

*We are a joyful, inclusive, compassionate community of faith
seeking to do justice, act mercifully, and walk humbly with our God.
Loving God...Changing Lives*



OAK GROVE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

2200 West Old Shakopee Road • Bloomington, Minnesota 55431
Tel: 952/888-4621 Website: www.oakgrv.org

August 23, 2020

9:30 AM

We Assemble in God's Name

Thought to Ponder *“Witness not with words, teach not with books, and lay no claims to knowledge you cannot possibly have: live within the love, for it is by your example that you witness and teach. For paper turns to dust and words are but sound that fade and disappear in an instant. But love is a gift that touches the heart and refreshes the soul. Love is a celebration. Words are soon forgotten as time and memory fade, but the heart and soul remember forever the touch of love.”*
--Channeled Text

Prelude “In Paradisum” Paul David Stanko

Welcome and Announcements Mary Koon

Lighting the Christ Candle/Centering Time

Call to Worship Britta Augdahl

One: Oh, what a beautiful morning!

All: Oh, what a beautiful day! What does today hold for us?

One: Perhaps a chance to be holy: A chance to encounter the divine

**All: Help us quiet our minds and listen, with our hearts,
for Your whispers.**

Opening Song No. 408 There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit in This Place"

¹There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place, filling us with your love;
and I know that it's the Spirit of the Lord; and for these blessings
there are sweet expressions on each face, we lift our hearts in praise;
and I know they feel without a doubt we'll know that we
the presence of the Lord. have been revived
Sweet Holy Spirit, sweet heavenly Dove, when we shall leave this place.
stay right here with us, *cont'd next page*

²There are blessings you cannot receive filling us with your love;
till you know him in his fullness and for these blessings
and believe; we lift our hearts in praise;
you're the one to profit when you say, without a doubt we'll know that we
"I am going to walk with Jesus all the way." have been revived
Sweet Holy Spirit, sweet heavenly Dove, when we shall leave this place.
stay right here with us,

Opening Prayer (*unison*)

Britta Augdahl

Holy One, Source of All, Spark of Creation, as we gather together, apart, let your Spirit transcend the barriers of computer screens and smart phones. Help us see past the headlines and heartaches and find the beauty and blessings that are also present in this special time. Perhaps you could speak up a little? It is often so hard to hear You when there are so many things to draw our attention away these days — so many pages to click on. Let us know what we are supposed to be doing here on this blue-green space rock hurtling through the universe. Remind us how to be *in* You—in Christ. Amen.

We Listen to God's Word

Time for the Young and Young at Heart

"Grandpa & Grandma's Attic"

Paul David Stanko

Sending Song

"Near or Far"

J McKinnon

Near or far apart,
You're always in my heart.
God's love is here to stay,
Close and far away.

Resting in God's peace,
Praying for God's hope,
Serving God's joy,
United in God's love.

Special Music

"In This Moment"

Stanko

Scripture

John 1:1-5

Paul David Stanko

Sermon

"The Not-So-Prodigal Son Returns"

Paul David Stanko

Prayers of the People & the Lord's Prayer

Mary Koon

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen

We Respond in God's Name

Invitation to Offering

Mary Koon

Offering Music

"Jesus to the World"

Stanko

Prayer of Dedication (*unison*)

Britta Augdahl

God of Infinite Love, all that we have, all that we are, all that we *will be*, we give to You. We hear the call to be Your hands and feet — every day — as Christ has commissioned us to be. Use our gifts, our skills, and our lives to manifest healing, peace and justice for all people, in the name of Jesus, Amen.

We Go Forth in God's Name

Closing Song No. 410

"God is Calling Through the Whisper"

¹God is calling through the whisper
of the Spirit's deepest sighs,
through the thrill of sudden beauties
that can catch us by surprise.
Flash of lightning, crash of thunder;
hush of stillness, rush of wonder:
God is calling—can you hear?
God is calling—can you hear?

²God is calling through the voices
of our neighbors' urgent prayers,
through their longing for redemption
and for rescue from despair.
Place of hurt or face of needing;
strident cry or silent pleading:
God is calling—can you hear?
God is calling—can you hear?

³God is calling through the music
of sublime and human arts,
through the hymns of earth and angels,
and the carols of our hearts.
Lift of joy and gift of singing;
days and nights our praises bringing:
God is calling—and we hear!
God is calling—and we hear!

A Blessed Sending

Paul David Stanko

One: Our virtual time together is at a close.

All: As we log out of the livestream, help us "log in" to reality as followers of Christ.

One: As viruses and prejudices swirl around us, help us dig deep, and as we put on the masks to help protect others from the former, help us pull off the mask and help heal others from the latter.

All: Remind us when hate rears its head, we must dig in and find that invincible love.

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One: When our hearts are stained with tears of despair, remind us we must dig in with the invincible joy that comes from opening our hearts and minds to You, Holy Source of All. God bless! Go, stay, BE, live with compassion and wisdom, always and everywhere, in peace with justice for all.

All: Amen!

Response No. 766 “The Church of Christ Cannot be Bound”

**The church of Christ cannot be bound by walls of wood or stone.
Where charity and love are found there can the church be known.**

Postlude

Nancy Hauser

††††††

Additional participants in worship today include:
Hymn Leader & Vocalist, **Emma Wasko**; Accompanist, **Judy Cooper**;
Sound, Light, Video, **Bob Gerdes** and **Mac Davis**.

Chancel flowers are given by **Nancy Hauser** in *honor of Colin & Darby's birthdays*; and by **Jack & Leona Kley** in *memory of Louise & Leon Bonikowski*.

Today, we welcome **Paul David Stanko**, the son of long-time members, Jim & Joan and Oak Grove! Paul David's first exposure to church music held no indication of what his future in the field would become. His first performance was in Oak Grove's children's choir at the age of 7, singing "Let My People Go"...well, perhaps "singing" is the wrong word. As the other children sang their hearts out, Paul David cried...endlessly.

With a music degree from Coe College in Cedar Rapids, IA, he is a skilled percussionist as well as composer, arranger and performer. Paul David is ordained in the Universal Life Church and currently serves Spirit of Hope UMC in Golden Valley as the Instrumental Music Coordinator leading the orchestra, bell choir & praise band as well as playing percussion, bass, piano, singing, writing and arranging for the program.

Paul David works his day job for Taher, Inc as a General Manager for the MN State Capitol Complex food services. He and husband, Tom, live in Plymouth with their two dogs. You can follow his social media at: You Tube: Paul David Stanko; Instagram: Pauldvd69; and Soundcloud: paul-david-stanko

Virtual Coffee Hour — **Larry Klueh** will host our virtual coffee hours for the remaining Sundays in August at 10:45 am (following the worship service that begins at 9:30 am). Please zoom in to enjoy one another's company and catch up in a relaxed (virtual) way! Join the Zoom meeting at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86052282002?pwd=c1YvZVFjdVFEUnVGdWpPL3BHVIJjdz09> Use Meeting ID: 860 5228 2002 and Passcode: 499542 — Or dial in with your phone (audio only -- no video). Call 1-312-626-6799 and use Meeting ID: 860 5228 2002 and Passcode: 499542.