

*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

March 5, 2023

2nd Sunday in Lent

10:30 am



A Thought to Ponder (from the Social Justice Committee)

"I know that when I pray, something wonderful happens. Not just to the person or persons for whom I'm praying, but also something wonderful happens to me. I'm grateful that I'm heard." – Maya Angelou, American Author & Poet

We Gather in God's Name

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Centering Time/Lighting of the Christ Candle

Call to Worship

Karyn Arazi

I lift up my eyes to the hills – from where will my help come?

Our help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth.

As we enter this time of worship,

May we know the God who loves us all is with our rising and our lying down, our prayers and praise and petitions, our sighs too deep for words, our tears and heartache and joy.

Know that God is with us, now and always,

May we bless one another and worship God together.

*Opening Hymn

“Let All Things Now Living”

37

*Prayer of Confession

Karyn Arazi

Almighty One, we confess that we do not like to be vulnerable. We do not want to appear as weak. We do not want anyone to see our faults and failures. Yet you are the one who made us, and you know every fault, every crack, and you call us beloved, made in your image. Help us to show grace and mercy to ourselves, O God. May we be tender-hearted in our care of our bodies, minds, and souls, and grant mercy and grace to one another. Deliver us from the ways of this world that cause us to compare and compete, and instead, open us to receive one another and our own selves, with humility, courage, and peace. In the name of Jesus Christ, who cried with the mourners, who feared his own death, who lamented in loneliness, and yet rose again, we pray. Amen.

*Assurance of Grace

Karyn Arazi

Know the love of God and the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ are with us, now and always.

There is nothing we can do that will separate us from God's love in Christ Jesus. There is no place we can go where God will not find us. We are God's beloved children.

Know that we are forgiven when we forgive one another. Work to mend what needs to be mended, and give over to God what cannot be, and know Christ's peace is with us, now and always.

We are forgiven and given grace. Thanks be to God!

*Passing of the Peace

Karyn Arazi

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 "Lord of All Hopefulness" (verse 1) 683

Scripture Psalm 121 (OT: p. 571 | LPOT: p. 702)

Message

Presentation of Tithes & Offerings

Call to Offering

Anthem/Offertory "Come By Here" *arr. Uzee Brown, Jr.*

*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**

Loving God, we give these offerings in gratitude, rejoicing in the abundance of your gifts to us. We give these offerings in faith, trusting that you will provide for our needs. We give these offerings in hope, knowing you can use them to spread your love in this world. And with these offerings, we give ourselves; May we live with generous hearts, with open hands. 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

Prayer of Thanksgiving

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 in your eternal realm. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

We Go Forth in God's Name

***Closing Hymn**

“God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me” (vss 1, 3–5) 543

***Benediction**

Postlude

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*



Participants in worship today include:

Presiding Pastors: **Bart Roush & Mary Koon;**

Liturgist: **Karyn Arazi** | Musicians: **Chancel Choir;**

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

Sound, Light, Video: **Andy Snyder, Randy Dop & Ruth Dukelow;**

Chancel flowers are given by **Nancy Jensen**, in *memory* of **Darwin**,
and **Oak Grove**, in *honor* of **Pastor Bart Roush's birthday**.

EASTER HONORARIUMS / MEMORIALS

On Sundays, March 5, 12 and 19, we'll be available for you to sign up to donate in honor, in memory, or in celebration of a special event as we decorate the chancel for Easter, April 9, and Sunday, April 16.

Your donations will pay for potted flowering plants and any remaining funds will be given to VEAP. Plants will be donated to homebound members and/or people on the prayer list.

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: **Jeanne & Rick Wahtera**



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

Kudos to Amy Zsohar!

Congratulations, Amy Zsohar, named Minnesota State Board of Trustees 2023 Educator of the Year! We are so incredibly delighted for her. View the full article at: <https://bit.ly/3Zqscyb>.

REMINDER: DST is coming!

Daylight Savings Time starts at 2:00 am on Sunday, March 12, so be sure to set your clocks AHEAD one hour before going to sleep Saturday night.

Men's Fellowship at Zeke's: Tuesday, March 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.

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

Presbyterian Women Bible Study

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

The Goodrich Nord Circle meets the second Wednesday of the month (**March 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. New members are always welcome!

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.

March 8: Chili

March 15: Baked Potato Bar

WoW! for Adults: March 1–22

Please plan to spend your Wednesday evenings with us as we engage in the PCUSA program, *Trouble the Water: Conversations to Disrupt Racism and Dominance*.

Each week during the four-week series, we will practice centering prayer and breathing, watch a video, have some quiet reflection and conversation.

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.

Feb. 25–March 26: We will read and study the book, *The Last Week: A Day-by-Day Account of Jesus's Final Week in Jerusalem*, by Marcus Borg and Dominic Crossan.

Creative Hands Crafting: Saturday, March 11 (9 am to noon)

Attention Creative People! Bring your craft projects to work on and enjoy camaraderie with other crafters from Presbyterian Church of the Apostles and Oak Grove Church. We will meet in the social hall at Oak Grove. Questions? Contact Ruth Dukelow (952-923-0799).

OAK GROVE & COMMUNITY

Hocokata Ti Tour: Saturday, March 18 (2:30 pm)

The Social Justice Committee invites you to join us at Hočokata Ti, Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community's cultural center, for a one-hour tour. The tour, guided by a cultural interpreter, begins promptly at 2:30 pm. You are invited to stay after the tour to continue to explore the artifacts or visit the gift shop that features Native art of all kinds. Hočokata Ti closes at 4:00 pm. Entrance Fees are \$7 per person and free for children under 5. Please sign-up at: <https://bit.ly/3y2fFp4>.

For more information about Hočokata Ti and directions: <https://bit.ly/2Ndf4pm>.

Oak Rovers: March 18 (5:00 pm)

Join us at the home of Don Wagner (8341 Lyndale Ave, Bloomington 55420) for pizza and cards. The cost is \$12 per person. Contact Don (doje65@netzero or 952-831-4460) to let him know you are planning to attend.

Minnesota Timberwolves vs. Portland Trailblazers: Sunday, April 2 (2:30 pm)

Join fellow Oak Grovers to see the Timberwolves take on the Trailblazers. Tickets are \$35 and are in section 218. We will also participate in the "fan tunnel," greeting the players as they go out for warmups.

All tickets will be digitally delivered via the Timberwolves mobile app so please be sure to download it.

Sign up using the online registration form (<https://bit.ly/3XtxveL>) or contact Ron Dubis (612-868-9194). The sign up deadline is March 12.

Collections for VEAP During Lent

We are encouraging each household to bring **one item** to church **each week** to help restock VEAP's onsite pantry shelves. Each week we will focus on a particular item that is **most asked for but least available**.

- March 5–12: cooking oil
- March 12–19: laundry detergent, dish soap, hand soap
- March 19–26: toilet paper, paper towels
- March 26–April 2: diapers

Checks, made payable to Oak Grove, are also acceptable. Please write "VEAP" on the memo line.