

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

Feb. 5, 2023

5th Sunday after Epiphany

10:30 am



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A Thought to Ponder (from the Social Justice Committee)

“For to be free is not merely to cast off one's chains, but to live in a way that respects and enhances the freedom of others.”

– Nelson Mandela, former President of South Africa

We Gather in God's Name

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Centering Time/Lighting of the Christ Candle

Call to Worship

Carol Long

People of God; welcome!

Welcome to this place of love and grace.

Welcome to this place of hope and perseverance.

God invites all of us to be part of a beloved community.

God invites all of us to share in the good news:

We are accepted, just as we are. We are loved, just as we are.

In gratitude for all of this, let us worship God.

*Opening Hymn

“O God in Whom All Life Begins”

308

*Prayer of Confession

Carol Long

Gracious God, you created us to live in relationship with You, with each other, the earth and all creatures. We admit that caring relationships are not always easy – we get hurt, we hurt others. Forgive us for our apathy and transform it into compassion. Forgive us for our fear and lead us to trust. Open our hearts to receive your forgiveness and to pass it on. Make us whole, renew our spirits, bring us to your loving arms.

*Assurance of Grace

Carol Long

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. God's grace abounds! We are free to begin again. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are all forgiven.

Thanks be to God!

***Passing of the Peace**

Carol Long

Beloved community, let us greet each other as children of God.
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 "Child of Blessing, Child of Promise" (verse 4) 486

Anthem "There is More Love Somewhere" *arr. Adam & Matt Podd*

Scripture Romans 12: *selected verses* (NT: p. 161 | LPNT: p. 196)

Message "Beloved Community"

Presentation of Tithes & Offerings

Call to Offering

Anthem/Offertory "Kuimba Asante" (Sing Thanks!) *Jean & Dave Perry*
(Sing Thanks! – Swahili)

***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**

**Generous God, accept these, our gifts, given freely. Multiply them,
and use us, we pray, to further your work of love, compassion, and
justice in the world. AMEN**

Sacrament of Communion

Communion will be by intinction. Please come forward to take a piece of bread, dip it in the cup and return to your seat. The juice is non-alcoholic. Gluten free is available as well.

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Great Thanksgiving *(on screens)*

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.

Words of Institution

Sharing of the Bread & Cup

Prayer following Communion

Loving God, we thank you that you have fed us in this Sacrament, united us with Christ, and given us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen!

We Go Forth in God's Name

***Closing Hymn**

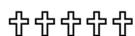
"We Are One in the Spirit" (vss 1–3)

300

***Benediction**

Postlude

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*



Participants in worship today include:

Presiding Pastor: **Mary Koon**;

Liturgist: **Carol Long** | Vocalists: **Sopranos & Altos Ensemble**;

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

Sound, Light, Video: **Gordon Goodwin, Randy Dop & Ruth Dukelow**;

Chancel flowers are given by **Jill & Ron Dubis, and Anne & Larry Klueh**,
in *honor* of **great-nephew Augie St. Martin's 1st birthday**.

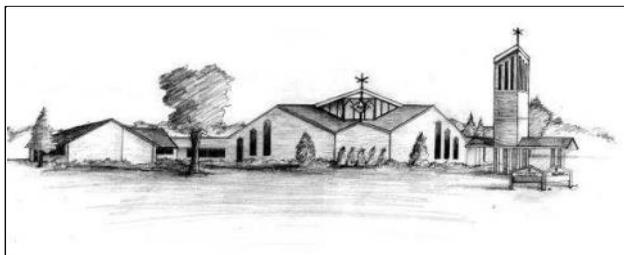
Oak Grove Presbyterian Church

**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.



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

Sunday Parking at Oak Grove

If you have excellent mobility, please consider parking at the Old Town Hall or funeral home across Penn Ave and walking over. This way, we can care for our members and visitors who need to park close to the building. Thank you for your compassion and help!

Oak Rovers: Monday, Feb. 6 (5:00 pm)

Please join us at Willy McCoy's (10700 France Ave S, Bloomington 55431). If you can come, contact Patsy Fisk at 952-977-9900 or pafisk1947@gmail.com.

Men's Fellowship at Zeke's: Tuesday, Feb. 7 (noon)

Join us for "Burgers 'n' Brew" the first Tuesday of the month at Zeke's Place (7700 W Old Shakopee Rd). This event pairs young(er) and old(er) men for a time of fellowship while enjoying lunch. Pick up someone who needs a ride and develop new friendships. Questions? Contact Jim McCarl at 952-948-2991.

Presbyterian Women Bible Study

The Evening Star Circle meets the first Tuesday of the month (**Feb. 7 at 5 pm**) at Oak Grove and is led by Connie Nesbitt.

The Goodrich Nord Circle meets the second Wednesday of the month (**Feb. 8 at 9:30 am**) at Pres. Homes (9901 Penn Ave S, Bloomington) in the second-floor dining room in Gideon Pond and is led by Meg Robles and Bev Heise.

Gold Name Tags

Are you wondering why some worshippers have gold-colored name tags? They are worn by people who are not yet members of Oak Grove. We do this so that people can warmly greet those with the different name tags. Please welcome them by introducing yourself.

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.

Feb. 8: Breakfast for Supper

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

WoW! for Adults **Wednesdays (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.

Feb. 8 (Lesson 4):
Update Your Faith System

Feb. 15 (Lesson 5):
Blessed to be a Blessing

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!

Adult Faith Formation

Please join us before worship on Sundays, 9–10:00 am for interesting and informative speakers and topics designed to expand our minds and grow our faith. If you have an idea or speaker you'd like to see, please let us know.

Feb. 12: Ryan Fouts, Executive Director of RECLAIM, will share the stories of hope from this non-profit that offer resources and specialized mental health care to queer and transgender youth.

Order a Sub Sandwich for the Super Bowl and Support Oak Grove Youth!

The youth are sponsoring a Super Bowl sub-sandwich fundraiser for our trip to Washington DC this summer! You will find order forms in the Sunday bulletins to create your own deluxe sub, to be made fresh on the morning of Sunday, Feb. 12, and picked up after worship in the social hall!

No need to worry about what you'll eat for the big game (the Super Bowl or the Puppy Bowl), or just an easy lunch that day. Each made-to-order sub is \$10 (cash or check).

Simply drop your order form and payment in the collection plate, or hand it to a youth representative at the table in the hallway or call the church office (952-888-4621) by Wednesday, Feb. 8. What a delicious way to support our youth – thanking you in advance! Questions? Call Mary.

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.

OAK GROVE & COMMUNITY

Adult Bible Study: Thursdays

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!

Annual Congregational Meeting: Sunday, Feb. 26 (following worship)

Please join us for the Annual Meeting of Oak Grove Presbyterian Church. We will need to secure a quorum of at least 50 people to conduct official church business. A special email will go out on Monday, Feb. 13 with links for the meeting for those unable to attend in-person and the annual report.

Intergenerational Weekend: March 3–5

Join us for a weekend of relaxation, recreation and fellowship with friends of all ages at Clearwater Forest. We welcome individuals, couples and families in all forms to this event.

The cost is \$160 per room (double bed & single bed) for the weekend plus \$20 per person for food (\$10/child, infants under 2 are free). Sign-up will begin Feb. 12. Questions? Contact Larry Pearson at 952-835-9480.

February ‘Per Capita’ Challenge

Our per capita pays for the programs, training, and resources that help our wider Presbyterian family to work together.

Oak Grove will remit \$37.50 for each of our 487 members in 2023, for a total sum of \$18,262.50. A donation of any size helps Oak Grove pay this balance. If you wish to contribute towards Per Capita, just send a check with Per Capita in the memo or donate via our website at:

<https://bit.ly/3jssp3i2>.

Bloomington-Richfield Grief Support Coalition: Thursdays (4:30–6:00 pm)

Churches in the Bloomington-Richfield area are working together to provide free support and education for adults who are grieving the death of a loved one. You can start any series at any time. There is no commitment on attendance and no cost, just show up!

Group meetings are held at St. Richard’s Catholic Church (7540 Penn Ave S, Richfield 55423). Please enter through door #5 and head for the Community Room.

For more information, visit <https://brgriefcoalition.com>.

Feb. 9: Styles of Grief

Feb. 16: Taking Control of Your Finances
(Part 2)