

*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 Minn. 55431

952-888-4621 | www.oakgrv.org

May 2, 2021

Confirmation Sunday

10:45 am

We Gather in God's Name

Thoughts from our Confirmands

"I am thankful that God has blessed me with the gift of dance! It brings me joy!" – *Hannah Jones*

"Oak Grove has taught me many things while showing me a path in life that should be taken through teachings, experiences and more."
– *Madeleine Elbert*

"Church is the place where you are accepted no matter your circumstances."
– *Jackie Steskal*

"I am excited to become a member of OGPC." – *Matthew Carter*

"Jesus always showed kindness and love towards others and gave hope and equality for all." – *Tatum Gillies*

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Anne Fisher

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Hannah Ervin

Call to Worship*

Jane Propsom

Come, let us worship God who created the beautiful earth that gives us food and water.

Let us give thanks to God who helps us with dilemmas large and small.

Come, let us praise God who accepts all people and watches over us.

Let us sing, and pray, and learn together! Let us worship our loving God!

Opening Song No. 301 “Let Us Build a House’ (*on screens*)

¹ Let us build a house where love can dwell
and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell
how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions,
rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:

Refrain:

all are welcome; all are welcome; all are
welcome in this place.

³ Let us build a house where love is found
in water, wine, and wheat;
a banquet hall on holy ground
where peace and justice meet.

Here the love of God, through Jesus,
is revealed in time and space;
as we share in Christ the feast that frees
us: (*Refrain*)

⁴ Let us build a house where hands will reach
beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach,
and live the Word they’ve known.

Here the outcast and the stranger
bear the image of God’s face;
let us bring an end to fear and danger:
(*Refrain*)

Opening Prayer*

Jane Propsom

Loving God, on this confirmation Sunday we reach out in faith and trust. Strengthen our relationship with You, so that we might be more accepting, kind, and generous. Help us to show up for people in need. Teach us how to care for the earth. Guide us as we work for racial equity and bring love and compassion to your world. Encourage us to put our faith into action every day. We pray in Christ’s name, AMEN.

We Listen for God’s Word

Time for the Young & Young at Heart

Britta Augdahl

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.

Anthem

“Ease My Mind”

Ben Platt

Scripture

John 15:1–8

Colossians 2:2–3 (*The Message*)

The Confirmands

Celebration of Confirmands

Introductions

Vaughn Sheff

Confirmand

Covenant Partner

Eric Matthew Carter, Jr. (Matthew)

Jim Koon

Madeleine Elbert (Madeleine)

Karen Alonzi

Tatum Nicole Gillies (Tatum)

Milissa Carter

Hannah Mae Louise Jones (Hannah)

Karen Alonzi

Jacqueline Steskal (Jackie)

Iris Karow

Prayer from Covenant Partners

Vaughn, Jane, Britta, Mary & Anne

Matthew, Tatum, Madeleine, Jackie, Hannah have publicly professed their faith and expressed their intent to be contributing members of the Oak Grove Congregation. Let us welcome them now...

With joy and thanksgiving we welcome you into the common life of Oak Grove Presbyterian Church. We promise you our friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and service of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit, may we continue to grow together in God’s image as we love God and change lives.

We Respond in God’s Name

Offering of Ourselves & Our Gifts

Mary Koon

Offering Music

“Free to Be Me”

Francesca Battistelli

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host; Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. AMEN.

Prayer of Dedication*

Jane Propsom

Generous God, you are so good to us! May our offerings be a symbol of our love and care for You and for the earth and her people. Bless these gifts so that all may be healthy and happy. AMEN.

Sacrament of Communion

Invitation

Mary Koon

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Anne Fisher

The Lord's Prayer

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.

Breaking the Bread

Anne Fisher

Sharing the Cup

Mary Koon

Prayer following Communion

Mary Koon

Loving God, we thank you that you have fed us in this sacrament, united us with Christ, and given us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet in your eternal realm. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

We Go Forth in God's Name

Closing Song No. 769 "For Everyone Born" (*on screens*)

**¹ For everyone born, a place at the table, the hands of a child in hands that are
for everyone born, clean water and bread, wrinkled,
a shelter, a space, for young and for old, the right to belong,
a safe place for growing, (*Refrain*)
for everyone born, a star overhead,**

Refrain:

**and God will delight when we are creators
of justice and joy, compassion and peace:
yes, God will delight when we are creators
of justice, justice and joy!**

**⁵ For everyone born, a place at the table,
to live without fear, and simply to be,
to work, to speak out, to witness and
worship,
for everyone born, the right to be free,
(*Refrain*)**

**³ For young and for old,
a place at the table,
a voice to be heard, a part in the song,**

Benediction

Mary Koon

Sending Song No. 539 “We Will Go Out with Joy” (*on screens*)

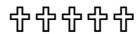
**¹ We will go out with joy in the Spirit;
we will go out with God.
We will go out with joy in the Spirit;
we will go out with God.**

**¹ We will go out with joy in the Spirit;
we will go out with God.
We will go out with joy in the Spirit;
we will go out with God.**

Refrain:

**Alleluia! We will go out with joy.
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Postlude



Additional participants in worship today include:

Liturgist: **Jane Propsom**;

Soloist: **Hannah Ervin**;

Hymn Leaders: **Sonya Butler & Anne Klueh**;

Organist: **Nancy Hauser** | Pianist: **Judy Cooper**;

Sound, Light, Video: **Randy Dop, Mac Davis & Greg Johnson**

Chancel flowers are given by **Sarajane & Rod Myers**, in *honor of mother, Catherine, and in memory of mother Norma*;
and **Don Wagner** in *memory of wife, Jean*.

**Words for call and prayers come from Confirmands' Faith and Action statements.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Adult Faith Formation: Sunday, May 2 (9:30 am)

Topic: Socially-Just Climate Solution

[Cooperative Energy Futures](#) (CEF) equips members across the state to build socially-just climate solutions that grow community wealth and power. CEF has financed and developed 6.9MW (~\$16M) of low-income-accessible community solar arrays that are cooperatively-owned-and-operated across urban, suburban, and rural Minnesota including: Shiloh Temple in North Minneapolis, Pax Christi Church in Eden Prairie, and Edina Public Works Building. Find out how Oak Grove and our members can potentially get involved as host site(s), investors, subscribers and supporters.

Presented by: Timothy Den Herder, General Manager of CEF

Join the Zoom meeting at: <https://bit.ly/34dW6L2>

Meeting ID: 882 1149 9405, Passcode: 195553

For audio only, call 312-626-6799 and use the ID and passcode.

Virtual Coffee Hour: Sunday, May 2

Join host Larry Klueh Sundays at Noon. Please zoom in to enjoy one another's company and catch up in a relaxed way!

Join the Zoom meeting at: <https://bit.ly/3hxYbrw>.

Meeting ID: 845 2763 1073 | Passcode: 665615.

For audio only, call 312-626-6799 and use the ID and passcode.

Burger 'n' Brew Men's Fellowship at Zeke's: May 4

After the winter hiatus, we are resuming our "Burger 'n' Brew" at Zeke's Place (7700 W Old Shakopee Rd, Bloomington), in the parking lot, weather permitting, on Tuesday, May 4 at noon. This event pairs young(er) and old(er) men for a time of fellowship while enjoying lunch. Pick up someone who needs a ride and develop new friendships.

Pastor Anne Farewell Drive-Thru: Sunday, May 9

Come celebrate all the color Anne Fisher has brought to our congregation with a special drive-thru on Sunday, May 9 after the 10:45 a.m. service. Bring a flower to contribute to a bouquet that we will build in celebration for Anne. We hope to see you there!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Bart: Sunday, May 23

We are excited to welcome Pastor Bart Roush as he leads his first worship service as Oak Grove's Head of Staff. Please join the live-streamed service.

Blood Drive at Oak Grove: Tuesday, May 25 (1–6:00 pm)

Please say “yes” if you are called to donate. [CLICK HERE](#) to sign up online. Drop-ins are also welcome. Contact Stephen Jones at stephenfj2002@yahoo.com or 952-884-7711 or with questions. Thank you!

Oak Rovers: Monday, July 26

Join other “mature adults” for a 90-minute boat cruise on Lake Minnetonka (lunch included). The cost is \$20. Contact Darlene Thronson at 952-446-7088 to reserve your spot by May 16. All are welcome!

Session Update

On April 27, the Session approved paying half the amount (up to \$7,500) for a Marimba from Special Funds, with the other half coming from designated music funds and memorials. The Session also approved \$10,000 to go towards landscaping the Columbarium garden area. The Session will be receiving future requests for Special Funds from committees in the next cycle of requests due July 1.

Chancel Flower Sign-up for 2021

We will continue to have colorful arrangements for our Sunday worship services, virtual or in-person. Select a date in memory of or in honor of a loved one, group or event. The cost is \$30 due at sign-up. Contact Sharon Fields at urbanfields2.1@q.com or 952-831-0504 (a landline) or to sign up and reserve your special date.

CONFIRMATION RECOGNITION

We are extremely proud of our 2021 Confirmands, Matthew Carter, Madeleine Elbert, Tatum Gillies, Hannah Jones and Jackie Steskal!

On Tuesday evening, they presented thoughtful, moving, and inspirational presentations of their Faith Action Statements and stoles to the Session, and were welcomed into membership. It is with great joy to celebrate these wonderful youth, their unique and beautiful faith journeys, and their commitment to serving with their Oak Grove family this Sunday!



Matthew



Madeleine



Tatum



Hannah



Jackie