

LOVE

Your Neighbor

no exceptions

Seventh Sunday After the Epiphany
Transfiguration Sunday
February 23, 2020
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

10:50 A.M.

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

PRELUDE

arr. Nick Robertson

Blessed Assurance
St. Luke's Orchestra
Robert Fasol, *organist*
Eric Bradford, *conductor*

RINGING OF THE BELLS

†HYMN 66

LAUDA ANIMA

Praise My Soul, the King of Heaven

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven, to the throne thy tribute bring; ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, evermore God's praises sing. Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the everlasting King.

Praise the Lord for grace and favor to all people in distress; praise God, still the same as ever, slow to chide, and swift to bless. Alleluia! Alleluia! Glorious now God's faithfulness.

Fatherlike, God tends and spares us; well our feeble frame God knows; motherlike, God gently bears us, rescues us from all our foes. Alleluia! Alleluia! Widely yet God's mercy flows.

Angels in the heights, adoring, you behold God face to face; saints triumphant, now adoring, gathered in from every race. Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise with us the God of grace.

†CALL TO WORSHIP

Brooks Lambert

In the times that we made mistakes,

God didn't stop loving us.

In the midst of our arguments,

God remained with us.

Even during those moments that we turned away from God,

God never abandoned us.

This ever-faithful, ever-lasting love of God

is the very love we are called to share.

Even in the midst of disagreement and strife,

we will love our neighbors, no exceptions.

†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 new,
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

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

†HYMN

ST. PETER

Where Charity and Love Prevail

Where charity and love prevail, there God is ever found; brought here together by Christ's love, by love we are thus bound.

With grateful joy and holy fear true charity we learn; let us with heart and mind and strength now love Christ in return.

Forgive we now each other's faults as we our faults confess; and let us love each other well in Christian holiness.

Let strife among us be unknown, let all contention cease; be Christ the glory that we seek, be ours His holy peace.

ANTHEM

G.F. Handel

Sing unto God
Chancel Choir and Orchestra
Robert Fasol, *piano*
Eric Bradford, *conductor*

Sing unto God. Let joyful voices raise a song of gladness with unending praise.

LIFE AT ST. LUKE'S

Rev. David Poteet

OFFERTORY

Matt Maher

Loving This Neighbor of Mine
Keely McGough and Andrew Maguire, *vocalists*
St. Luke's Orchestra
Robert Fasol, *piano*
Eric Bradford, *conductor*

All God's creatures got a place in the choir: some sing low and some sing higher, some just hang out like a bird on a wire, waiting to fly home.

All God's children are the apple of His eye, even the ones we can't stand sometimes; but we're coming together just to go outside, and I need something to sing with this neighbor of mine.

That's why grace is so amazing, that's why love is so divine, and that's why I sing for God unchanging; that's why I want to love this neighbor of mine.

All God's people got a reason to live; joy for the hard days, and true love to give. So we raise our hands and lay down our sin, and remember the day our freedom began.

That's why grace is so amazing, that's why love is so divine, and that's why I sing for God unchanging; that's why I want to love this neighbor of mine.

This grace is so amazing, that's why love is so divine, and that's why I sing for God unchanging; that's why I want to love this neighbor of mine.

Feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, giving the homeless a place to rest; visiting the prisoner, lifting the lowly. By our fruits may You shine on us, may You shine on us! Shine on us.

That's why grace is so amazing, that's why love is so divine, and that's why I sing for God unchanging; that's why I want to love this neighbor of mine.

†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.

†NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Dr. Gary Brown

And after some days Paul said to Barnabas, "Come, let us return and visit the brethren in every city where we proclaimed the word of the Lord, and see how they are." And Barnabas wanted to take with them John called Mark. But Paul thought best not to take with them one who had withdrawn from them in Pamphylia, and had not gone with them to the work. And there arose a sharp contention, so that they separated from each other; Barnabas took Mark with him and sailed away to Cyprus, but Paul chose Silas and departed, being commended by the brethren to the grace of the Lord. (Acts 15:36 - 40)

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Rev. Wendy Lambert

Choosing to Love
From the Sermon Series - Love Your Neighbor: No Exceptions

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

†HYMN

AURELIA

Help Us Accept Each Other

Help us accept each other as Christ accepted us; teach us as sister, brother, each person to embrace. Be present, Lord, among us, and bring us to believe we are ourselves accepted and meant to love and live. (continued on reverse side)

Teach us, O Lord, Your lessons, as in our daily life we struggle to be human and search for hope and faith. Teach us to care for people, for all, not just for some, to love them as we find them, or as they may become.

Let Your acceptance change us, so that we may be moved in living situations to do the truth in love; to practice your acceptance, until we know by heart the table of forgiveness and laughter's healing art.

Lord, for today's encounters with all who are in need, who hunger for acceptance, for righteousness and bread, we need new eyes for seeing, new hands for holding on; renew us with Your Spirit; Lord, free us, make us one!

†SENDING FORTH

Rev. Wendy Lambert

We are the children of God

transformed by God's mercy.

Through Christ we are new creations

and called to follow Him into the world.

As He has loved us,

so we will love our neighbors, no exceptions.

POSTLUDE

Kito Watanabe

Toccata (Blessed Assurance)

Robert Fasol, *organist*

LEADING IN WORSHIP

Rev. Wendy Lambert

Senior Executive Pastor

Brooks Lambert

St. Luke's Member

Rev. David Poteet

Pastor of Congregational Care

Dr. Gary Brown

St. Luke's Member

Musicians

Robert Fasol, Organist/Choirmaster

Eric Bradford, Conductor

Chancel Choir and Orchestra

Keely McGough, Vocalist

Andrew Maguire, Vocalist

Sermon Notes



Jesus was asked what the greatest commandment was. He replied "Love the Lord Your God with all your heart, mind, soul and strength. And love your neighbor as yourself." We are told that we are called to be a neighbor to anyone - we are called to care for one another and show mercy. Jesus never gave any exemptions to that. We are our neighbors, no exceptions.



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

Rev. Keith King
Pastor of Worship
kking@stlukesokc.org

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 the prayer request cards found in the Registration Pads and place them in the offering plates 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.

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 at stlukesokc.org/live.

Want to Join St. Luke's?

Are you interested in joining the St. Luke's mission to share, grow and serve? You can join St. Luke's on Sunday morning during Worship. For more information about membership contact Morgan Jones, Hospitality Coordinator at 609-1028 or mjones@stlukesokc.org.

Welcome to Our Newest Members Joining in January:

Downtown: Phyllis Bennett, Arleen Burkhart, Eliada Keeling, Karen Delaney, Shane and Heather Wakefield, Robert and Maudean Wakefield, Caroline and Drew Mildren, Eddie Monarch

Edmond: Darlene Rose, Kristen Buzzard, Eddie Herron, Bryce, Melie and Norah Vincent, Allen and Tera Hutson, Jake and Lottie Long, Jeannie Pascuzzi, Todd and Wendy Sanders, Austin and Tess McKanna

One Church with Multiple Campuses

Downtown Campus
222 NW 15th Street
OKC, OK 73103
(405) 232-1371
stlukesokc.org

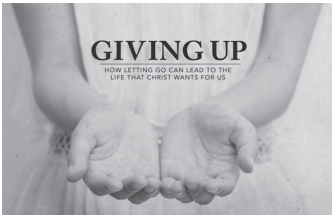
Edmond Campus
900 N. Sooner Road
Edmond, OK 73034
(405) 285-2002
stlukesedmond.org

Asbury Campus
1320 SW 38th Street
OKC, OK 73119
Office: (405) 632-3378
asbury.stlukesokc.org

Sharing God's Love and Bringing Hope to the World

The mission of St. Luke's is to share God's love and bring hope to the world. We accomplish that by sharing the message of Christ, growing in our faith, and serving the community. Listed below are new and exciting ways for your entire family to be involved. For information about growing in your faith every week, stop by the Welcome Center today, call 232-1371, or visit stlukesokc.org.

HAPPENING TODAY



Lenten Devotionals

The staff has written devotionals for the Lenten Season. You can pick up a copy of these devotional booklets just outside the worship space today. If you would rather have a digital version: follow Facebook.com/stlukesokc or sign up for the Devotional Email at stlukesokc.org.

Online Lenten Bible Study

Beginning tonight at 5 p.m., you can take part in a six-week online Bible study. Every Sunday evening, on the St. Luke's United Methodist Facebook page, Rev. Josh Attaway will be leading a Bible study for the season of Lent called "Living as Easter People." Rev. Keith King will be online facilitating and answering questions during the study. (Facebook.com/stlukesokc)

Random Acts of Kindness

We are encouraging you to live out the yearly theme, "Love Your Neighbor, No Exception" with the Random Acts of Kindness Cards. You can stop by the Connection Point and get a RAK card. Take time this week to live out St. Luke's theme. You can see the full list of ideas or share your act of kindness by going online to stlukesokc.org/kindness.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Ash Wednesday Services

Ash Wednesday begins the 40-day season of Lent - a time of fasting, repentance, and reflection as we approach Easter. Ash Wednesday Services are February 26 at 6:30 p.m. featuring a message of hope and the imposition of ashes at all campuses. Rev. Keith King will be preaching Downtown, Rev. Josh Attaway at Edmond, and Rev. Connie Barnett at Asbury. Dinner will be served at 5:15 p.m. at the Downtown and Edmond campuses (\$5 for adults, kids 12 and under are free). Nursery care will be provided (birth - 4 years old).

Lenten Sermon Series Begins Next Sunday

Giving Up - How letting go can lead to the life that Christ wants for us

Our lives have more than ever before – but "more" doesn't automatically make them better. We own more, but that also means we have more things to maintain, repair, clean, and replace. We have busier schedules, but that also means less time for things that really matter. Having more can be stressful. Giving up things like busyness, resentment, and worry can lead us to the life that Christ wants for us. Freeing our lives from clutter gives us space and energy to be the people we are called to be. Join us for this series where we look at how "letting go" can lead to the life that Christ wants for each of us.

Community Orchestra Concert: Beethoven and Friends

St. Luke's Edmond Community Orchestra is celebrating Beethoven's 250th Birthday with a free concert. All kids and families are welcome! Join us Sunday, March 8, at 3 p.m. in the St. Luke's Edmond Worship Center. Bring a friend and enjoy great music performed by people from your community! Learn more at stlukesokc.org/arts.

Wednesday Night Alive - It's Not Too Late

The 2020 Winter semester of WNA offers a variety of amazing classes for everyone. Dinner is served at 5:15 p.m. (\$5 for adults - children 12 and under eat free). Classes begin at 6:30 p.m. On the menu this week: Roasted chicken breast, zucchini, cauliflower, baby bakers, brownies and strawberries. Classes begin at 6:30. More information about classes is available at the Welcome Center and online.

Community Guitar Ensemble

If you love guitar, you're invited to play in a fun environment with friends! Francisco Venegas will be teaching and leading our newest music group, the St. Luke's Guitar Ensemble. It's being held at the Edmond Campus on Saturday mornings, starting February 22, from 10 - 11:15 a.m. in Room 134. Semester ensemble dues are \$50 (covers instructor, class materials, etc). Ensemble members must provide their own guitar and footstool. We will have chairs and music stands. Contact Logan Fish with questions and to sign up. Email lfish@stlukesokc.org or call 285-2341.

Willy Wonka Jr. Auditions

All aspiring actors from ages 7 to 18 are invited to audition for a sweet role at St. Luke's! Willy Wonka Jr. is coming to the Poteet Theatre this April and auditions begin on March 1. We encourage a wide range of actors from all backgrounds to try out. There is a \$100 fee for actors in this production to help cover costumes, staff, and other administrative costs. To sign up for an audition time, go online to stlukesokc.org/arts. For details, email Logan Fish at lfish@stlukesokc.org or call 285-2341.

Parent's Night Out

Parents, enjoy a night out on the town while your children have a great time with friends at church. Friday, March 6, is Parents Night Out at St. Luke's Downtown Campus. Kids will eat pizza, play games, and watch movies from 6 - 8:30 p.m. Please register online at stlukesokc.org by March 4. This childcare event is free for infants through 5th grade.

Love Your Neighbor Daily Calendar and Window Cling

Our theme this year is "Love Your Neighbor: No Exceptions" and to help us remember to love our neighbor, we have created an inspirational daily calendar and window cling. In the calendar, each day has a quote or scripture that is sure to help us remember to be kind. Be sure to stop by the Connection Point to pick up your calendar and cling today.

YOUTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Youth Guys vs Girls

All youth are invited to participate in a fun and friendly competition between the guys and the girls. Come help your team win a series of games and claim the prize! "Youth Guys vs Girls" is today, from 12:15 - 2:30 p.m. in the Youth Room. Simply show up - a free lunch is provided! All 6th-12th grade students are invited.