

*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

Dec. 12, 2021

3rd Sunday of Advent: Joy

10:15 am

We Gather in God's Name

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Bart Roush & Mary Koon

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Rick & Jeanne Wahtera

Reader: As we wait for the coming Messiah, we long for your joy. Joy that bubbles up from our hearts despite our circumstances. Joy that reminds us that we are alive and awake.

The Apostle Paul writes,

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵ Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. (Philippians 4:4–7)

In a year filled with loss, exhaustion and disappointment, we can have joy because God is with us. We light the candle of joy.

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 joy and wonder, come; with joy and wonder, come.
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, with joy and wonder, come.**

Let us pray:

During this holy season of Advent, bring joy to this weary world. God of Joy, we seek you. We seek you in quiet moments and boisterous conversation, in moments small and great. May your joy lift the spirits of all for whom this season is hard.

Opening Song

“My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout”

100

¹ My soul cries out with a joyful shout that the God of my heart is great, and my spirit sings of the wondrous things that you bring to the ones who wait.

You fixed your sight on your servant’s plight, and my weakness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my name be blest. Could the world be about to turn?

Refrain:

**My heart shall sing of the day you bring.
Let the fires of your justice burn.**

Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is about to turn.

² Though I am small, my God, my all, you work great things in me, and your mercy will last from the depths of the past to the end of the age to be.

Your very name puts the proud to shame, and to those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the strong to flight, for the world is about to turn.

(Refrain)

We Listen for God’s Word

Children’s Time

Mary Koon

Sending Song

“People, Look East”

105

Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People, look east and sing today: Love, the Lord, is on the way.

Anthem

Vocal Solo

Scripture

**Matthew 1:18–25
(NT: p. 1 | LPNT: p. 1)**

Bart Roush

Message

Bart Roush

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.

**Other options include Creator or Mother*

We Go Forth in God's Name

Closing Song

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

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**¹ O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.**

**⁷ O come, Desire of nations, bind
all peoples in one heart and mind;
bid envy, strife, and discord cease;
fill the whole world with heaven's peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.**

**⁶ O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer
our spirits by thine advent here;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.**

Benediction

Bart Roush

Postlude



Additional participants in worship today include:

Vocalist: **Jessi McKinnon**;

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

Sound, Light, Video: **Randy Dop, Greg Johnson & Bob Gerdes**

Chancel flowers are given by **Leona & Jack Kley**,
in *memory* of *daughter Linda*.



The white rose on the baptismal font commemorates the completion of Baptism for **Don Olson** (Dec. 6, 2021) who joined the church triumphant. "In Life and Death we belong to God."

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Adult Faith Formation: Sunday, Dec. 12 (11:15 am to Noon)

Please join us for interesting and informative presentations designed to expand our minds and grow our faith. Historian Bruce Forbes will talk about Christmas.

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!

Make the way plain that leads to you, O God. Open the doors of hope in our lives. Amen.

Please note, the church office will be closed Friday, Dec. 24 (starting at noon) through Monday, Jan. 3 for the holidays.