

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.



THE MOST IMPORTANT THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT THE CROSS

DOWNTOWN CAMPUS SERVICE OF WORSHIP

March 9, 2025

8:15 and 10:50 A.M

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

PRELUDE

arr. David Hamilton

The Power of the Cross
St. Luke's Orchestra
Robert Fasol, *piano/conductor*

RINGING OF THE BELLS

WELCOME AND GREETING

Ashleigh Robinson

†HYMN

PROMISES

Standing on the Promises

Standing on the promises of Christ my King, through eternal ages let His praises ring; glory in the highest, I will shout and sing, standing on the promises of God. Standing, standing, standing on the promises of God my Savior; standing, standing, I'm standing on the promises of God.

Standing on the promises that cannot fail, when the howling storms of doubt and fear assail, by the living Word of God I shall prevail, standing on the promises of God. Standing, standing, standing on the promises of God my Savior; standing, standing, I'm standing on the promises of God.

Standing on the promises of Christ the Lord, bound to Him eternally by love's strong cord, overcoming daily with the Spirit's sword, standing on the promises of God. Standing, standing, standing on the promises of God my Savior; standing, standing, I'm standing on the promises of God.

Standing on the promises I cannot fall, listening every moment to the Spirit's call, resting in my Savior as my all in all, standing on the promises of God. Standing, standing, standing on the promises of God my Savior; standing, standing, I'm standing on the promises of God.

†CALL TO WORSHIP

The Cross is a witness to the love that God has for us
for it sets us free from all that would hold us back in life.
God's patience and persistence reveals His love
throughout history and throughout our lives.
Christ's love inspires our lives
to live as the people we were created to be.

†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.

LIFE AT ST. LUKE'S

Rev. Wendy Lambert

- * 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 plates or in the offering boxes located in the Narthex.

DEDICATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Dr. Robert E. Long

- * Text the letters SLM to the number 73256 to give on a secure website.
- * Cash and checks can be placed in the offering plates or dropped in the offering boxes located in the Narthex.

OFFERTORY

arr. Nick Robertson

His Eye Is on the Sparrow
St. Luke's Choir and Orchestra
Robert Fasol, piano/conductor

Why should I feel discouraged? And why should the shadows come? Why should my heart be lonely, and long for heaven and home when Jesus is my portion? My constant friend is He. His eye is on the sparrow and I know He watches me. His eye is on the sparrow and I know He watches me.

Whenever I am tempted, whenever clouds arise, when songs give place to sighing, when hope within me dies, I draw closer to Him; from care He sets me free. His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me. His eye is on the sparrow and I know He watches me.

I sing because I'm happy; I sing because I'm free. His eye is on the sparrow and I know He watches me. I sing because I'm happy; I sing because I'm free! His eye is on the sparrow and I know He watches, I know He watches, He watches over me! He watches me!

†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

8:15 - Rev. Linda Harker

10:50 - Rev. David Potteet

And when the sixth hour had come, there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour. And at the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?" which means, "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?" And some of the bystanders hearing it said, "Behold, he is calling Elijah." And one ran and, filling a sponge full of vinegar, put it on a reed and gave it to him to drink, saying, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down." And Jesus uttered a loud cry, and breathed his last. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. And when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that he thus breathed his last, he said, "Truly this man was the Son of God!"

(Mark 15:33 - 39)

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

*It Took Patience and Persistence*From the Sermon Series: The Most Important Things to Know About
the Cross

INVITATION AND GREAT THANKSGIVING

The peace of the Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Christ invites everyone to the table. None of us is perfect, but we know that we come to the One who readily forgives our mistakes, refreshes our spirits, and assures us that we are God's children.

Let us pray:

God of mercy and grace,

We confess that we have not always done what was right.

There were times when we said and did things that we should not have.

And there were also times when we did not say and do the things that we should have.

Forgive us, we pray.

Hear the good news, Christ forgives our sins and restores us to new life.

We are forgiven, thanks be to God!

And so we lift up the ancient words of the early church that still ring true today:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

heaven and earth are full of Your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Hosanna in the highest!

Lent is a season to focus on our relationship with God. We look at the Cross, not to feel guilt or condemnation, but to remember that Christ has set us free. And those who have been set free can choose to love God, love their neighbor, and love themselves.

On the night of the Last Supper, Jesus gathered with His friends at the table. He took the bread, broke it, gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over Jesus took the cup, gave thanks to You, gave it to the disciples and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, with thanksgiving we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Pour out Your Spirit on all of us and these elements. Let them represent the Body and Blood of Christ so that we can be the Body of Christ, redeemed by His blood.

Unite us with Christ, that we might follow in His path and minister to the needs of others.

Loving God:

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,

Help us to live as the people we were created to be.

Amen.

And now with the confidence of children of God, let us pray:

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.

RECEIVING THE BREAD AND THE CUP

The clergy will invite you to come forward at the appropriate time. If you are unable to come forward, please notify an usher and a server will come to you. Please feel free to stay at the rail in prayer as long as you wish. Gluten-free bread and pre-sealed elements are available at the serving station on the south side of the Sanctuary.

COMMUNION MUSIC

arr. Stephen Nelson

Hallowed Be Thy Name
St. Luke's Orchestra
Robert Fasol, *piano/conductor*

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

†HYMN

RATHBUN

In the Cross of Christ I Glory

In the cross of Christ I glory, towering o'er the wrecks of time; all the light of sacred story gathers round it's head sublime.

When the woes of life o'ertake me, hopes deceive, and fears annoy, never shall the cross forsake me. Lo! it glows with peace and joy.

When the sun of bliss is beaming light and love upon my way, from the cross the radiance streaming adds more luster to the day.

Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure, by the cross are sanctified; peace is there that knows no measure, joys that through all time abide.

COMMISSIONING OF THE YOUTH MISSION TEAMS (10:50)

†SENDING FORTH

Dr. Robert E. Long

The patience and persistence of God

show us how much God loves us.

When we look at the Cross

we only see the love of Christ.

We are set free to be new creations in Him

inspired to live as the people we were created to be.

†POSTLUDE

Craig A. Penfield

Sanctus (Holy Is the Lord)

Robert Fasol, *organist*

LEADING IN WORSHIP

Dr. Robert E. Long

Senior Pastor

Rev. Wendy Lambert
Senior Executive Pastor

Rev. David Poteet
Pastor of Congregational Care

Rev. Linda Harker
Pastor of Connections

Ashleigh Robinson
Director of Church and
Community Engagement

MUSICIANS

Robert Fasol, Organist/Choirmaster
St. Luke's Choir and Orchestra

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.



MINISTERS

Dr. Robert E. Long

Senior Pastor

blong@stlukesokc.org

Rev. Wendy Lambert

Senior Executive Pastor

w Lambert@stlukesokc.org

Rev. Josh Attaway

Edmond Campus Pastor

jattaway@stlukesokc.org

Rev. David Poteet

Pastor of Congregational
Care

dpoteet@stlukesokc.org

Rev. Keith King

Pastor of Worship

kking@stlukesokc.org

Rev. Linda Harker

Online Campus Pastor

lharker@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.

**Please keep in your prayers the Youth Mission Teams
who are sharing God's love during their Spring Break**

High School Mission Team traveling to Perry, Florida - March 16 - 22

Adults: Amy Givens, Brian Givens, Nicole Mercer, Anthony Ritchal, Ashleigh Robinson

Students: Audrey Chace, Preston DeHart, Bennett Givens, Ava Kelsner, Mary Beth King, Jackson Koeninger, Noel Mercer, Ian Morris, Chloe Ramsey, Ellie Ritchal, Laura Sailer, Kingston Schwartz, Luke Schwartz, Arei Sharp, Abbey Sieg, Cooper Staley, Tiger Stepinski

Middle School Mission Team traveling to Palestine, Texas - March 16 - 19

Students: Cale Chace, David Clinton, Carter Cohea, Gabriel DeTrinidad, Madelena De Trinidad, Andrea Givens, Porter Kelley, Molly Anne King, Paul Kirkpatrick, Kayla Krason, Hunter Lloyd, Ella Manwell, Sydnee Manwell, Gwen Ritchal, Tristan Rodriguez, Scarlett Schwartz

Adults: Schuyler Henderson, Anthony Robinson, Caton Coe, Laura Manwell, Lauren Schwartz, Steven Schwartz, Sydney Steele, Priscilla Tiger, Laura Manwell

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 MORE AT STLUKESOKC.ORG/EVENTS

WNA 2ND SESSION | MARCH 12 - 19 | CLASSES START AT 6:30 P.M.

WNA continues with a new 2nd Session beginning on March 12. The 2nd session lasts for 5 weeks and features some great new classes to take part in and some of the 1st Session classes are continuing. If you missed the 1st session, this is the perfect opportunity to get involved in WNA. Dinner is served each Wednesday at both campuses from 5:15 – 6:15 p.m. and dinner is free for everyone.

Downtown Campus Classes Beginning on March 12

- The Importance of the Gospels | *Dr. Bob Long & Rev. Wendy Lambert* | Sanctuary | Livestream
- Walking the Neighborhood – Get Your Kicks on Route 66 | *Lori Hall* | CLC Welcome Center
- Mind Matters | *Scott Peterson* | Room 205
- The Grace of Les Miserables – A Lenten Study | *Rev. Dave Poteet* | Room 130

Edmond Campus Classes Beginning on March 12

- Lenten Study | *Rev. Josh Attaway* | 6:30 p.m. | Worship Center | Livestream
- Entering the Passion of Jesus | *Rev. Laurie Purcell* | 6:30 p.m. | Room 106

WNA GUEST SPEAKER - ARTHUR C. BROOKS

Don't miss hearing Arthur C. Brooks during WNA on Wednesday, April 2 at 6:30 p.m. St. Luke's is thrilled to welcome bestselling author, Harvard professor, and social scientist, Arthur C. Brooks, to the Downtown Campus Sanctuary. He will share insights from his groundbreaking book, *Love Your Enemies*, offering a powerful message about finding unity and love in divisive times. Whether you've read the book or not, this is an opportunity to hear firsthand from one of the leading voices on compassion and connection. Before the event, enjoy a delicious WNA dinner at 5:15 p.m. in the Christian Life Center (CLC) at the Downtown Campus. No RSVP is needed; just come as you are and bring a friend! If you cannot attend in person, you can watch a live stream, but you must RSVP to get the link to view, and it will not be available on demand later, so you must watch live. Register at stlukesokc.org/event.

TABLE OF ABRAHAM DINNER | MARCH 23

St. Luke's is honored to invite you to the Table of Abraham Dinner in collaboration with the Dialogue Institute of Oklahoma City. This special event is not just a meal - it's a unique opportunity for community members of all faiths to come together, share stories, and build understanding. Make plans to attend on Sunday, March 23, at the Edmond Campus. The event will start at 6:30 p.m. for a time of gathering together, the program will begin at 6:45 p.m. followed by dinner at 7:45 p.m. following sunset for Iftar, the traditional breaking of the fast during Ramadan in the Muslim faith. The nursery is available for children ages five and under. Please RSVP at stlukesokc.org/events.

EXPERIENCE EASTER

For more information go to stlukesokc.org/Easter

- **LENT DEVOTIONALS**

You can pick up your copy of this year's Lent devotional booklet today in the Narthex or in the CLC Welcome Center! The March 5 - April devotionals are written by the St. Luke's staff and focus on the sermon series, "The Most Important Things to Know About the Cross." If you would rather have a digital version: follow us at [Facebook.com/stlukesokc](https://www.facebook.com/stlukesokc) or sign up for the Devotional Email at stlukesokc.org.

- **EASTER LILIES**

The St. Luke's worship areas will be adorned with beautiful flowers on Easter Sunday, April 20. You can purchase an Easter Lily for \$25 in honor of, or in memory of a loved one or friend. Your name and the name of your honoree will be listed in the bulletin. To have your name listed, please fill out an online order form at stlukesokc.org/lily by April 7.

- **HOLY WEEK EVENTS**

April 13 - Palm Sunday Worship Services
April 17 - Maundy Thursday Communion Services
April 18 - Good Friday Services
April 19 - Easter Egg Hunts
April 19 - Saturday Easter Service in Edmond
April 20 - Easter Sunday Services

SUNDAY SESSIONS | MARCH 9 - APRIL 13

The next session of Sunday Sessions will be a Lenten series. The session is based on a study of Christ's ministry both on earth and in heaven. They will look at Christ's sacrifice on the Cross and what it means to be heirs to the Divine Kingdom. The Sunday Sessions - a series of short term Bible studies, will start the new class on March 9 - April 13, in the Parlor (Room 120) from 11 - 11:45 a.m. at the Downtown Campus. For more information contact Ashley Carr Soter at acarr@stlukesokc.org.

LION KING KIDS SUMMER CAMP | JUNE 9 - 22

Give your child a summer to remember! Register now for St. Luke's Poteet Theatre Camp, *Lion King*, running June 9 - 22, where young performers (ages 6-10) will hone their skills, make friends, and shine in amazing performances. Spots are limited, and auditions on June 8 will assign roles, so don't wait! Cost is \$400 and includes lunch, snacks, and a camp shirt. Learn more and sign up at stlukesokc.org/poteet. For questions, contact Logan Fish at lfish@stlukesokc.org or (405) 285-2341.

POTEET THEATRE PRESENTS: LITTLE WOMEN

Tickets are still available to Poteet Theatre's presentation of *Little Women*! Based on Louisa May Alcott's life, *Little Women* follows the adventures of sisters Jo, Meg, Beth and Amy March and their experiences growing up in Civil War America. The entire family will enjoy a night filled with laughter, tears and a lifting of the spirit. The last performance dates are March 14 - 16. You can purchase your tickets online at stlukesokc.org/poteet. Tickets are Adults \$30, Seniors \$25, Kids/students \$10.

YOUTH MINISTRY | GRADES 6 - 12

YOUTH GAME DAY | TODAY

All 6th -12th Youth are invited to join in a game day today, from 12:15 - 3 p.m.! There will be some indoor game and other game options as well. Lunch is included for all as well!

SUMMER YOUTH CAMPS

Get ready for an unforgettable summer filled with fun, friendships, and growth!

- May 27 - 31: **Dayspring Camp** Grades 9 - 12
- June 15 - 20: **YF Tulsa** Grades 7 - 12
- July 9 - 12: **Youth Week** Grades 6 - 12
- July 23 - 26: **Disciple Camp** Grade 6 - 9

Register for these camps online at stlukesokc.org/YouthCamps.

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