



ROADMAP TO BETHLEHEM

Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 18, 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

Nelson/Schmidt/Van Der Beek

We Three Kings
Rob Bradshaw, *cello*
Robert Fasol, *piano*

RINGING OF THE BELLS

†HYMN 238

GLORIA

Angels We Have Heard on High

Angels we have heard on high sweetly singing o'er the plains, and the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains. Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong? What the gladsome tidings be which inspire your heavenly song? Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Come to Bethlehem and see Christ whose birth the angels sing; come, adore on bended knee, Christ the Lord, the newborn King. Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

†CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Wendy Lambert

Joseph helped Mary make it to Bethlehem,
supporting and caring for her along the way.

When we make a journey to draw near to Christ,
we should help others along the way.

We are the children of God,
a family of faith.

Why would we want to go to Bethlehem alone?
Life is better together.

We were created to love and find joy in God,
and in our relationships with others.

People can experience the birth of Christ
in how we reflect His love.

†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

Rev. David Poteet

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

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

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Harley Rae Reece, daughter of Micheal Reece and Shelby Love,
born on September 24, 2015.

BAPTISM SONG

Harley, Harley God claims you. God helps you, protects you and loves you too. We this day do all agree a child of God you'll always be. Harley, Harley God claims you. God helps you, protects you and loves you too.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

With God's help, we will so order our lives after the example of Christ, that Harley surrounded by steadfast love, may be established in the faith and confirmed and strengthened in the way that leads to life eternal.

ANTHEM

arr. Douglas E. Wagner

Silent Night
Cantate Chamber Choir and Strings
Robert Fasol, *piano/conductor*

Silent night, Holy night! All is calm, all is bright. 'Round yon Virgin Mother and Child. Holy Infant so tender and mild, sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace. Oh, sleep in heavenly peace, in heavenly peace, in peace, oh sleep in peace!

LIFE AT ST. LUKE'S

Rev. Phil Greenwald

MISSION MOMENT

DEDICATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Dr. Robert E. Long

OFFERTORY

David T. Clydesdale

Sing We Gloria
Chancel Choir and Orchestra
Robert Fasol, *piano*
Eric Bradford, *conductor*

Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King; peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!" Glory to God in the highest! Glory to God in the highest! Sing we gloria! Sing we gloria! gloria!

Joyful, all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies. Glory to God in the highest! Glory to God in the highest! Sing we gloria! Sing we gloria! Gloria!

With angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Hail the heaven born Prince of Peace! All hail the Sun of Righteousness! The King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone Him! This, this is Christ, the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing. Haste, haste to bring Him laud, the Babe, the Son of Mary.

Glory to God in the highest! Glory to God in the highest! Sing we gloria! Sing we gloria! Gloria! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

†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. Jeremy Sanders

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be enrolled. This was the first enrollment, when Quirinius was governor of Syria. And all went to be enrolled, each to his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. And while they were there, the time came for her to be delivered. (Luke 2:1 - 6)

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Dr. Robert E. Long

Helping Others Get to Bethlehem

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 230

ST. LOUIS

O Little Town of Bethlehem

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie; above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by. Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light; the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is given; so God imparts to human hearts the blessings of His heaven. No ear may hear Him coming, but in this world of sin, where meek souls will receive Him, still the dear Christ enters in.

O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray; cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today. We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell; O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel.

†SENDING FORTH

Dr. Robert E. Long

It is through our encouragement and support

that others can feel God's love in their lives.

Helping others to Bethlehem helps them to experience

the birth of Christ in their lives.

Because we have been blessed,

we are called to share God's kindness with others.

POSTLUDE

arr. Marc Cheban

Grand Fantasia (Joy to the World)

Robert Fasol, organist



St. Luke's

United Methodist Church

Dr. Robert E. Long

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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. 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

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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 stlukesokc.org.

Celebrate Christmas Eve at St. Luke's

Christmas Eve Services at all the campuses are a time to focus on the joy of Christmas. Each service will feature St. Luke's musicians, a Christmas message from Senior Pastor, Dr. Bob Long, and end with the lighting of candles to the carol *Silent Night*.

The Communion Services include the traditional Christmas carols, scriptures and Holy Communion.

The Family Services are family friendly, using video and drama to help tell the Christmas Story. We will also have a special time for the children with a Christmas gift for every child.

The Traditional Services include the traditional Christmas carols and scriptures and conclude with *Silent Night* and candle lighting.

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

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

Angel of Hope Worship Service Tonight

If you have lost a loved one, you are invited to come to a very special service at St. Luke's. The Angel of Hope Worship Service is held annually in honor of those families who may find comfort and strength in sharing faith and hope together. The Angel of Hope Worship Service is tonight at 5 p.m. in the Downtown Campus Mansion Library and Garden. Invite others who are grieving as well. There is a special time in the service where family members are able to place a flower at the base of the angel sculpture in memory of their loved ones.

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 stlukesokc.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.

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@stlukesokc.org, or call 609-1036.

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.

Dinner with Love Volunteers Needed

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 under-served families in the community. Christ said the greatest commandments 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. It takes place Friday, December 23, at 5:30 p.m. in the Christian Life Center (CLC). Sign up to deliver a meal in the Gallery today, or online at stlukesokc.org. For more information, email Julie Robinson at jrobinson@stlukesokc.org, or call 609-1009.

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.

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.

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.

Winter Youth Week

From January 13 - 17, the youth have scheduled five days of awesome youth events and youth service projects. Youth in 6th -12th grade are invited and can attend one or all events. More information, pricing and sign ups are available at stlukesokc.org.

Confirmation Parent Meeting

Confirmation is an important part of a student's journey as they develop their Christian faith. To answer any questions parents may have about the class, there will be a meeting for all parents of students who are interested in the Confirmation class of 2017 on Sunday, January 8, at 10:50 a.m. or noon in Room 214. Confirmation students are usually 6th graders, but parents of older youth who have yet to participate in Confirmation are also welcome. There is no cost. For more information, contact Amy Givens at agivens@stlukesokc.org or 609-1027.