

WELCOME TO ST. LUKE'S METHODIST CHURCH

We're so glad you've joined us for worship today. Our mission is to share God's love and bring hope to the world. We hope you leave inspired by a message of hope and ready to embrace life in the week ahead.



THREE QUESTIONS

SERVICE OF WORSHIP

September 24, 2023

10:50 A.M.

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

PRELUDE

arr. Ryan Murphy

Praise the Everlasting King
St. Luke's Orchestra
Robert Fasol, *organist*
Richard Beam, *conductor*

RINGING OF THE BELLS

WELCOME AND GREETING

Ashleigh Robinson

†HYMN

LOBE DEN HERREN

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

1 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation! O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy health and salvation! All ye who hear, now to His temple draw near; join me in glad adoration!

2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigning bears thee on eagle's wings, e'er in His keeping maintaining. God's care enfolds all, whose true good He upholds. Hast thou not known His sustaining?

3 Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee; surely His goodness and mercy here daily attend thee. Ponder anew what the Almighty can do, who with His love doth befriend thee.

4 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him! All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before Him! Let the amen sound from His people again; gladly forever adore Him.

†CALL TO WORSHIP

Where do we find purpose and meaning?

Where do we find true joy?

It is found in living lives with purpose;

finding meaning in serving the world around us,
encouraging people,
and making a difference in the lives of others.

†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:

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

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

RECOGNITION OF 50 YEAR MEMBERS

Elizabeth Ashley Hunzicker, Mary Christian Hunzicker, Jason Johnston, Edwina Johnston, Brad Smith, Janice Low, Wilma Beagle

PRESENTATION OF BIBLES TO THIRD GRADERS

Dr. Robert E. Long
Taylor Easttom

Luciana Elaine Cole
Conner Daniel Broadhead
John Allen Flaggert
Liberty Adele Foster

Jack G. Francis
Julian Hart
Roddie Worthington, III

LIFE AT ST. LUKE'S

Rev. David Poteet

- * To register your attendance please text "guest" or "member" to (405) 351-4001.
- * Prayer requests can be submitted by texting your request to (405) 351-4001 or a prayer card can be dropped in the offering box.

DEDICATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Dr. Robert E. Long

- * Give today - text the letters SLM to the number 73256 to give on a secure website.

OFFERTORY

arr. David Lantz

Lord, I Want to Be a Christian
St. Luke's Choir and Orchestra
Robert Fasol, piano/conductor

Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart, in my heart; Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart. In my heart, in my heart, Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.

Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart, in my heart; Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart. In my heart, in my heart, Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart, in my heart, in my heart.

Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart, in my heart, Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart, in my heart. In my heart, O Lord, in my heart. Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart.

Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart, in my heart, Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart. In my heart, in my heart, O Lord, in my heart. Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart, in my heart.

†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

Brooks Lambert

And with great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as were possessors of lands or houses sold them, and brought the proceeds of what was sold and laid it at the apostles' feet; and distribution was made to each as any had need. Thus Joseph who was surnamed by the apostles Barnabas (which means, Son of encouragement), a Levite, a native of Cyprus, sold a field which belonged to him, and brought the money and laid it at the apostles' feet. (Acts 4:33 - 37)

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Dr. Robert E. Long

Do I Make a Difference?

From the Sermon Series: Three Questions

MUSICAL REFLECTION

arr. Mark Brymer

The Climb

Selena Gilliam, *soloist*

St. Luke's Orchestra

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, 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.

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 the faith, keep the faith, 'cause it's all about, it's all about the climb!

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

Stir Your Church, O God, Our Father

1 Stir Your church, O God, our Father, move throughout its life today; cultivate a sense of mission in our hearts and minds, we pray. Help us to renew commitment to a way of ministry which interprets for our culture how Your truth can make us free.

2 Make Your church a living witness to the power of its Lord; send us to the world around us with Your Spirit and Your Word: to the inner city turmoil, to affluent suburbs, too - to all those who need Your message send us forth to tell of You.

3 Give to us a social conscience which enables us to see that all folk are Your creation and that they have dignity. Let us feel, with real compassion, needs of body, mind, and soul; for these needs may we provide them ministry which makes them whole.

4 Challenge us, O God, our Father, to the tasks which must be done for Your church to find fulfillment in the way taught by Your Son. With awareness of our purpose, with commitment to Your call, may we help prepare the time when Christ will reign as Lord of all.

†SENDING FORTH

Dr. Robert E. Long

We were created to make an impact;

to be involved in our community.

Christ calls us to put the needs of others

before our own.

Each one of us can live with purpose and meaning;

for we will make a difference in the world.

†POSTLUDE

Vivaldi/Earth, Wind & Fire

*September*Robert Fasol, *organist*

LEADING IN WORSHIP

Dr. Robert E. Long

Senior Pastor

Rev. David Poteet

Pastor of

Congregational Care

Ashleigh Robinson

Discipleship Associate

Brooks Lambert

Worship Intern

MUSICIANS

Robert Fasol, Organist/Choirmaster**St. Luke's Choir and Orchestra****Selena Gilliam, Soloist**

The flowers in the Chancel today were given to the glory of God:
In celebration of Bette Raulie and her 102nd birthday, given by her family



It is important for each of us to wrestle with the deeper issues of life from time to time. Typically, our search for meaning tends to revolve around three questions. Who am I? Where do I fit in? What difference do I make? Join us as we search for God's response to these important questions.



MINISTERS

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

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

Rev. Josh Attaway
Edmond Campus Pastor
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Rev. David Poteet
Pastor of Congregational Care
dpoteet@stlukesokc.org

Rev. Linda Harker
Online Campus Pastor
lharker@stlukesokc.org

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

Rev. Joe Hodges
Edmond Campus Pastor
jhodges@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. Prayer Cards can be found at the Welcome Center and completed cards can be returned there. You are also welcomed to email your prayer concerns to ccm@stlukesokc.org or you may also call 232-1371 with your prayers and concerns.

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 (8:15, 9:40 and 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 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 Tisha Tate Garcia at ttategarcia@stlukesokc.org.

Welcome to Our Newest Members Joining in August

Downtown: Preston Barber, Valonda (Val) Brasel, Jane Harlow, Claret Lewis, Chris, Cindy, and Nicole (Vandumm) Mullins

Edmond: Ellie Najm, Philip "Mitch" Hays, Patti Hartis, Pamela Terekova and Peter Terekov, Schuyler Henderson

TV/Online: J.T. Weedman

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

Online Campus
Watch service live, chat with clergy, request prayer, give online during every worship service
stlukesokc.org/online



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.
- Prayer requests can be submitted via text message or dropped in the offering box.
- Give today - text the letters SLM 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.
- A Hospitality Team member is at the Welcome Center to help.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LEARN ABOUT VOLUNTEERING FOR COMMUNITY MARKET TODAY!

You can be a blessing every week to those who are less fortunate in our community. Join the volunteer team with Community Market, a grocery store on wheels where volunteers hand out free food and fresh produce to people at different metro locations every Friday. You can learn all about this incredible part of St. Luke's Food Ministry today in the Gallery from 9:15 - 12:30. Between services, volunteers will be there to talk with you about volunteering for this impactful ministry.

VOLUNTEER YOUR TRUNK FOR THE FALL FESTIVAL

You can make the Fall Festival of Treats the sweetest time of year for our St. Luke's kids! Volunteer to be a part of "Trunk Or Treat" on Sunday, October 22, from 5 - 6:30 p.m. at the South parking lot. Decorate your vehicle and fill it full of candy for the costumed kids. Please register at stlukesokc.org as a Trunk volunteer (provide your trunk theme and how many parking spots you will need). We'll also have inflatables, free food, and so much more! Stay a bit later and join us for the Spooky Organ Concert at 7 p.m. in the Sanctuary! For details and to volunteer, go to stlukesokc.org/events.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT ALIVE

It's not too late to join a WNA class! There are classes for children, youth, and adults both in person, online, and On Demand. Classes are offered before and after dinner. Dinner is served each Wednesday from 5:15 - 6:15 p.m. The dinner menu for next Wednesday is: Meatloaf, Pork Loin, Mashed Potatoes, Zucchini, Rolls, Cookies, and Fruit. Meals are \$10 for adults and free for children 18 and under. For class information, please visit stlukesokc.org/WNA.

YOUNG ADULTS SMALL GROUPS STARTING SOON

The Table, St. Luke's new Young Adult Ministry, is starting small groups that will start meeting in October at various times and locations in OKC and Edmond. Young adults in their 20s and 30s (singles, couples, and families) who want to grow closer to God and build lasting friendships are encouraged to sign up. For a list of times and locations and to sign up go to stlukesokc.org/TheTable or contact or contact Ashley Carr-Soter at acarr@stlukesokc.org or call (405) 609-1023.

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY | OCTOBER 1

Next Sunday, October 1, St. Luke's is observing World Communion Sunday. Join your family of faith as we come together to partake in Holy Communion in all services. World Communion Sunday began in 1933 as a way to promote Christian unity and provide an opportunity to observe Holy Communion with others throughout the world.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Parents, your children will have a blast singing in the new Children's Choir Downtown! Here's an opportunity for kids from Kindergarten through 5th grade to learn new vocal skills and lead in worship! The choir meets every Wednesday through December 6 between 4 - 5:30 p.m. in Room 210. Sign up online at stlukesokc.org.

MONDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

Few books have had the impact on the Christian faith like the book of Romans. The Apostle Paul wrote this challenging and inspiring work for the early church, and it is still shaping our understanding today. This study will look at this powerful book and explore what the scriptures have to say to us today. Join us Mondays at 6:30 p.m., in Room 201, as Rev. Keith King and Rev. Dave Poteet walk with us on our faith journey.

BIBLE STUDY FOR GROWN-UPS

As our Youth are going through Confirmation, parents with children and teens are invited to join "Bible Study for Grown-Ups!" at 10:50 a.m., in Room 201. In this video-based Bible study, Pastor Josh Scott looks at familiar Bible stories and reveals new details and interpretations for an adult audience. We will consider stories many read as children, including Noah's Ark, the binding of Isaac, Jonah and the big fish, Jesus and Zacchaeus, Jesus healing a blind man, and the parable of the talents. Scott reimagines these stories and opens new visions for readers to understand well known pieces of Scripture in our current cultural environment. For details, email Amy Givens at agivens@stlukesokc.org.

NEW WEEKLY BIBLE STUDIES AT EDMOND CAMPUS

- Disciple I Bible Study | Wednesdays at 1:30 p.m. | Room 131 | Rev. Joe Hodges
- Disciple IV Bible Study | Tuesdays at Noon and 6:30 p.m. | Room 131 | Troy Reavis

Disciple Bible Studies are in depth studies of the Bible that takes a deeper look into the scriptures. They will require daily Bible readings and a study guide. The study guides are available in Threefold.

To register for these studies, please RSVP online at stlukesokc.org/events.

STAY CONNECTED WITH ST. LUKE'S APP

Download the St. Luke's Mobile App and you will have quick access to Daily Devotionals, upcoming events, worship videos, Something to Think About radio spots, and more. St. Luke's also has apps on Roku and Apple TV for you to participate in live worship and Bible study when you are not able to attend in person. Download the apps by searching for St. Luke's Methodist Church where you download apps.

GET YOUR TICKETS FOR *THE SPONGE BOB MUSICAL!*

Get ready for a night of hilarity at St. Luke's Poteet Theatre as they present *The Sponge Bob Musical* from September 29 through October 8. Who lives in a pineapple under the sea and became the hottest star on Broadway? Why, it's SpongeBob SquarePants! And now he's ready to ride the wave to Poteet Theatre to entertain and delight audiences in this brilliant, bright, hilarious and brand-new musical. Shows are September 29 (7 p.m.), September 30 (2 and 7 p.m.), October 1 (2 p.m.), October 6 (7 p.m.), October 7 (2 and 7 p.m.), October 8 (2 p.m.). Tickets are - Adults \$25, Senior Adults \$22, Children \$10 and can be purchased at stlukesokc.org/tickets.

YOUTH MINISTRY

YOUTH SERVICE DAY TODAY

Serving the community is one of the core values of St. Luke's. Today, from 12:15 - 2:30 p.m., all 6th - 12th grade students are invited to be a part of Youth Service Day. We'll have a delicious lunch and a time of meaningful mission.

FRONTIER CITY TRIP

Youth, let's enjoy a trip to Frontier City! We will have a blast on October 1 from 12:15 - 6:30 p.m. This is for 6th - 12th grade youth, plus parent volunteers. Admission tickets are \$35, plus you will need to bring extra money for food/drinks.

For more details about any of the Youth events, please email Amy Givens at agivens@stlukesokc.org.