

*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. 25, 2022

Christmas Day

9:30 am



A Thought to Ponder (from the Social Justice Committee)

“I am not alone at all, I thought. I was never alone. And that, of course, is the message of Christmas. We are never alone. Not when the night is darkest, the wind coldest, the world seemingly most indifferent. For this is still the time God chooses.” – Taylor Caldwell, British-born American author

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship

Mark Pridgeon

From the stillness of the blessed night of Jesus' birth,

We come before you, O God, in praise and thanksgiving.

From the astounding news sung to the shepherds,

We thank you for the gift of your Son.

Let our hearts keep the joy and peace of Christmas always.

Let our spirits rejoice in God's presence with us.

Fill us with your love, O God.

Pour your peace upon us that we may be bearers of your Good News.

*Prayer of Confession

Mark Pridgeon

On this day of Christmas, as another year draws to a close, we come together before God and with one another, confessing,

the ways in which we have been caught up in the frenzied spirit of the holidays and turned away from your spirit of peace; the times we have focused so much on our own lives and desires, that we have neglected the voices who cry out for justice; in our focus on making the season perfect, we have turned away from the hurting people and broken places in our world in need of healing; in the times we have dismissed Christmas, and we have stubbornly closed our hearts to your amazing gift of love.

O Holy Child of Bethlehem, Word Become Flesh, our Savior and King, hear us as we humbly pray, cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today.

Moment of Silent Reflection

A Time for Singing

We will sing a selection of Christmas Hymns.

***Assurance of Grace**

Mark Pridgeon

Hear the good news of Christmas. Today God reveals to us the wonders of divine love.

For unto us a Child is born; unto us a Son is given. His name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading Micah 5:2–5a

***Hymn** O Little Town of Bethlehem 121

***Hymn** “Silent Night, Holy Night!” 122

Scripture Reading Luke 2:8–20

***Hymn** “Angels, from the Realm of Glory” 143

***Hymn** “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” 119

Scripture Reading Luke 2:25–32

***Hymn** “It Came Upon the Midnight Clear” 123

***Hymn** “Go, Tell It on the Mountain” 136

Presentation of Tithes & Offerings

Call to Offering

Anthem/Offertory

Prayers of the People & The Lord’s Prayer

(^ Father, Mother or Creator)

Our God^ 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.

*Benediction

We have been given the Great Light, which has come into the world.

This light of peace and hope, joy and love, shines on us, in us, and through us, to all whom we meet.

Go now in peace and let the light of God’s great love go with you. Amen.

Postlude

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*



Participants in worship today include:

Presiding Pastor: **Bart Roush;**

Liturgist: **Mark Pridgeon;**

Organist/Pianist: **Nancy Jensen** | Director of Music: **Judy Cooper;**

Sound, Light, Video: **Greg Johnson, Bob Gerdes & Ruth Dukelow;**

Volunteer Custodian: **Bob Gerdes;**

Year-End Giving

In order for year-end contributions to be tax deductible for the year 2022, they must be postmarked or delivered to the church on or before Dec. 31, 2022. Stock donations can take longer to administrate. If you are considering donating shares of stock, please contact Laura Nemcek at the church office (952-512-2052) as soon as possible for details.

Please note that the Oak Grove church office will be closed during the following times:

Monday, Dec. 26–Friday, Dec.30: the office will be closed for the holidays

Monday, Jan. 2: the office will be closed in observance of New Year’s Day

If there is an urgent matter, please contact Pastor Bart Roush at 210-551-1136.