

*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

Nov. 28, 2021

1st Sunday of Advent: Hope

10:15 am

We Gather in God's Name

Prelude

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

Welcome & Announcements

Bart Roush & Mary Koon

Centering Time & Lighting of the Advent Candle

H & Olivia Roush

Reader: In the midst of life as "not" usual, we gather again this season to light candles and wait for the birth of Jesus, Emmanuel, God with us.

The prophet Jeremiah assures us, "The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfil the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: 'The Lord is our righteousness.'" (Jeremiah 33:13-16)

In a year marked with disappointment, frustration, and loss, we can have hope because God is with us. Today we light the candle of hope.

Hymn: "While We Are Waiting, Come"

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While we are waiting, come; while we are waiting, come. Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come. With hope and promise, come; with hope and promise, come. Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, with hope and promise, come.

Let us pray:

During this holy season of Advent, help us to see you in all whom we encounter. God of Hope, we seek you in the crude manger, a child born to save the world. May your hope be a comfort to all who long for justice. May your hope fill our hearts and grace our lips so that we might reflect your hope for all the world.

¹ Awake! Awake, and greet the new morn,
for angels herald its dawning.
Sing out your joy, for soon he is born,
behold! the Child of our longing.
Come as a baby weak and poor,
to bring all hearts together,
he opens wide the heavenly door
and lives now inside us forever.

music to heal the broken soul
and hymns of loving-kindness.
The thunder of his anthems rolls
to shatter all hatred and violence.

² To us, to all in sorrow and fear,
Emmanuel comes a-singing;
his humble song is quiet and near,
yet fills the earth with its ringing;

⁴ Rejoice, rejoice, take heart in the night.
Though dark the winter and cheerless,
the rising sun shall crown you with light;
be strong and loving and fearless.
Love be our song and love our prayer
and love our endless story;
may God fill every day we share
and bring us at last into glory.

We Listen for God’s Word

Time for the Young & Young at Heart

Mary Koon

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

“Comfort, My People”

Scripture

Matthew 24:36–44
(NT: p. 27 | LPNT: p. 33)

Bart Roush

Message

Bart Roush

Prayers of the People

Mary Koon



The white rose on the baptismal font commemorates the completion of Baptism for **Maxine Engberg** (Nov. 14, 2021) who joined the church triumphant. “In Life and Death we belong to God.”

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.

**Other options include: Creator or Mother*

We Go Forth in God's Name

Closing Song

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

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¹ Come, thou long-expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us;
let us find our rest in thee.

² Born thy people to deliver,
born a child and yet a king,
born to reign in us forever,
now thy gracious kingdom bring.

Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation,
joy of every longing heart.

By thine own eternal Spirit
rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all-sufficient merit
raise us to thy glorious throne.

Benediction

Bart Roush

Postlude

"Prelude from Cello Suite #1"

Bach

†††††

Additional participants in worship today include:

Cellist: **Joe Englund;**

Vocalists: **CeCe Klueh & Gar Nordin;**

Pianist: **Judy Cooper;**

Sound, Light, Video: **Bob Gerdes, Greg Johnson & Mac Davis**

Chancel flowers are given by **Sharon Nolte**,
in *memory* of *her mother, Margaret DeHart Kirk*, and
Iris Karow, in *honor of family*.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Adult Faith Formation: Sunday, Nov. 28 (11:15 am to Noon)

Virtual coffee hour. On this Sunday after Thanksgiving, we look forward to catching up with one another on Zoom.

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.

Special Offering: Christmas Joy (Nov. 28–Dec. 19)

The Christmas Joy Offering reflects that God is with us, through the generous gifts that support church leaders among us, retired, present and future, who have pointed us to God. You can help by sending your check to Oak Grove Presbyterian Church and specify Christmas Joy on the memo line. When we all do a little, it adds up to a lot! Thanks for your consideration!

God, with us, we are grateful for your perfect gift, Jesus Christ. May we learn, through your open door to us, to be open to others and offer ourselves to those in need. Amen.

Love is Still the Answer: Spread the Word to our Oak Grove friends

It's easy to participate in our church-wide connecting/reconnecting booklet! You received a communication Nov. 19 that outlined three easy options to be included and we want your update to be a part of the booklet! Content is due by Friday, Dec. 3. For more information, visit: <https://bit.ly/3CJldoo>

Refugee Resettlement

This [link](#) describes in further detail the various Oak Grove Refugee Resettlement teams we'll have: Coordinator(s), Transportation, Housing & Resource, Social Activities, Education/Health. Plan to join us on Zoom Monday, Dec. 6 at 6:30 p.m. for our training and feel free to invite your interested friends!

Carols, Cookies and Care: Saturday, Dec. 11 (10:30–11:30 am)

Please drop-off donations (toilet paper, diapers and baby wipes) for VEAP at church and then join us for Christmas carols and eat cookies outdoors.