ROADMAP TO BETHLEHEM

Christmas Day December 25, 2016 at Ten Thirty A.M.



SERVICE OF WORSHIP

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

Christmas Prelude

LeRoy Anderson

Sleigh Ride

Robert Fasol and Susan Easttom, piano

RINGING OF THE BELLS

WELCOME AND GREETING

Dr. Robert E. Long

†Call to Worship

Rev. Wendy Lambert

And an angel said to them, 'Be not afraid'.

Glory to God in the highest!

For behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which will be for all people! Glory to God in the highest!

For to you is born this day in the city of David,

Glory to God in the highest!

A Savior, who is Christ the Lord!

Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace for all!

†Hymn 251

GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere; go, tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born.

While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night, behold throughout the heavens there shone a holy light. Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere; go, tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born.

The shepherds feared and trembled, when lo! above the earth, rang out the angel chorus that hailed the Savior's birth. Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere; go, tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born.

Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born, and God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn. Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere; go, tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born.

Call to Prayer

Rev. Wendy Lambert

The peace of the Lord be with you.

And also with you.

CONGREGATIONAL CALL TO PRAYER

Love Came Down at Christmas

GARTAN

Love came down at Christmas, Love all lovely, Love divine; Love was born at Christmas; star and angels gave the sign.

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.

Congregational Response to Prayer

Love Came Down at Christmas

GARTAN

Love shall be our token; love be yours and love be mine; love to God and neighbor, love for plea and gift and sign.

LIFE AT ST. LUKE'S

Rev. Phil Greenwald

MISSION MOMENT

DEDICATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Dr. Robert E. Long

OFFERTORY

arr. Robert Fasol

Christmas Stephanie Greenwald, soloist Robert Fasol, piano

The First Noel, the angel did say, was to certain poor shepherds in fields where 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.

What Child is this Who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping? Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, while shepherds watch are keeping?

This, this is Christ the King, Whom shepherds guard and angels sing; haste, haste to bring Him laud, the Babe, the Son of Mary.

Ding dong merrily on high, in heaven the bells are ringing. Ding dong verily the sky is ridden with angels singing. Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis. Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis.

Noel, noel, noel! Born is the King of Israel!

†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. Phil Greenwald

Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, looking for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he should not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. And inspired by the Spirit he came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the law, he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said, "Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word; for mine eyes have seen thy salvation which thou hast prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to thy people Israel." And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him; and Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, "Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is spoken against (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), that thoughts out of many hearts may be revealed." And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanu-el, of the tribe of Asher; she was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years from her virginity, and as a widow till she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. And coming up at that very hour she gave thanks to God, and spoke of him to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. (Luke 2:25 - 38)

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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 th'angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem." Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Message Rev. Keith King

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant, O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem; Come and behold Him, born the King of angels; O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord.

Message Rev. David Poteet

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 246 antioch

Joy to the World

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.

Joy to the world, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ; while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy.

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.

†SENDING FORTH

Dr. Robert E. Long

May the joy of Christmas fill your hearts; May the promise of peace calm your soul; May the gift of a baby born in Bethlehem; Reveal God's love – Emmanuel!

Christmas Postlude

arr. Robert D. Vandall

Jingle Bell Fantasy Robert Fasol, organist Susan Easttom, piano

LEADING IN WORSHIP

Dr. Robert E. Long

Senior Pastor

Rev. Wendy Lambert
Senior Executive Pastor
Rev. Jeremy Sanders
Pastor of Program Ministries

Rev. Phil Greenwald
Executive Pastor of Administration
Rev. Keith King
Online Campus Pastor

Rev. David Poteet

Pastor of Congregational Care

Musicians

Robert Fasol, Organist/Choirmaster Stephanie Greenwald, Director of Worship Susan Easttom, Director of Children's Ministry

THF

KINDNESS PROJECT

ST. LUKE'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



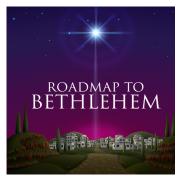
What an incredible year it has been for the 2016 St. Luke's theme: The Kindness Project. The year-long effort to change the world through intentional acts of kindness has had a tremendous impact across Oklahoma and around the world. All year long, our family of faith switched their wristbands from one hand to the other after doing something kind for someone. By looking for ways to be kind, it has become second nature for so many.

Senior Pastor Dr. Bob Long predicted the St. Luke's family of faith could collectively perform a million acts of kindness in 2016. "Just think what a million acts of kindness would do in our city!" he said. "The ripple effect, the way it would go on, what a difference we could make."

That ripple effect carried far and wide through mission trips to Honduras, Russia, The Holy Land, Alaska, Louisiana, and Missouri. Our family of faith gave gifts and pledges of \$1,851,709 for the Heading For Home capital campaign that will renovate the Downtown Sanctuary, Carillon, and other projects. St. Luke's Edmond held a Grand Opening, with over 1,300 in attendance while expanding its childcare services and creating more opportunities for the congregation to share Christ, grow in faith, and serve the community.

Don't let the Kindness Project end in 2016. "I think we all have this capacity to be kind because we're made in the image of God," Rev. Wendy Lambert said. "When we tap into our connection to God, kindness really flows out of that."

Sermon Notes		



An angel announced to Joseph and to Mary that she would give birth to a Son. A heavenly choir of angels appeared in the night sky to the shepherds proclaiming the birth of the Christ Child. Wise men found the message about the birth of the King of the Jews in the ancient texts.

More than 2000 years later God still speaks to people in a variety of ways. We can hear God's love in times of joy and feel God's comforting presence in times of loss. God invites us to draw near. God shows us the Way, a roadmap to Bethlehem.



Dr. Robert E. LongSenior Pastor blong@stlukesokc.org

Rev. Wendy Lambert Senior Executive Pastor wlambert@stlukesokc.org

Rev. Jeremy SandersPastor of Program Ministries
jsanders@stlukesokc.org

Rev. Dave PoteetPastor of Congregational Care

dpoteet@stlukesokc.org

Rev. Keith KingOnline Campus Pastor *kking@stlukesokc.org*

Rev. Phil Greenwald

Executive Pastor of Administration pgreenwald@stlukesokc.org

Rev. Andrew Haynes

Pastor of Campus Operations dhaynes@stlukesokc.org

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

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.



Year of Gratitude

Gratitude opens our hearts and minds to seeing God's work in our lives and in the world. A life of gratitude is a better way to live. Telling someone "thank you" makes a difference in their lives and our own. When we intentionally express our gratitude, we become more aware of what we have and who

is in our lives - and we help make others aware of their value. In 2017, we are setting a goal of writing one thank-you note per day. Living a life of gratitude happens by the choices we make on a daily basis. 365 thank-you's, a Year of Gratitude, can bring about joy and meaning. We invite you to be a part of our 2017 Year of Gratitude 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 stlukesokc.org/give.

Wednesday Night Alive

Good news! Wednesday Night Alive will be here before you know it! The Spring Session of WNA happens January 18 - March 29. St. Luke's will host a number of fun and meaningful classes for children, youth, and adults. Dinner will be served at 5:15 p.m. in the Christian Life Center (CLC). It's \$5 for adults - children 12 and under are free) Classes start at 6:30 p.m. Check out what WNA can offer you and your family at stlukesokc.org.

Lunch With Bob

Dr. Bob Long has been sharing God's love with the St. Luke's family of faith since 1991. You're invited to hear his inspiring story over lunch. It's "Lunch With Bob" - January 22 at 12:15 p.m. in the Mansion Library. A private joining ceremony will also be available. Childcare is provided. Please RSVP to Beth Armstrong: barmstrong@stlukesokc.org or 609-1045. You can also visit stlukesokc.org.

1970's Youth Fellowship Reunion

St. Luke's welcomes everyone who was part of the Methodist Youth Fellowship (MYF) in the 1970s! We are so glad you're here for a Christmas reunion. A section is reserved at today's Christmas Day service and a special pot luck luncheon will take place on Monday, 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.

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			
Date of Birth?			
Are you transferring from another ch			
If yes, where?			
If you would like more information about of			hershin events please

contact Beth Armstrong, Director of Welcoming Ministry, at (405) 609-1045 or barmstrong@stlukesokc.org.

nouncements

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

It may be cold, but the efforts of our Youth to serve the community are heating up in 2017! All, 6th-12th grade, students are invited to

be a part of Winter Youth Week. There will be meaningful service projects and fun events for Youth every day, January 13-16. Serving the community and having fun - all in the same day. The cost is \$20 for each day, or \$50 for the entire week. Bring your friends! For more information, email Amy Givens at agivens@stlukesokc.org, or call 609-1027.

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.

ONLINE WORSHIP NOW AVAILABLE

Watch live at 10:50 a.m. Sunday mornings at stlukesokc.org.



St Luke's