

*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. 26, 2021

1st Sunday of Christmas

10:15 am

We Gather in God's Name

Prelude

“Silent Night, Holy Night!”

Bell Choir

Welcome & Announcements

Lighting of the Christ Candle & Centering Time

Call to Worship

Emma Wasko

One: Christ is born!

All: Christ is born!

One: Because of this birth, life is full of promise for you and for me. For our community and the world.

All: We celebrate today the presence of God's promise in our midst.

One: The promise of the small child coming into a crowded, hurting world and growing to be a liberator.

All: It's the promise of you and me, struggling and stumbling together, growing and celebrating, reaching out to make a new presence in the world. Let us worship God!

Opening Song

Selected Carols

Emma & Lori Wasko

(in-person, please refrain from singing)

Loving God, we give you thanks for the greatest gift of all in Jesus. With the angels we sing “Glory to God in the highest! Alleluia!”

Keep our lives attentive to your presence throughout the year. Each morning, awaken us to divine sparkles in ordinary places, help us stay alert and interested in new experiences and people. Keep our hearts open to hear your song in the cries of the needy. Remind us in surprising ways that You truly are Emmanuel – God-with-us. AMEN.

We Listen for God’s Word

Children’s Time

Sending Song

“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”
(in-person, please refrain from singing)

128

¹ Infant holy, infant lowly, for his bed a cattle stall; oxen lowing, little knowing Christ the babe is Lord of all. Swift are winging angels singing, noels ringing, tidings bringing: Christ the babe is Lord of all! Christ the babe is Lord of all!

Anthem

“Wondrous Story”

Scripture

Luke 2: 1–7
(NT: p. 58 | LPNT: p. 71)

Message

“Naked Isn’t the Last Straw” Mary Koon & Dick Nichols
(by Ted Loder)

Prayers of the People

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

"Love Has Come"

110

(in-person, please refrain from singing)

¹ Love has come: a light in the darkness!
Love shines forth in the Bethlehem skies.
See, all heaven has come to proclaim it;
hear how their song of joy arises:
Love! Love! Born unto you, a Savior!
Love! Love! Glory to God on high.

³ Love has come and never will leave us!
Love is life everlasting and free.
Love is Jesus within and among us.
Love is the peace our hearts are seeking.
Love! Love! Love is the gift of Christmas.
Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

² Love is born! Come, share in the wonder.
Love is God now asleep in the hay.
See the glow in the eyes of his mother;
what is the name her heart is saying?
Love! Love! Love is the name she whispers.
Love! Love! Jesus, Emmanuel.

Benediction

Postlude

*An offering plate is available as people exit the sanctuary
and please be mindful of distancing.*

†††††

Additional participants in worship today include:

Presiding Pastor: **Mary Koon;**

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

Vocalists: **Emma & Lori Wasko;**

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

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Adult Faith Formation will take a break on Dec. 26 and Jan. 2.

Will You Answer the Call?

Oak Grove is looking for congregation members to fill the following open positions of leadership within our church body:

- 1 Elder to fulfill a term with 2 years remaining
- 1 Deacon to fulfill a term with 2 years remaining
- 1 Deacon to fulfill a 3-year term

If you know of someone with these gifts and would like to nominate them or yourself, please call Karen Alonzi at 952-829-5429 or call the church office. Thank you!!!

Singles Fellowship Potluck & Games: Saturday, Jan. 1 (4:00 pm)

We will gather at Iris Karow's house (6001 Timberglade Dr) for a time to relax with friends, food and games. Bring a dish to share. **Vaccinations required**; masks are optional. No RSVP is needed. Questions? Contact Iris (612-710-6009).

2022 Women's Retreat: Jan. 14–16, 2022

Please join us for the Oak Grove Presbyterian Women's Retreat, "*Relax, Refresh, Recharge*" with special guest speaker Jacque Fletcher, at Clearwater Forest. Sign up by Jan. 1 at: www.surveymonkey.com/r/76SNQSN (full vaccination plus booster required).

Questions? Contact Sue Greimel (612-805-2896 or sue.greimel@gmail.com).

2022 Chancel Flower Sign-up

Every week beautiful flowers grace the Sanctuary. Contributing flowers is a way to glorify God and beautify the chancel area. The contribution can be in honor of someone, in memory of someone who has died, in celebration of milestone events (birthdays or anniversaries) or as thanksgiving for friends and family. Your dedication will appear in the Sunday bulletin for your chosen date.

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