed by many. Order forms are found at the Welcome Centers or in the bulletin.

Birthday Party for Jesus

All children are invited to a Birthday Party for Jesus on Christmas morning! Children, both in regular Sunday School and Nursery care, are invited to wear their pajamas as their parents attend the Christmas Morning 10:30 a.m. Worship Service. The Nursery will be open at 10 a.m. If you have questions, email Susan Easttom at seasttom@stlukesok.org, or call 609-1036.



**CHRISTMAS EVE
CANDLELIGHT SERVICES**

DOWNTOWN CAMPUS:
1 p.m. - Family Service
3 p.m. - Communion Service
5 p.m. - Traditional Candlelight Service
7 p.m. - Traditional Candlelight Service

EDMOND CAMPUS:
4 p.m. - Family Service
6 p.m. - Communion Service
8 p.m. - Traditional Candlelight Service

**Don't forget about Christmas Morning Worship at 10:30 a.m. -
Downtown and Edmond Campuses**

Joining St. Luke's

If you wish to place your membership with St. Luke's this morning, please complete this card and bring it to the front during the final hymn.

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Date of Birth? _____

Are you transferring from another church? Yes No

If yes, where? _____

If you would like more information about other ways to join or upcoming membership events, please contact Beth Armstrong, Director of Welcoming Ministry, at (405) 609-1045 or barmstrong@stlukesokc.org.

Announcements

Call (405) 232-1371 for more info or visit stlukesokc.org.

1970's Youth Fellowship Reunion

If you were a part of the MYF (Methodist Youth Fellowship) in the 1970's you are invited to a special Christmas time reunion. They will have a section reserved at the Christmas Day service and a special pot luck luncheon will take place on December 26. For more information and to RSVP go to stlukesokc.org or email John Miley at johnmiley@cox.net.

Spring Break Youth Missions Trips

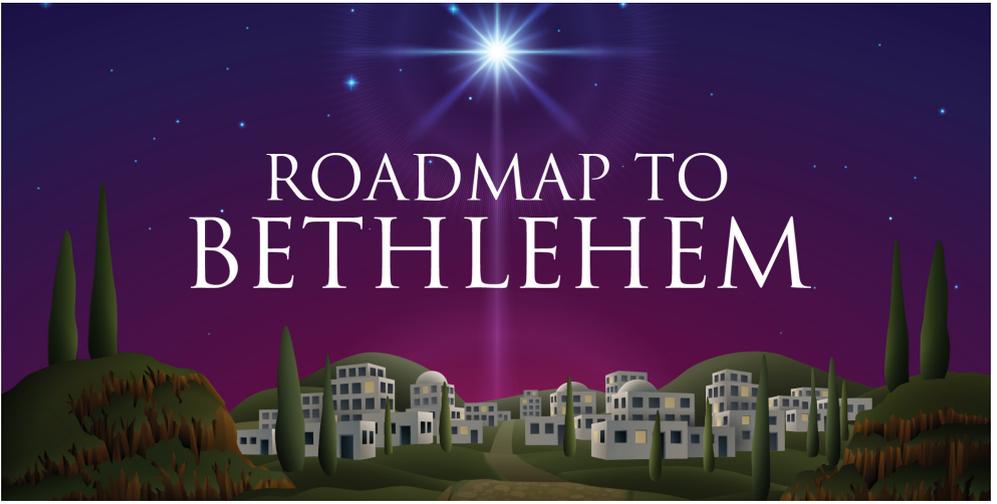
It's time to mark your calendar for Youth Spring Break trips in 2017! Middle School Youth will be going to Dallas, March 12-15. We will be volunteering with Trinity River Mission (an after-school program), as well as serving in the local food banks. Fun activities include Group Dynamix and Six Flags! High School Youth will be going to Toronto, March 11-18. We will be partnering with UrbanPromise Toronto. This is a Christian non-profit organization committed to raising up a generation of young leaders from area Community Housing neighborhoods. For information on travel costs, deposits, etc., email Amy Givens at agivens@stlukesokc.org or call 609-1027.

Reformation and Wesley Heritage Tour

Dr. Bob and Marsha Long and Rev. Wendy Lambert will be leading a tour of Wesley and Reformation Heritage sites in Germany and England, September 1 -13, 2017. You will tour some of the sites that are important in the lives of Martin Luther, Charles Wesley and John Wesley. You will also take time to tour sites that are related to WWII in Germany and have some free time to tour London. A trip brochure is available at the Welcome Center or more information can be found online at stlukesokc.org.

Acts of Wellness December Meeting

St. Luke's Health & Wellness Community Group - Acts of Wellness invites you to this month's meeting on Tuesday December 13 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. in Room 131 at the Edmond Campus. This month will feature the husband and wife duo of Dan and Emmy Tigert. Dan is one of the first professional triathletes from Oklahoma and Emmy is a tennis coach. Childcare will be provided upon request. It's free, but please register at stlukesokc.org, email Mark Mitchell at mark.mitchell@outlook.com, or call 819-8322.



This evening the Downtown Campus will be hosting the St. Luke's Christmas Party where we will celebrate all the ways we are sharing God's love and bringing hope to the world this year with The Kindness Project. The evening will feature a special live performance by Dr. Long! Gathering hour is from 4 - 5 p.m. in the Narthex with very special activities to enjoy. Dinner and the presentation begin at 5 p.m.

During the dinner hour we will conduct the Annual Business Meeting. Tickets are \$8 for those attending the program. Children will enjoy their own Christmas Party with games and activities at 5 p.m. Tickets are available for \$4.

Tickets for adults and children can be purchased in the Gallery this morning from 9:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. or in Threefold.

2016 Advent Events

LifeLight Christmas Concert
Sunday, December 11 at 9:40 a.m.
in the Christian Life Center

"Twas the Night Before
Christmas" St. Luke's
Christmas Party
Downtown Sunday, December 11
Holiday Open House at 4 p.m.
Meeting and Dinner at 5 p.m.

Angel of Hope Service
Sunday, December 18 at 5 p.m.
in the Mansion Library & Garden

Dinner with Love
Friday, December 23 at 5:30 p.m.
in the Christian Life Center

Christmas Eve Services
Saturday, December 24 at 1, 3, 5,
and 7 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Christmas Day Service
Sunday, December 25 at 10:30 a.m.
in the Sanctuary

Celebrate Christmas Eve at St. Luke's

Downtown Campus

- 1 p.m. Family Service
- 3 p.m. Communion Service
- 5 p.m. Traditional Service
- 7 p.m. Traditional Service

Edmond Campus

- 4 p.m. Family Service
- 6 p.m. Communion Service
- 8 p.m. Traditional Service

Online Campus - stlukesokc.org

- 5 p.m. Traditional Service from
Downtown Campus
- 7 p.m. Traditional Service from
Downtown Campus

Asbury Campus

- 4:30 p.m. Communion Service

Fuente de Vida Campus

- 6:30 p.m. Spanish Service

Poinsettia Order Form

In honor of In memory of

Name: _____

Given By: _____

Daytime Phone: _____

Number of Plants: _____ @ \$20 each Check for \$_____ attached

Downtown Campus Edmond Campus

Orders must be turned in by noon, December 12.

If you purchase a poinsettia, they will be used to decorate during Advent.

You may take the poinsettia home after the Christmas Eve Service.



LifeLight Christmas Concert

December 11 at 9:40 a.m. in the Christian Life Center

Experience the Christmas Story through music, video, and an inspirational message from Dr. Long. This special Christmas program is part of the LifeLight Worship Service in the Christian Life Center. The musical concert features all of the LifeLight singers and band members. Longtime LifeLight singer Sarah Feist will perform a special solo, *Noel*. People of all ages will appreciate the music and message of this uplifting concert that will bring the spirit of Christmas to life.



Angel of Hope Service

December 18 at 5 p.m. in the Mansion Library

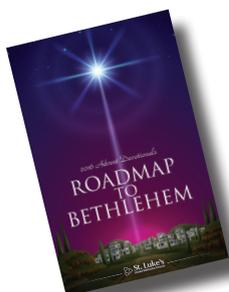
The Angel of Hope Worship Service is held in honor of families who have lost a loved one. You are invited to this special service to find comfort and strength in sharing faith and hope together. There is a special time in the service where family members can place a flower at the base of the angel sculpture in memory of their loved ones.



Dinner with Love Volunteers Needed

December 23 at 5:30 p.m. in the CLC

You can deliver a delicious home-cooked meal to a struggling family, just in time for Christmas. Dinner With Love is a ministry that reaches out to hundreds of underserved families in the community. Christ said the greatest commandment we have been given is to love God and to "... love your neighbor as yourself." Dinner with Love provides a way for people to share that love at Christmas. Sign up to deliver a meal in the Gallery today or online at stlukesokc.org. For more information, contact Julie Robinson at jrobinson@stlukesokc.org or 609-1009.



Advent Devotionals are available in booklet form at the Welcome Center, or digitally at stlukesokc.org, Facebook, or via the St. Luke's App.