

*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

Oct. 31, 2021

23rd Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 & 10:15 am

We Gather in God's Name

Prelude (9:00 am) "Dona Nobis Pacem" Choir

Prelude (10:15 am) "Like a River Glorious" Hand Bells
"Sweet Hour of Prayer"

Welcome & Announcements Bart Roush & Mary Koon

Lighting of the Christ Candle (10:15 am) Catherine Dukelow

Call to Worship (based on Psalm 46) Jane Propsom

God is our refuge and our strength, an ever-present help in distress.

**Though the earth trembles, and mountains slide into the sea, we
will not fear.**

Waters may rise and roar, and mountains shake at their surging; but
the God of hosts is with us and is our stronghold.

**Even if nations are in chaos, and kingdoms fall, God's voice resounds;
the earth melts away. God is with us and is our stronghold.**

Come! See the deeds of the Most High, the marvelous things God has
done on earth; "Be still! and know that I am God, exalted among the
nations, exalted upon the earth."

The Most High is with us; God is our stronghold! Let us worship God!



**¹ A mighty fortress is our God,
a bulwark never failing.
Our helper he, amid the flood
of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe
doth seek to work us woe.
His craft and power are great,
and armed with cruel hate,
on earth is not his equal.**

**² Did we in our own strength confide,
our striving would be losing,
were not the right man on our side,
the man of God's own choosing.
Dost ask who that may be?
Christ Jesus, it is he.
Lord Sabaoth his name,
from age to age the same,
and he must win the battle.**

**³ And though this world, with devils filled,
should threaten to undo us,
we will not fear, for God hath willed
his truth to triumph through us.
The Prince of Darkness grim,
we tremble not for him.
His rage we can endure,
for lo, his doom is sure.
One little word shall fell him.**

**⁴ That word above all earthly powers,
no thanks to them, abideth.
The Spirit and the gifts are ours
through him who with us sideth.
Let goods and kindred go,
this mortal life also.
The body they may kill;
God's truth abideth still.
His kingdom is forever.**

Opening Prayer

Jane Propsom

Ever-calling God, we give thanks that you have gathered us into your church and graced us with your faithful presence. We ponder our history, ancient and still developing, and marvel at the many expressions of your church. We celebrate the witness of our forefathers and foremothers and the courage that gave birth to the Reformation. Grant us the vision to be a part of a new reformation for the Church. May the conviction of your grace written on our hearts be what forms our faith to bring ever more joy and justice to the world. Continue to gather us, the diverse lot of us, into Jesus' vision and dream that your faithful people may be one in you. Amen

We Listen for God's Word

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 (10:15 am)

“Simple Gifts”

Scripture

Isaiah 43:1–19 (NT: p. 672 | LPNT: p. 822)

Bart Roush

Romans 12:1–2 (NT: p. 161 | LPNT: p. 196)

Message

Bart Roush

Litany of Thanksgiving for Reformation Day

Bart Roush & Mary Koon

We give thanks for the gift of the Holy Spirit whose light brought new understanding of both the Living Word and the written Scripture.

We give thanks for the reminder of consistent grace and mercy from God through Jesus Christ.

We are grateful for the inspiration that led to the printing press, enabling the spread of information and the sharing of the gospel in many languages.

We thank God for the technologies that can be used for good for the support of communities and individuals.

Generous God, we thank you for open hearts that were prepared to hear and receive the good news of freedom in Christ.

We also thank you for our continued freedom in the faith to share that same news of salvation through your grace and Christ’s faithfulness.

We remember the lives that were lost in the struggle to reform the church on earth –those who were martyred, those who died fighting, those who perished in hiding, and who were killed on all sides.

We remember also the lives that have been lost throughout history in the name of religion and for those who die today for daring to believe.

We thank you for the instruction that comes through our church heritage – the wisdom of confessions, the gift of community, and a deep appreciation of God’s gift of the sacraments.

We thank you for the presence of Jesus Christ – in us, with us, and for us – and for the support of the Holy Spirit, ever-reforming us. (next page)

God of stability and change, we thank you that true reformation is always your work and always being done in us out of your love for your whole creation. We are ever reformed by the work of your love.

We are ever reformed by the work of God's love.

Prayers of the People

Mary Koon

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.

We Go Forth in God's Name

Closing Song

"Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!"

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**¹ Come sing, O church, in joy!
Come join, O church, in song!
For Christ the Lord has led us
through the ages long!**

Refrain: **In bold accord, come celebrate
the journey now and praise the Lord!**

**² Long years have come and gone, and
still God reigns supreme, empowering us
to catch the vision, dream the dream!
(Refrain)**

**³ Let courage be our friend; let wisdom
be our guide, as we in mission magnify
the Crucified! (Refrain)**

Benediction

Bart Roush

Postlude



Additional participants in worship today include:

Bell Ringers: **Linda Johnson, Carol Long, Jane Propsom & Nancy Scott;**

Vocalist (10:15 am): **Marilyn Twete;**

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

Sound, Light, Video: **Pierce Flanagan, Greg Johnson & Bob Gerdes**

Chancel flowers are given by **Diane Baumgartner,**
in *honor of father Howard* and *in memory of mother Susan.*

Oak Grove Announcements

Congregational Meeting: Sunday, Oct. 31 (11:00 am)

We will hold a virtual congregational meeting (via Zoom) following the 10:15 am worship service on Sunday, Oct. 31 to elect officers and Nominating Committee at-large members for 2022. We will need to secure a quorum from the congregation to hold elections. Please join us via a computer or smart phone if you are able. If you are unable to join via computer, you can also call in for the webinar; however, voting will take place via a webinar poll.

If you would like to provide a nomination beyond the selections that the Nominating Committee has provided, you are able to do so by contacting Pastor Bart Roush (broush@oakgrv.org) directly. Any additional nominees must be provided ahead of time and confirm they are willing to be nominated for them to be considered for a vote.

Nominees for 2022:

Elders: Jeri Anderson, Chris Diller, Greg Johnson, CeCe Klueh, Cecelia Laurie and Kylie Borchardt (Youth)

Deacons: Chad Acker, Mary Benz, Jim McCarl, Jennifer Pol and Bob Ritter.

Nominating Committee (At-Large): Mary Crampton, Linda Johnson, Rod Myers, Patty Nail, Darlene Thronson and George Wasson.

Join the Zoom webinar: <https://bit.ly/3jLzXMy>

Webinar ID: 987 0287 1527 | Passcode: 127540

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

Oak Grove Announcements

Adult Faith Formation

Please join us each Sunday, 11:15 am to noon, for interesting and informative presentations designed to expand our minds and grow our faith.

Oct. 31: Joe MacDonald, VEAP Chief Executive Officer, will talk about the eviction moratorium and the state of housing in our city.

Join the Zoom Meeting: <https://bit.ly/3yS9v93>

Meeting ID: 871 4123 8835 | Passcode: 383326

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

School Volunteers Needed!

Bloomington Public Schools are looking for classroom and virtual volunteers for the 2021–2022 school year!

- Homework Connection Tutors (@ Penn Lake and Oxboro libraries, M–W evenings, 5:30–7:30 p.m.)
- In classroom help, K–12 (reading, math, teacher assistance, etc.)
- Virtual classroom help, K–8 (assist small groups or 1-on-1 in breakout rooms)
- Deliver school supplies and food to virtual students' homes (once a month, flexible schedule)

For more information and to apply, contact Emily Gagnon at 952-681-6293 or ebures@isd271.org.

Oak Grove Announcements

Reminder to set your clocks back: Sunday, Nov. 7

Daylight Saving Time ends on Sunday, Nov. 7 at 2:00 am so remember to set your clocks back one hour before going to sleep on Saturday.

All Saints' Sunday: Nov. 7

On All Saints' Day, we celebrate the promise of everlasting life. We will be reciting the names and ringing the bell for each Oak Grove member who has joined the Church Triumphant since last All Saints' Day. If someone close to you, whom you want listed, has died in the past year (Nov. 1, 2020–Oct. 31, 2021), please send the name of the person, birth and death dates, relationship to you and a photo, if possible, to sqjerset@oakgrv.org by Tuesday, Nov. 2.

Oak Rovers: November & December Events

Join us at Willy McCoys (France & Old Shakopee) on Monday, Nov. 15 at 5:00 pm for half-price hamburgers. Following the meal (if you choose) we will proceed to Bloomington Artistry Theater for a production of *Little Women*. Tickets to be purchased at the door (pay what you can night; regular price \$35–\$47.) Call “Gorgeous” George Wasson for McCoys reservations at 952-240-1525.

Some tickets remain for the spectacular Wooddale Christmas Concert on Sunday Dec. 12 at 2:30 pm, perhaps the best entertainment value in town at only \$15 per ticket. Call Mike or Nancy Hoaglund (also gorgeous) at 952-831-5180.

Oak Grove Announcements

Staff Transitions

We are sad to announce that Anne Swenson, Oak Grove's Accountant, has informed us that she will be leaving Oak Grove at the end of November. Anne will be seeking other opportunities and spending more time with her family. We are so very thankful for her dedicated service and exemplary work for more than two years.

Anne has requested no special recognition at a worship service, or drive-by party, and we will honor that request, but certainly feel free to drop a note or card of appreciation to Anne at the church office before the end of November. We will miss her!

Alternative Christmas Marketplace

This year's Alternative Christmas Marketplace booklet will be mailed the week of Nov. 15. It will include everything you need to select those items you wish to purchase to honor family and friends. What a wonderful way for you to make your choices quietly and prayerfully in the comfort of your own home. Simply return the order form and payment in the provided envelope to Oak Grove by Friday, Dec. 3.

Last year, your generous contributions totaled more than \$11,000 and we were able to send \$9,400 of that to the Presbyterian Mission Agency. *"Loving God... Changing Lives!"* in other parts of the world.

Oak Grove's Alternative Christmas Marketplace is currently featured in Presbyterian News! For the full article, please visit: <https://bit.ly/3Bt4kxj>.