

IMPOSSIBLE POSSIBILITIES

Second Sunday in Lent
March 12, 2017
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. James Biery

Gather Us In
Robert Fasol, organist

RINGING OF THE BELLS

†HYMN 577

CWM RHONDDA

God of Grace and God of Glory

God of grace and God of glory, on Thy people pour Thy power; crown Thine ancient church's story; bring her bud to glorious flower. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the facing of this hour; for the facing of this hour.

Lo! the hosts of evil round us scorn Thy Christ, assail Thy ways! Fears and doubts too long have bound us; free our hearts to work and praise. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the living of these days, for the living of these days.

Cure Thy children's warring madness, bend our pride to Thy control, shame our wanton, selfish gladness, rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, lest we miss Thy kingdom's goal, lest we miss Thy kingdom's goal.

Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore; let the search for Thy salvation be our glory evermore. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, serving Thee whom we adore, serving Thee whom we adore.

†CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Wendy Lambert

Sometimes our sight grows dim

and the world seems dark.

We fail to see opportunities

and grow discouraged.

But You shine light into the darkness

and give us new eyes to see.

Grant us vision for the future

and ways for us to make a difference.

Restore us to wholeness

and let us see with the eyes of Christ.

†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. David Poteet

CHORAL CALL TO PRAYER

*I have decided to follow Jesus, I have decided to follow Jesus,
I have decided to follow Jesus; no turning back, no turning back.*

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. Tom Fettke

On Faith Alone
Chancel Choir
Robert Fasol, piano/conductor

On faith alone I stand, there is no higher ground; I give you all I am for my soul will never doubt. Though the storms they may be raging You have always held my hand; to Thy cross my heart will always cling, on faith alone I stand.

On faith alone I live, not in what I say or do; but the love You freely give, covers me and makes me new. For your love is ever with me, Lord Jehovah, Great I Am; O, my trust grows stronger on my knees, on faith alone I stand.

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! On faith alone I stand. Sola fide, sola fide, sola fide, on faith alone I stand.

When I reach my final breath and I fall into Your arms; I'll proclaim with no regret, on faith alone. Sola fide, sola fide, sola fide, on faith alone I stand. Sola fide, sola fide, sola fide, sola fide, on faith alone I stand.

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! On faith alone I stand. Sola fide. Amen!

LIFE AT ST. LUKE'S

Rev. David Poteet

DEDICATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Dr. Robert E. Long

OFFERTORY

David Crowder / Ed Cash

Forgiven
Michael Andreaus, soloist
Robert Fasol, piano

I'm the one who held the nail; it was cold between my fingertips. I've hidden in the garden. I've denied You with my very lips. God, I fall down to my knees with a hammer in my hand: You look at me, arms open.

Forgiven! Forgiven! Child, there is freedom from all of it. Say goodbye to every sin; you are forgiven!

I've done things I wish I hadn't done. I've seen things I wish I hadn't seen. Just the thought of Your amazing grace and I cry, "Jesus, forgive me!" God, I fall down to my knees with a hammer in my hand: You look at me, arms open.

Forgiven! Forgiven! Child, there is freedom from all of it. Say goodbye to every sin; you are forgiven!

I could've been six feet under. I could've been lost forever. Yeah, I should be in that fire, but now there's fire inside of me. Here I am, a dead man walking; no grave gonna hold God's people! All the weight of all our evil lifted away, forever free! Who could believe, who could believe?

Forgiven! Forgiven! You love me even when I don't deserve it. Forgiven! I'm forgiven! Jesus, Your blood makes me innocent! So I will say goodbye to every sin; I am forgiven! I am forgiven!

†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

As he drew near to Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging; and hearing a multitude going by, he inquired what this meant. They told him, "Jesus of Nazareth is passing by." And he cried, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" And those who were in front rebuked him, telling him to be silent; but he cried out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" And Jesus stopped, and commanded him to be brought to him; and when he came near, he asked him, "What do you want me to do for you?" He said, "Lord, let me receive my sight." And Jesus said to him, "Receive your sight; your faith has made you well." And immediately he received his sight and followed him, glorifying God; and all the people, when they saw it, gave praise to God.

(Luke 18:35 - 43)

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Dr. Robert E. Long

A New Vision

From the Sermon Series: Impossible Possibilities

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 454

OPEN MY EYES

Open My Eyes, That I May See

Open my eyes, that I may see glimpses of truth Thou hast for me; place in my hands the wonderful key that shall unclasp and set me free. Silently now I wait for Thee, ready, my God, Thy will to see. Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine!

Open my ears, that I may hear voices of truth Thou sendest clear; and while the wave-notes fall on my ear, everything false will disappear. Silently now I wait for Thee, ready, my God, Thy will to see. Open my ears, illumine me, Spirit divine!

Open my mouth, and let me bear gladly the warm truth everywhere; open my heart and let me prepare love with Thy children thus to share. Silently now I wait for Thee, ready, my God, Thy will to see. Open my heart, illumine me, Spirit divine!

†SENDING FORTH

Dr. Robert E. Long

We once were blind, but now we see.

Christ gave us eyes to see and ears to hear.

We will seek out new dreams and visions,

for ways that we can transform the world.

POSTLUDE

John Stanley

Voluntary (D Minor)
Robert Fasol, organist



St. Luke's

United Methodist Church

Dr. Robert E. Long
Senior Pastor
blong@stlukesokc.org

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

Rev. Jeremy Sanders
Pastor of Program Ministries
jsanders@stlukesokc.org

Rev. Dave Poteet
Pastor of Congregational Care
dpoteet@stlukesokc.org

Rev. Keith King
Online 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

Rev. Connie Barnett
Asbury Campus Pastor
cbarnett@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 February:

Downtown: Bill Culbertson, Beth and David Harris, Kara Trahan, Carla and Marshall Snipes, Connie and J.W. Mashburn, and Megan and Neil Stanek

Edmond: Sydney and Kyle Looper, Donna and Kevin Harwi, Amy and Zac Bradt, Lehne and Drew George, Amanda and Jay Cornmesser, Deanna and Garry Atkinson, Frances and Waldo Zerger, Joie and Barry Amos, and Lauren and Chad Kelliher

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.



Mission Trip Blogs

Right now, two of our mission teams are spending their first full day in Honduras and Toronto! The Middle School team is traveling to Dallas today. Be sure to keep these teams in your prayers this week as they share God's love. You can check the St. Luke's website (stlukesokc.org) for a link to each team's blog, complete with descriptions and photos of their continuing effort to help the people of Roatan, Toronto and Dallas.



Easter Lilies

St. Luke's will be adorned with beautiful flowers Easter Sunday - April 16. Trumpet-shaped Easter Lilies will fill the church with a fragrance so unique to these gorgeous symbols of Christ's resurrection. You can purchase an Easter Lily in honor of someone, or in memory of a loved one, for \$20. When the Easter service is over, you may take your lily home. Order by April 3 - order forms are at the Welcome Centers or you can order online at stlukesokc.org.

Family Lent Devotionals

The season of Lent is the perfect time for families to share and experience faith conversations. St. Luke's has designed a "Weekly Family Devotionals" booklet for those with children and youth. There are several activities and lessons focusing on Growing, Sacrifice, Repentance, Forgiveness, Gratitude and Praise, The Cross, Easter Story Cookies, and "Why Did Jesus Have to Die?" Pick up a free booklet today in the Narthex, and the Children's and Youth areas. You can download the Family Lent Devotional at stlukesokc.org.

Wednesday Night Alive

Following a one-week hiatus to observe Ash Wednesday, WNA classes resumed this week! The 2017 Spring Edition of Wednesday Night Alive runs through March 29. Before the 6:30 p.m. classes, you're invited to enjoy a delicious dinner. Downtown at 5:15 p.m., Chef Scott is serving: smoked chicken, pulled pork, soy butter & jelly sandwiches, seasoned potato pancakes, vegetables, rolls, assorted pies and ice cream. Dinner is \$5 for adults and children 12-and-under are free

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.

Informational Meeting About Faith Partners Today

If you're struggling with addiction, St. Luke's "Faith Partners" wants to help. Our goal is to educate, support, and assist those who feel hopeless against addiction. We will help you realize that, with God, there is always hope. You're invited to an informational meeting over a light lunch today at 12:15 p.m. in Room 130. Want to learn more about our addiction ministry? Join us for lunch and find out how to get involved in Faith Partners. For more information, contact Rev. Jeremy Sanders: jsanders@stlukesokc.org - or call 600-3411.

New Sewing Group

Here is a great opportunity for those who love sewing and helping others! St. Luke's is starting a new sewing group that will meet every Tuesday morning from 10 a.m. to noon in Room 106 (Vaught Chapel), beginning March 21. The group will make quilted blankets to be donated to those in need. All materials will be provided, but participants need to bring their own sewing machine. Participants should be proficient in sewing, and all ages are welcome. No registration is necessary and there is no cost - just show up, meet new friends, perfect your sewing technique and Share God's Love! For more information, email Morgan Jones at mjones@stlukesokc.org or call 600-3415.

Parent's Night Out

Parents, mark your calendars for a night to yourself! The Edmond Campus is hosting "Parent's Night Out" on Friday, March 24 from 6-8:30 p.m. in the Children's Area. We will be offering free childcare for your kids (Infant-5th grade). Older kids are invited to come and be helpers! They will have a blast while eating pizza and watching movies. They're encouraged to wear their PJ's and bring a sleeping bag, pillow, or blanket while watching the movie. Sign up online at stlukesedmond.org, or at the Welcome Center to attend. Registration ends March 22. For more, email Taylor Easttom at teasttom@stlukesokc.org, or call 285-2313.

Alaska Mission Trip 2017

St. Luke's is heading back to Alaska for another life-changing mission trip! From July 8 - 15, we will be in Wasilla, Alaska - about 43 miles north of Anchorage. There are 15 spots available to anyone 18 or older, unless accompanied by an adult. St. Luke's will be helping Christ First UMC in Wasilla with collecting firewood, painting/cleaning the church, construction, Vacation Bible School, and much more. If you want to learn more about the mission trip you are invited to an informational meeting on Sunday, April 2, Room 130, at 12:15 p.m. Lunch is provided. Please RSVP online at stlukesokc.org or contact Rev. Connie Barnett at 808-4629 or cbarnett@stlukesokc.org.