

THE GREATEST STORY EVER TOLD

Second Sunday of Advent
December 9, 2018
at Ten Fifty A.M.



St. Luke's
United Methodist Church

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.

Hymnals, Bibles, 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.

SERVICE OF WORSHIP

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

PRELUDE

arr. Robert Shaw

Good Christian Men, Rejoice and Sing
St. Luke's Orchestra

RINGING OF THE BELLS

†HYMN 220

REGENT SQUARE

Angels from the Realms of Glory

Angels from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth; ye who sang creation's story now proclaim Messiah's birth: Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king.

Shepherds, in the field abiding, watching o'er your flocks by night, God with us is now residing; yonder shines the infant light: Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king.

Sages, leave your contemplations, brighter visions beam afar; seek the great Desire of nations; ye have seen His natal star: Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king.

Saints, before the altar bending, watching long in hope and fear; suddenly the Lord, descending, in His temple shall appear: Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king.

†CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Wendy Lambert

(All sing) O come, thou Wisdom from on high, and order all things far and nigh; to us the path of knowledge show and cause us in her ways to go.

Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way:

there were shepherds keeping watch over their flocks by night;
angels appeared and told them the news
of a Savior born in Bethlehem.

We come before the Christ Child
to worship Him this morning.

God came to earth to live among us
and through Jesus His love was made known.

That love is for all people
with whom He is pleased.

(All sing) Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

†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:**

“NOW THE BIRTH OF

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

Glorify 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. Phil Greenwald

MISSION MOMENT

ReMerge

DEDICATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Dr. Robert E. Long

OFFERTORY

arr. Robert Shaw

Angels We Have Heard on High
Chancel Choir and Orchestra

Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo!

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!

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

Alleluia! Alleluia! See Him in a manger laid, Whom the choirs of angels praise; Mary, Joseph, lend your aid, while our hearts with love we raise. Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo!

†DOXOLOGY

VENI EMMANUEL

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. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

†THE GOSPEL

Rev. David Poteet

And in that region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear. And the angel said to them, "Be not afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people; for to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a babe wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among men with whom he is pleased!" (Luke 2:8 - 14)

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

†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 shown 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.

SERMON

Dr. Robert E. Long

With Whom He Is Pleased

From the Sermon Series: The Greatest Story Ever Told

MUSICAL REFLECTION

Traditional Spiritual

Rise Up, Shepherd, and Follow

Sarah Kuhlmann, soloist

There's a star in the East on Christmas morn, rise up shepherd and follow. It will lead to the place where the Savior's born, rise up shepherd and follow. Leave your sheep and leave your lambs, rise up shepherd and follow. Leave your ewes and leave your rams, rise up shepherd and follow. Follow, follow, rise up shepherd and follow. Follow the star of Bethlehem. Rise up shepherd and follow.

If you take good heed to the angel's words, rise up shepherd and follow. You'll forget your flocks; you'll forget your herd, rise up shepherd and follow. Leave your sheep and leave your lambs, rise up shepherd and follow. Leave your ewes and leave your rams, rise up shepherd and follow. Follow, follow, rise up shepherd and follow. Follow the star of Bethlehem. Rise up shepherd and follow. Rise up shepherd and follow.

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.

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new born 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 new born King!"

Christ, by highest heaven adored; Christ, the everlasting Lord; late in time behold Him come, offspring of a virgin's womb. Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail th' incarnate Deity, pleased with us in flesh to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel. Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new born King!"

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness! Light and life to all He brings, risen with healing in His wings. Mild He lays His glory by, born that we no more may die, born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth. Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new born King!"

†SENDING FORTH

Dr. Robert E. Long

We have heard the story of the birth of Christ
and it has changed our lives.

Jesus was born in the town of Bethlehem;
angels announced His birth to the shepherds.

Christ came to reveal God's love
and that love is for all people with whom God is pleased.

POSTLUDE

Michael Haydn

Run, Ye Shepherds, to the Light
 Robert Fasol, organist

LEADING IN WORSHIP

Dr. Robert E. Long
 Senior Pastor

Rev. Wendy Lambert
 Senior Executive Pastore

Rev. Phil Greenwald
 Executive Pastor of Administration

Rev. David Poteet
 Pastor of Congregational Care

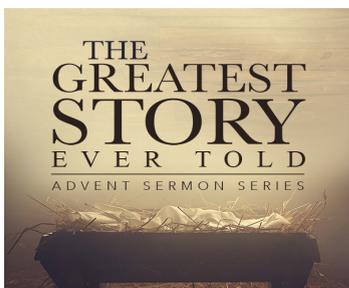
Musicians

Robert Fasol, Organist/Choirmaster

Chancel Choir and Orchestra

Eric Bradford, Conductor

Sarah Kuhlmann, Soloist



“And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth; we have beheld his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father.”
 John 1:14

Can there be anything more amazing than God becoming human and living among us? The birth of Jesus is the story of God wanting to be with humankind. The baby born in Bethlehem changed the lives of Mary and Joseph, the wise men, the shepherds - the world. Join us this Advent Season for The Greatest Story Ever Told.



St. Luke's

United Methodist Church

Dr. Robert E. Long
Senior Pastor
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Rev. Wendy Lambert
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Rev. Dave Poteet
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Rev. Keith King
Online Campus Pastor
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Rev. Phil Greenwald
Executive Pastor of Administration
pgreenwald@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 and 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: Caroline Nyalala, Andrew and Mallory Negley, Devin Lockard, Martha Mikolajczyk, Ramiro Beltran, Lloyd and Leigh Ann Hardin, Dallas Walton, Carrie Stevenson

Edmond: Emiliano Tarin, Ashley Stephens, Tim and Sheri Galloway



Date _____

Worship Service: 8:30 9:40 10:50

Mr. / Mrs. / Ms. _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Email _____

- 1st Time Guest
- 2nd Time Guest
- Regular Guest
- St. Luke's Member

Names and Birth Dates of Children With You

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Announcements

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

ADVENT EVENTS

The Sounds of Christmas

What a better way to begin the Advent season than with amazing music and your family of faith at The Sounds of Christmas Concert on Wednesday, December 12. The Edmond concert features the Edmond Choir and the LifeLight Band. It all starts at 7 p.m. with a Holiday Reception following the event.

Dinner with Love

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 families in the community. It takes place Saturday, December 23, at 5:30 p.m. in the Downtown Campus Christian Life Center Sign up today in the Gallery to deliver a meal or online at stlukesokc.org.



ST. LUKE'S TRAVEL

[ST. LUKESOKC.ORG/TRAVEL](http://ST.LUKESOKC.ORG/TRAVEL)

Travel to Washington D.C. in 2019

Here's your chance to visit the incredible Museum of the Bible in Washington D.C. - the largest collection of biblical artifacts and texts in the world! St. Luke's is offering two trips next year: April 1 - 5, led by Rev. Wendy Lambert, and May 15 - 19 (for adults in their 20's and 30's), led by Dr. Bob Long. Both trips will include a few other culturally significant sites. There are brochures at the Welcome Center for more details or you can contact Beth Armstrong at barmstrong@stlukesokc.org or call 609-1045.

Walk in Paul's Footsteps in 2019

Join Rev. Wendy Lambert on a once-in-a-lifetime trip that follows the footsteps of the Apostle Paul throughout Greece. The trip will be October 14 - 23, 2019, and will visit several sites that were instrumental in the formation of the early church. It will be an experience that deepens your understanding of Scripture and your relationship with God. There are brochures at the Welcome Centers or email Wendy at w Lambert@stlukesokc.org for more information!

Travel to Italy and Germany in 2020

Dr. Bob and Marsha Long and Rev. Josh and Brittany Attaway will be leading a trip to Italy and Germany in 2020. The trip will be highlighted by the opportunity to see the Passion Play in Oberammergau that is only performed once every ten years. The trip is June 1-14, 2020 and will feature stops in Rome, Assisi, Florence, Venice, Innsbruck, and others. Contact Rev. Josh Attaway, jattaway@stlukesokc.org or 285-2307 for more information.

Prayer Requests or Questions: _____

How did you first hear about St. Luke's?

- TV Radio Web Other
 I'm a guest of _____.

Age Group

- 6th-12th Grade College 18-30
 31-40 41-50 51-59 60+

I would like more info about:

- Children's Programs
 Youth (6th to 12th grade) Programs
 Classes for Adults
 Volunteer Opportunities
 Other _____

Joining

- I wish to join St. Luke's
If you wish to join St. Luke's this morning, please bring this card to the front during the last song instead of placing it in the offering basket.
- I would like to know more about membership.
- I'm interested in joining but don't want to come to the front.
- Contact me about other ways to join.

Announcements

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

StudioArt by Studio 222 In Threefold

Give the gift of art, made from the heart. Artwork created by Studio 222 students is available in Threefold! Their creativity has been transformed into beautiful items that make great Christmas gifts for others (or yourself) - scarves, journals, totes and more! Check out their display in Threefold today. Studio 222 provides a positive environment in which children can gain confidence and express themselves through art.

New Small Groups Forming

If you are a new member or you haven't found a small group to join and grow in faith, start your new year with Group Link! This event will form new small groups within our family of faith that will connect people with similar interests. You can experience small group study and find the right fit for you. Group Link will offer two sessions on Sunday mornings in the Fellowship Hall after LifeLight (10:50 a.m.) and also after the 10:50 a.m. service (noon) on January 6, 13, and 20 at the Downtown Campus. We will have brunch and childcare is available. Please fill out the form online at stlukesokc.org/grouplink or contact Beth Armstrong at barmstrong@stlukesokc.org or 609-1045.

Spring Musical Auditions

Auditions for St. Luke's Spring Musical *Annie* will take place Saturday, January 12 at the Downtown Campus in Room B100. For more information about the show or to sign up for an audition, visit stlukesokc.org/annie or contact Logan Fish at lfish@stlukesokc.org or 285-2341.

Thank You from the UMW

UMW would like to say a big thank you to all those who bought something from the Bake Sale on November 18. Thanks to your generosity, UMW was able to raise over \$1,400 for mission programs!

Youth Progressive Dinner

All 6th-12th grade youth are invited to join us for the Youth Christmas Progressive Dinner on Sunday, December 16, from 5 - 8 p.m. We will meet at the church, divide into groups, and "progress" to different homes of church members and youth families in the neighborhood for dinner. Then we will all meet together for dessert! Celebrate the holidays with us! For details, email Amy Givens at agivens@stlukesokc.org.

Youth Spring Break Mission Trips

We're already planning for Spring Break! High school students will take a trip to Los Angeles on March 17-23. Through *Next Step Ministries*, we'll focus on homeless and relational ministry in LA. Travel, food, lodging, mission opportunities, and two days at Disneyland is \$875. A \$200 deposit is due by December 9 and another \$200 deposit by Jan. 13, with the remaining balance due in March. Middle school students are heading to Branson from March 17-20. We'll focus on service projects but we'll also attend the show "Samson" at Sight and Sound Theater and go to Silver Dollar City! The cost is \$250 which includes all food, travel, lodging, service projects, and fun events. A \$100 deposit will be due on January 27 and the remaining balance due in March. Email Amy Givens for details at agivens@stlukesokc.org or call 609-1027.

THE GREATEST STORY EVER TOLD

ADVENT SERMON SERIES



Won't you be my neighbor for the All Church Christmas Party? Let's celebrate St. Luke's accomplishments for 2018 with a party at the Downtown Campus. This year's featured film is "Mister Long's Neighborhood."

Bring your family to the St. Luke's Christmas Party at the Downtown Campus, tonight. The Gathering Hour starts at 4 p.m. and a delicious dinner and program begins at 5 p.m.

The Downtown Campus will conduct the Annual Business Meeting before the movie presentation. Tickets are \$10 for attending the program. Children will enjoy their own Christmas Party with games and activities at 5 p.m. Tickets are available for \$5. Tickets can be purchased at Threefold today after worship. Space is limited.



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. Simply text "STL Give" to 73256 and follow the links to donate to the Christmas Offering. Donations can be made during service or by contacting the Finance Department.

Advent Events

"Mister Long's Neighborhood" St. Luke's Christmas Party

*Downtown - Tonight
Holiday Open House at 4 p.m.
Dinner and Movie at 5 p.m.*

The Sounds of Christmas

Edmond - Wednesday, Dec. 12

LifeLight Christmas Concert

Downtown - Sunday, Dec. 16

Special Needs Worship Service

Edmond - Sunday, Dec. 16

Angel of Hope Service

Downtown - Sunday, Dec. 16

Dinner with Love

Downtown - Saturday, Dec. 22

Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Services

Monday, Dec. 24

Downtown

*2:30 p.m. - Traditional with
Holy Communion
4:30 p.m. - Family
6:30 p.m. - Traditional*

Edmond

*2 p.m. - Family
4 p.m. - Family
6:30 p.m. - Traditional
11 p.m. - Traditional with Holy
Communion*

Asbury

*4 p.m. - Traditional with Holy
Communion*

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 December 16.

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

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

Poinsettia Sale

There is a special way to honor and remember loved ones and special people in your life this Advent season. Donate a Christmas poinsettia for \$20 each. These poinsettias are a part of our beautifully decorated facilities and displayed throughout the season to be enjoyed by many. Tear off the order form above and return by December 16.



LifeLight Christmas Concert

Downtown Campus - December 16 at 9:40 a.m.

The LifeLight band is delivering a special gift the week before Christmas! During the LifeLight Worship Service they will perform a Christmas Concert! Dr. Long will be preaching during this service as well. Come early for a great seat.



Angel of Hope

Downtown Campus - December 16 - at 6:30 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 when family members can place a flower at the base of the angel sculpture in memory of their loved ones.



A Christmas Just for You Worship Service

Edmond Campus - December 16 at 4 p.m. in the Christian Life Center

A special Christmas-time service will be offered that is geared for adults and children with special needs. "A Christmas Just for You" is shorter in length than traditional services and involves lots of interaction. This service will also include singing carols and the Christmas story. There will be a variety of sensory accommodations. A reception and free professional family pictures with Santa will be available after the service!



Mission Trees

Share God's love this Christmas season by picking up an ornament from the Mission Tree in the Gallery to see items you can purchase to help those in need. Mobile Meals, Studio 222, Rancho Village, and the Honduras Mission Trip will all benefit from this year's Mission Tree donations. Drop off donations in the Gallery.