

*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. 15, 2023

2nd Sunday after Epiphany

10:30 am



A Thought to Ponder (from the Social Justice Committee)

“Justice will not be served until those who are unaffected are as outraged as those who are.” – Unknown

We Gather in God's Name

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Centering Time/Lighting of the Christ Candle

Call to Worship

Erin Wicklund

(based on "Letter from a Birmingham Jail" and Psalm 46)

Come, believers, God-beloved, Christ-redeemed, Spirit-infused!

What is our call?

We are called to stand against injustice, inequality, and oppression, as our Lord and Savior did,

for injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.

We are called to examine the actions of our nation: its military might, economic relations, political institutions, and cultural patterns,

for whatever affects one directly affects all indirectly.

We are called to be weavers of the kingdom, makers of peace,

for we are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny.

Come, believers, come to worship God—

The God of heaven and earth is with us. The God of peace is our refuge.

*Opening Hymn

"O for a World" (vss 1–3, 5)

372

*Prayer of Confession

Erin Wicklund

Gracious God, in Jesus Christ, you teach us to love our neighbors, but we build dividing walls of hostility. You show us how to love one another as siblings but we hide ourselves from our own human family. You ask us to seek out the stranger and welcome the guest, but we lock ourselves up inside our own fear. You want us to share your abundant gifts with the poor, but we cling tightly to our possessions and our privilege. You call us to proclaim good news to all people, but we waste our words and hide our light.

(continued next page)

Have mercy on us, loving God. Forgive our sins, open our hearts, and change our lives. By your Spirit, make us holy and whole—one people, united in faith, hope, and love; through Jesus Christ, our reconciler and redeemer.

***Assurance of Grace**

Erin Wicklund

God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love!

If God is for us, who is against us? Nothing can separate us from God's love in Christ Jesus.

***Passing of the Peace**

Erin Wicklund

Let us greet one another as new beings, reconciled to God and one another. The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you. (*Exchange the peace with those around you.*)

We Listen for God's Word

Time for the Young & Young at Heart

Hymn of Response "Goodness Is Stronger than Evil" (*first two lines*) 750

Scripture Amos 5: 24 (OT: p. 854 | LPOT: p. 1046)
1 Peter 3: 8–12a (NT: p. 234 | LPNT: p. 284)
Matthew 14: 13–16 (NT: p. 16 | LPNT: p. 19)

Message

Presentation of Tithes & Offerings

Call to Offering

Anthem/Offertory "Lift Every Voice and Sing"

***Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise God all creatures here below, Praise God above ye heavenly host, Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. AMEN

***Prayer of Dedication** (*MLK, Nobel Peace Prize Acceptance Speech, adapted*)

We believe that people everywhere can have three meals a day for their bodies, education and culture for their minds, and dignity, equality and freedom for their spirits.

We believe that what self-centered people have torn down, other-entered people can build up. By the goodness of God at work within the people, we believe that brokenness can be healed. “And the lion and the lamb will lie down together, and everyone will sit under their own vine and fig tree, and none shall be afraid.”

Minute for Mission

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.

We Go Forth in God’s Name

***Closing Hymn**

“As a Fire Is Meant for Burning” (*on screens*)

***Benediction**

We are called to be the church;

To love and serve others, to commit ourselves to work for change. To bear responsibility, take risks, live powerfully, to stand with those on the edge, and to be used by the spirit for God’s beloved community of hope.

Look at your hands, see and touch the tenderness,

God’s own for the world.

(continued next page)

Look at your feet, see the path and the direction.

God's own for the world.

Look at your heart, see the fire and the love,

God's own for the world.

Look at the cross, see God's Son and our Savior

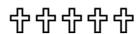
God's own for the world.

We are called to be the church. This is God's world,

And we will serve God in it.

Postlude

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*



Participants in worship today include:

Presiding Pastor: **Bart Roush**;

Liturgist: **Erin Wicklund** | Vocalists: **Chancel Choir**;

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

Sound, Light, Video: **Chris Diller, Randy Dop & Ruth Dukelow**;

Volunteer Custodian: **Al Greimel**

Chancel flowers are given by **Ed & Larie Ann Schmidt**,
in *memory* of *our parents*; and **Jack, David & Nancy**,
in *honor* of **Leona Kley**.



Oak Grove Presbyterian Church

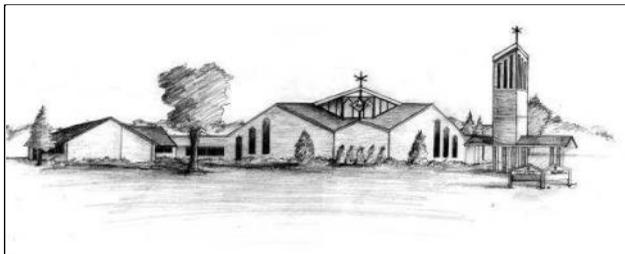
**Welcome, Oak Grove
members and visitors, we're
glad you're here!**

We are proud to be a Matthew 25, Green Care and More Light Congregation.

The congregation of Oak Grove values its roots that go back more than 150 years, even as we follow the movement of the Spirit into new ways of being and doing.

We always welcome your suggestions.

Greeters: **The Krentz Family**



Prayer Requests

Please contact the church office to let us know when you have new requests or updates for family and friends, or when a death occurs so we can support and care for you or your loved one.

ogpc@oakgrv.org

952-888-4621

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Adult Faith Formation: Sundays (9–10:00 am)

Please join us before worship on Sundays in the social hall for interesting and informative presentations designed to expand our minds and grow our faith.

Jan. 22: Social Hour in the social hall! Please come and spend an hour in conversation around tables, enjoying snacks, coffee, tea, juice and one another's company.

Jan. 29: Brian Cline, Principal of Oak Grove Elementary, will be our guest. We are well connected with this school, as it is the ministry base for our Every Meal Ministry. Mr. Cline will share what's going on at Oak Grove, the district, and give us a "state of the school." We are excited to welcome him!

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

WEEKLY

WoW! Dinner & Programs: Wednesdays

This mid-week gathering is a time of fellowship. Join the church family; no reservations are needed. Dinner begins at 5:30 pm and each meal includes salad and dessert. The cost is \$5 for adults and \$2 for children. Faith Formation begins at 6:15 pm and choir will rehearse at 7:15 pm.

Jan. 18: Tacos | Jan. 25: Pizza

WoW! for Adults New Year – Back to Basics

Join us Wednesday evenings for a time of fellowship. Faith Formation begins at 6:15 pm.

Pastors Bart, Mary Koon and Mary Pol will lead the series, “Being Presbyterian: Foundations of Presbyterian Discipleship,” from the PCUSA’s Theoacademy.

Lesson 1 (Jan. 18): A People of Grace

Lesson 2 (Jan. 25): Wicked Bad

This is an excellent series, whether you have been a Presbyterian from birth, or recently joined the church. There will be time for learning, reflection, and discussion. We are really excited for this series and hope you will join us!

Men’s Prayer Breakfast: Thursdays

Join other Oak Grove men for a time of fellowship while enjoying breakfast. The group meets weekly on Thursdays (7:30 am) at Denny’s (4209 American Blvd W, Bloomington 55437). Questions? Contact Jack Kley at 952-831-4138.

Adult Bible Study

Join Pastor Bart and/or Pastor Mary each week on Thursdays (noon–1:00 pm) via Zoom to look at the scripture that will be the basis for the sermon the following Sunday. No pre-reading is needed. We will read the scripture together and then dive in!

2023 Women’s Retreat: Jan. 20–22

Please join us for the Oak Grove Women’s Retreat at Clearwater Forest. The theme is, “*Rest and Resilience*” with special guest speaker Jacque Fletcher. Sign up at <https://bit.ly/3VhsA0j>.

Accommodations: Leaning Tree Lodge (two to a room) and semi-private baths, bedding and towels included. Cost is \$120, but some scholarship funds are available. Please indicate if your attendance depends on this assistance. Questions? Contact Sue Greimel (612-805-2896 or sue.greimel@gmail.com).

OAK GROVE & COMMUNITY

Men's Retreat: Feb. 3–5

Please join us for the Oak Grove Men's Retreat at Clearwater Forest. The theme is "*Reconnecting in Fellowship!*"

Accommodations will be at Leaning Tree Lodge and the following meals will be provided: Sat. breakfast, lunch & dinner and Sun. breakfast.

Cost will be determined by the number of attendees. If cost is a barrier, there are options to help cover for those who are in need. Sign up at church on Sundays. Questions? Contact Chad Acker (952-237-2142), Vaughn Sheff (952-465-6050), or Arne Johnson (612-229-7709).

Oak Rovers: Wednesday, Feb. 15 (11:30 am)

Join us at the Heritage Center (11411 Masonic Home Dr, Bloomington 55437) to see "*All You Need is Love.*"

We have reservations for 20 people but can accommodate more. Tickets are \$50 (cash or check) and we will carpool from church at 11 am. Sign up at church on Jan. 15 and Jan. 22. Questions? Contact Patsy Fisk (952-977-9900).

Preschool Drivers Needed for Our Afghan Families

Our established group of Oak Grove "Uber" drivers need some more volunteers. Drivers need room for three people. The preschool parent will ride along and bring a car seat for their child.

Days and times are flexible:

To Preschool: Monday–Thursday (7:45–8:40 am), Friday (7:45–8:10 am)

From Preschool: Monday–Thursday (10:50am–12:10pm), Friday (11:50am–12:10pm)

Just sign up for whichever day/time fits with your schedule; there is no requirement to commit to a regular slot.

Oak Grove has made this commitment through June because we know the critical importance of early learning. Without sufficient drivers, the children may miss some days of preschool.

If you or someone else you know might enjoy this, please contact Kathy Howell (952-200-5129) or Anne Klueh (651-235-9940) for more information. All will be very grateful for your help!