

*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

Jan. 16, 2022

2nd Sunday after Epiphany

10:15 am

We Gather in God's Name

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Bart Roush & Mary Koon

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Call to Worship

Gar Nordin

Children of God, rejoice. Remember that you are created in God's image.
We live sustained by God's presence and love.

Thanks be to God!

As we mourn the wounds and suffering of God's children,

God weeps with us.

As we struggle for justice,

God struggles with us.

As we strive for peace,

God strives with us.

As we work to build the beloved community,

God works with us.

We will not keep silent; for the sake of our siblings, the beloved people
of God, we will not rest. As we weep, struggle, strive, work, speak, act
and offer our gifts to all,

God blesses us and is beside us.

Children of God, rejoice!

Sustained by God's presence and love, we worship God.

(in-person, please refrain from singing)

¹ O for a world where everyone respects each other’s ways, where love is lived and all is done with justice and with praise.

² O for a world where goods are shared and misery relieved, where truth is spoken, children spared, equality achieved.

³ We welcome one world family and struggle with each choice that opens us to unity and gives our vision voice.

⁵ O for a world preparing for God’s glorious reign of peace, where time and tears will be no more, and all but love will cease.

Prayer of Confession

Gar Nordin

Merciful God, we confess that we have wandered from your way of truth and life. You call us to share all that we have and work together for the common good, but we hoard up treasures for ourselves and deny others their daily bread. You call us to set the captives free and seek justice for the oppressed, but we live in fear of our neighbors and hide ourselves from our own kin. You call us to walk in newness of life and to be witnesses to the resurrection, but we dwell in the valley of dry bones and keep silent about your saving love. Forgive us, God of grace. Set us free from sin, death and fear so that we may serve you with gladness; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Assurance of Grace

Gar Nordin

Hear the good news: God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the gift of the Holy Spirit. We are forgiven.

Thanks be to God.

We Listen for God’s Word

Children’s Time

Mary Koon

Sending Song

“Goodness Is Stronger than Evil”

(in-person, please refrain from singing)

Goodness is stronger than evil; loves is stronger than hate; light is stronger than darkness; life is stronger than death.

Introduction on the 1963 March on Washington

Bart Roush

Words of Scripture and from Martin Luther King, Jr. Mary Koon & Dick Nichols

Anthem "I Want Jesus to Walk With Me"

Scripture Isaiah 58:1–7 (OT: p. 688 | LPOT: p. 841) Bart Roush
John 2:13–16 (NT: p. 93 | LPNT: p. 113)

Meditation Bart Roush

Prayer of Re-Commitment

Reader 1: O God, who has created your children to be free, we attest in word and deed that you are our God and we are your people. From our earliest days as the people whom you intend to be free, O God, you have called us forth from self-seeking bondage, comfort, complacency, and complaint, to freeing and redeeming action for justice everywhere in the world.

People: You are our freeing God, and we would be your free and freeing people.

Reader 2: O God of Exodus and the Burning Bush, of the Prophets and of Jesus, we hear your powerful calling to be your servants in the service of all those who are oppressed. At every turn we hear your voice in the cries of the poor, the hungry, the imprisoned, and the broken, for you made yourself one with those who seek justice, freedom, and peace. We share a vision, a promise, and a yearning for the day of your reign, O God.

People: You are our servant God, and we would be your serving people.

Reader 1: O God, Our Sustainer, search our hearts and reveal to us our sinfulness, all the ways that we contribute to injustice and to self-destroying bondage. Give us deep courage to find the true path of your way, ready to give our very selves as living sacrifices for your will. We have heard your calling. Hear us now as we make our pledge.

People: You are our God and we are your people. We pledge ourselves now to pursue relentlessly that living, breathing justice which transforms persons and peoples. To your will for justice we recommit ourselves and pledge ourselves, our funds, our actions. Through Christ we pray. Amen.

We Go Forth in God's Name

Closing Song

"Lift Every Voice and Sing"
(in-person, please refrain from singing)

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¹ Lift every voice and sing till earth and heaven ring, ring with the harmonies of liberty. Let our rejoicing rise high as the listening skies; let it resound loud as the rolling sea. Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us; sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us. Facing the rising sun of our new day begun, let us march on, till victory is won.

² Stony the road we trod, bitter the chastening rod, felt in the days when hope unborn had died. Yet, with a steady beat, have not our weary feet come to the place for which our parents sighed? We have come over a way that with tears has

been watered; we have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered, out from the gloomy past, till now we stand at last where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

³ God of our weary years, God of our silent tears, thou who hast brought us thus far on the way; thou who hast by thy might led us into the light, keep us forever in the path, we pray. Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met thee; lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we forget thee; shadowed beneath thy hand may we forever stand, true to our God, true to our native land.

Benediction

Bart Roush

Go from this worship to reap the harvest of God's love. Go from this worship to continue to sow seeds of justice, peace, and love. Go from this worship to nourish and to be nourished, knowing that God is ever a part of our lives.

Postlude



Participants in worship today include:

Vocalists: **Don Alman, Dick Nichols & Gar Nordin;**

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

Sound, Light, Video: **Bob Gerdes, Pierce Flanagan & Mac Davis**

Chancel flowers are given by **Jack David & Nancy,**

in *honor* of **Leona Kley,** and

Nancy Augustson, in *memory* of **husband Gordy.**

Oak Grove Announcements

Adult Faith Formation: Sunday, Jan. 16 (11:15 am to Noon)

Please join us for interesting and informative presentations designed to expand our minds and grow our faith. We'll be exploring the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr's writing and speeches.

Jan. 23: The Oak Grove Green Committee will present a non-partisan program on **Caucusing for Climate Action**. We will talk about upcoming party precinct caucuses on Tuesday Feb. 2. It will also highlight some of the climate provisions in the proposed "Build Back Better" bill in Congress, proposed climate legislation in the Minnesota Legislature, redistricting, and 2022 federal and state elections.

Join the Zoom meeting: <https://bit.ly/3n1JnWe>

Meeting ID: 880 2983 3201 | Passcode: 383326

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

Ladies Who Lunch: Wednesday, Jan. 19 (noon)

Please join us virtually to discuss the book "*Who Cooked the Last Supper? The Women's History of the World*" by Rosaline Millies. Questions? Contact Pastor Mary.

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

Meeting ID: 898 343 9400 | Passcode: 383326

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

Oak Grove Announcements

Call for Donations!

Do you have any "like-new" winter wear you can spare? No longer need that gently used stroller, those kid toys, or that insulated mug/water bottle? Our young family from Afghanistan could use your help! Their needs are very basic, but extremely important.

Donations are now being accepted at the church (Gideon Pond B). Please contact Sue Greimel (sue.greimel@gmail.com, 612 805-2896) with questions! Any excess donations will be given to the Minnesota Council of Churches for other refugee families.

For a complete list of items, please visit:

<https://www.oakgrv.org/2022/01/12/call-for-donations/>

Men's Mentor Group: Thursday, Jan. 20 (8:00–9:30 pm)

Join with other men of Oak Grove (via Zoom) for a time of fellowship and good discussion. The group meets the third Thursday of the month at church to discuss a topic of interest, explore and encourage one another in our faith, and share joys and concerns. The group is open to all; no special invitation needed! If you have any questions, or possible topics to cover, please let Pastor Bart know.

Church Office Hours

Please note, the church office will be closed Monday, Jan. 17 for *Martin Luther King, Jr. Day*. We will re-open at 8:30 am on Tuesday, Jan. 18.