

The Hill We Climb



DOWNTOWN CAMPUS SERVICE OF WORSHIP Fifth Sunday of Easter May 2, 2021 8:15 A.M.

PRELUDE

Felix Mendelssohn

He, Watching Over Israel
Choral and Instrumental Ensembles
Robert Fasol, *piano/conductor*

He, watching over Israel, slumbers not, nor sleeps; He, watching over Israel, slumbers not, nor sleeps.

Shouldst thou, walking in grief, languish, He will quicken thee; shouldst thou, walking in grief, languish, He will quicken thee.

He, watching over Israel, slumbers not, nor sleeps; shouldst thou, walking in grief, languish, He will quicken thee; He, watching over Israel, slumbers not, nor sleeps.

RINGING OF THE BELLS

WELCOME AND GREETING

Rev. Wendy Lambert

†HYMN

FOUNDATION

How Firm a Foundation

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord, is laid for your faith in His excellent word! What more can He say than to you He hath said, to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

"Fear not, I am with Thee, O be not dismayed, for I am Thy God and will still give Thee aid; I'll strengthen and help Thee, and cause Thee to stand upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

"When through the deep waters I call Thee to go, the rivers of woe shall not Thee overflow; for I will be with Thee, Thy troubles to bless, and sanctify to Thee Thy deepest distress.

"The soul that on Jesus still leans for repose, I will not, I will not desert to its foes; that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake, I'll never, no, never, no, never forsake!"

†CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Wendy Lambert

When day comes we ask ourselves,

where can we find light in this never-ending shade?

The loss we carry,

a sea we must wade.

We've braved the belly of the beast,

we've learned that quiet isn't always peace,

and the norms and notions of what is just is, isn't always justice.

And yet the dawn is ours before we knew it.

Somehow we do it.

†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

Be strong in the Lord, and be of good courage; your mighty Defender is always the same. Mount up with wings, as the eagle ascending; victory is sure when you call on His name.

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

Be strong, be strong, be strong in the Lord; and be of good courage, for He is your guide. Be strong, be strong in the Lord; and rejoice, for the victory is yours.

LIFE AT ST. LUKE'S

Rev. Wendy Lambert

DEDICATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Dr. Robert E. Long

OFFERTORY

Jessi Alexander / Jon Mabe

The Climb

Taylor Stephens, soloist

Instrumental Ensemble

Robert Fasol, piano/conductor

I can almost see it, that dream I've been dreaming. But there's a voice inside my head saying, "You'll never reach it." Every step I'm taking, every move I make feels lost with no direction; my faith is shakin'. But I gotta keep trying. Gotta keep my head held high.

There's always gonna be another mountain. I'm always gonna wanna make it move. Always gonna be an uphill battle. Sometimes I'm gonna have to lose. Ain't about how fast I get there. Ain't about what's waiting on the other side, it's the climb.

The struggles I'm facing, the chances I'm taking, sometimes might knock me down, but no, I'm not breaking, I may not know it, but these are the moments that I'm gonna remember most, yeah, just gotta keep going. And, I, I got to be strong. Just keep pushing on.

'Cause there's always gonna be another mountain. I'm always gonna wanna make it move. Always gonna be an uphill battle. Sometimes I'm gonna have to lose. Ain't about how fast I get there. Ain't about what's waiting on the other side, it's the climb.

There's always gonna be another mountain. I'm always gonna wanna make it move. Always gonna be an uphill battle. Sometimes I'm gonna have to lose. Ain't about how fast I get there. Ain't about what's waiting on the other side, it's the climb.

Keep on moving. Keep climbing. Keep the faith, baby. It's all about, it's all about the climb. Keep the faith, keep your faith.

†DOXOLOGY

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power up-lifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

†THE PSALM

Brooks Lambert

(Choir) *Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of God's might.*

A Song of Ascents.

I lift up my eyes to the hills. From whence does my help come? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth. He will not let your foot be moved, he who keeps you will not slumber. Behold, he who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep. The Lord is your keeper; the Lord is your shade on your right hand. The sun shall not smite you by day, nor the moon by night. The Lord will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life. The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time forth and for evermore. (Psalm 121)

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Dr. Robert E. Long

The Hill We Climb

From the Sermon Series: The Hill We Climb: Living with Joy and Purpose

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

†HYMN

HYFRYDOL

Lead Us On With Hope and Courage

We, O God, unite our voices, raised in thankful harmony. You, unchanging, safe have brought us through the ever-changing sea. Days of calm and days of conflict, nights of darkness prove Your grace. Hands beneath us, arms around us, and above, Your shining face.

Seeing then the task before us, bind our hearts and hands as one. May our labor be in union, our resolve and Yours be one. With one spirit let us labor toward the bright horizon far. In the midst of tempest peril be Your cross our guiding star.

Not our choice the wind's direction, unforeseen the calm or gale. Your great ocean swells before us, and our ship seems small and frail. Fierce and gleaming is Your mystery, drawing us to shores unknown; lead us on with hope and courage till Your harbor is our home.

†SENDING FORTH

Dr. Robert E. Long

We lift our eyes to the hills to find our help
and see that God is with us.

Living a life of joy and purpose
is the hill we climb.

And so, we'll share God's love
and bring hope to the world!

POSTLUDE

Claude Murphree

Toccata (How Firm a Foundation)

Robert Fasol, organist



St. Luke's

United Methodist Church

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

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

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

Rev. Dave Poteet
Pastor of Congregational Care
dpoteet@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 email your prayer concerns 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 our live-stream of the Edmond Campus Services (LL at 9 a.m. and Traditional at 11 a.m.) and the Downtown Campus Traditional Service (10:50 a.m.) at stlukesokc.org/live. Live services are also available on Roku and Apple TV apps. To install search - stlukesokc or St. Luke's United Methodist Church

TV Programming

St. Luke's Traditional service can be seen as an hour long television program on KOCO channel 5 at 10:30 a.m. every Sunday morning. The program is a week delayed.

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 April:

Downtown: Rhonda Hackney , Chris & Monica Jacks, Norman Parkhurst, Kelsey and Hunter Paul, and Adam Reese

Edmond: Joe and Jaclyn Stanfield

Online: Gayle Lee

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.

HELPFUL INFORMATION

- Register your attendance by texting guest or member to (405) 351-4001.
- Give today - text the letters STL to the number 73256 to give on a secure website.
- Large print bulletins and hearing assistance devices are available in the Narthex.
- A live feed of the service is available for parents with active or tearful children and an online children's activity page is available at stlukesokc.org/childrenbulletin.
- A Hospitality Team member is at the Welcome Center to help.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

New Sermon Series

Join us for a new sermon series called "The Hill We Climb" during the month of May. It is based on the poem by Amanda Gorman, the 22-year-old who became the youngest person to deliver a poem at a U.S. presidential inauguration. The series will stretch across three special days on our calendar: Mother's Day (May 9), Graduation Sunday (May 16), and Memorial Sunday (May 30).

Early Worship Service Returns | Today | 8:15 a.m.

The early Traditional Worship Service returns to St. Luke's! Starting today, the Downtown campus is hosting this service at 8:15 a.m. in the Sanctuary. You will experience the same inspiring message and music that the church currently offers in its 10:50 a.m. Traditional service.

Zoom with the Pastors | Today | 2 p.m.

Here's a chance for you to have a little "face time" with the clergy and staff of St. Luke's. The church will host a short group presentation today at 2 p.m. It will be followed by breakout sessions during which a pastor or staff member will join each group to create a personal connection and allow people to ask questions and connect with one another. This is ideal for any prospective new members of St. Luke's. To join the Zoom session, visit stlukesokc.org/pastorzoom.

Mother's Day at St. Luke's | May 9

We thank God for all our beautiful Moms! St. Luke's is planning a special Mother's Day on May 9 to honor all the women who have loved and supported us through the years. Mother's Day masks and flowers will be handed out after all services that morning to all women. If any mom would like a mask, but can't attend a Mother's Day service in person, she can fill out a form online (stlukesokc.org) and a mask will be mailed to them - or they can stop by either campus to pick up one the week after Mother's Day.

Poteet Theatre Presents *Matilda Jr.* | May 14 -16 | Tickets Needed

Enjoy a fun night of family entertainment as the Poteet Theatre presents *Matilda Jr.* - a witty look at the anarchy of childhood and the power of imagination! This story of a girl who dreams of a better life and the children she inspires will have audiences rooting for the "revolting children" who are out to teach the grown-ups a lesson. There will be four performances from May 14 - 16 at the Downtown Campus Poteet Theatre, so get your tickets today at stlukesokc.org/arts. Adults \$10, Seniors \$8, Children 12 and under are free. Masks are required.

Mobile Market - Volunteers Needed

Are you looking for a way to connect with others within the church? Every Friday morning, the Mobile Market is serving up free fresh produce and other kitchen staples to feed families in need. The St. Luke's Mobile Market is seeking volunteers to help at the Mobile Market Stops - currently needing strong, energetic teens and young adults that are able to lift boxes. Volunteer times are Fridays between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. If you are interested, please email Candice Hillenbrand, chillenbrand@stlukesokc.org.

Graduation Sunday | May 16

Congratulations graduates! During worship on May 16, we want to recognize all your hard work and accomplishments. The congregation will honor graduates of high school, college, and graduate programs during each worship service. High School Graduates and their families are invited to a special celebration lunch that day after the final worship service. The Downtown Campus will meet in the Fellowship Hall at 12:15 p.m., and the Edmond Campus will meet in the Youth Room at 12:30 p.m. Graduates or parents - please fill out the form at stlukesokc.org/GraduationSunday to let us know where you are graduating from, your future plans, submit a picture, and RSVP for lunch. Deadline is May 9.

Audio Fetch Hearing System

Do you have trouble hearing during worship? You can now listen to the service using your smartphone with your headphones or bluetooth hearing aids. Simply download the "Audio Fetch" app from Google Play or the App Store to your phone and connect to St. Luke's Guest Wi-Fi network, with the password threefold. Select the worship space you are in and adjust the volume. This system only works while you are on campus.

Tech Volunteers Needed

St. Luke's message of hope reaches thousands of people each week through our worship services on campus, online, and through our television ministry. Volunteers are needed to work on the tech team to help these worship experiences be memorable and meaningful. You can help by running video cameras, sound, lyrics, lighting, photography, and more. Training is provided and teams work on a rotational basis. Volunteers are needed for every worship service. If you are interested in learning more about being a part of this growing ministry, contact Brent Manning at (405) 609-1031 or email bmanning@stlukesokc.org

CHILDREN'S SUMMER EVENTS

Vacation Bible School | June 7 - 10 and June 14 - 17

All children ages PreK-5th grade are invited to have a blast at the St. Luke's Downtown or Edmond campuses for "To Mars and Beyond"! This year's VBS will help kids discover the wonders of God's universe. The Downtown campus VBS will take place June 7 - 10 and the Edmond campus VBS will happen June 14 - 17. Both last from 9 a.m. to noon. Register or volunteer at stlukesokc.org/vbs.

Magic Tree House: Pirates Past Noon! | July 12 - 24 | Ages 5 to 10

All young actors from ages 5 to 10 are invited to be a part of the Poteet Theatre's production of "Magic Tree House: Pirates Past Noon!" This camp will be held at our St. Luke's Edmond campus from July 12 to July 24, Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Performance dates will be July 23 and 24, both at the St. Luke's Edmond Worship Center. Tuition is \$200, which includes lunch and a snack each day. Register at stlukesokc.org/arts.

G2K Oklahoma! | July 12 - August 1 | Ages 8 to 18

Anyone from ages 8 to 18 is invited to enjoy G2K Oklahoma! This camp will be held at St. Luke's Downtown Campus from July 12 through August 1, between 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday - Friday. Camp tuition is \$300, which includes lunch and a snack each day. The camp will culminate with four performances at the Poteet Theatre on July 30, July 31, and August 1. Register at stlukesokc.org/arts.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Wheeler Park Fun | Today | 3 - 6 p.m.

Youth, let's kick off the month of May with a fun afternoon in the park! Join us for Youth @ Wheeler Park today from 3 - 6 p.m. All 6th - 12th grade students are invited. Vans will transport everyone to and from both campuses. Everyone will get a ride on the Ferris wheel and we'll enjoy playing lots of other outdoor games. There's no cost!

Youth Summer Camps

Disciple Camp (6th - 9th grade) – June 3 - 6 Cost: \$250 Register by May 12. Youth Force (7th grade – Graduated Seniors) – June 20 - 25 Cost: \$250 Register by May 30. Dayspring (9th grade – Graduated Seniors) – July 12 - 16 Cost: \$300 Register by June 16. Learn more and register at stlukesokc.org/YouthCamps.

More information about youth events contact Amy Givens (Downtown Campus) at agivens@stlukesokc.org or call (405) 609-1027 or Sarah Cohea (Edmond Campus) at scohea@stlukesokc.org or call (405) 430-8547.