



"The Man Born Blind" by Ronald Raab CSC ©
Used with permission www.ronaldraab.com by Ronald Raab CSC ©

*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 19, 2023

4th Sunday in Lent

10:30 am

We Gather in God's Name

Prelude

“The Lone, Wild Bird”

Hand Bell Choir

Welcome & Announcements

Centering Time/Lighting of the Christ Candle

Call to Worship (*adapted from Psalm 95*)

Jan Kidd

O come, let us sing to the LORD;

Let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

Let us come into God's presence with thanksgiving;

Let us make a joyful noise to God with songs of praise!

For the LORD is our God, and we are the people of God's pasture,

And the sheep of God's hand.

O come, let us worship our God,

For the LORD is a great God, who reigns over all.

***Opening Hymn**

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

39

***Prayer of Confession**

Jan Kidd

Gracious God, we confess that we do not extend the same hospitality you have shown us. We avert our eyes from those in need on the streets. We drive by the neighborhoods that are run down without considering our impact. We may take notice of the food deserts and redlining in our cities but feel powerless to do anything. God, call us away from our comfortable ignorance and into the work of radical hospitality, in which we remember our interconnectedness and cannot deny our interdependence. Guide us into your ways of living out of gratitude and sharing our resources with others. Lead us to listen to those most impacted and marginalized so that we do not center ourselves but truly help transform lives for the better, for those that need the most. In the name of the one who shows us the way, the truth, and the life, we pray. Amen.

***Assurance of Grace** (*from Romans 5:1–2*)

Jan Kidd

“Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God.”

May we know God’s peace in our hearts and extend God’s peace to one another, in word and deed. May we know the love of God that surpasses all understanding and share that love to those most in need around us. May we understand the call of Christ to forgive as we are forgiven, to rebuild and restore what has been broken, and to live into God’s reign on earth as it is in heaven. Amen.

***Passing of the Peace**

Jan Kidd

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

John 9:1–41 (NT: p. 102 | LPNT: p. 125)

Message

Presentation of Tithes & Offerings

Call to Offering

Anthem/Offertory “I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light” *Thomerson/Harlan*

***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

O God, accept our offerings, small and large, with the hope and confidence that all we do, all we offer, all we say, all we think, and all we hope will take root in this world and be the source of new expressions of your love, justice, mercy, and grace. Amen.

Recognition of Nicole Mills

Nancy Jensen & Bev Bliss

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

"Light Dawns on a Weary World" (vss 1 & 2)

79

*Benediction

Postlude

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*



Participants in worship today include:

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

Violinist: **Emily Lassiter** | Liturgist: **Jan Kidd;**

Musicians: **Hand Bell Choir & Chancel Choir;**

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

Sound, Light, Video: **Gordon Goodwin, Pierce Flanagan & Cece Klueh;**

Chancel flowers are given by **Cathy Colborn**,
in *honor* of **daughter Hanna's 30th birthday**, and
Nancy Jensen, in *memory* of **Dave**.

A Thought to Ponder (from the Social Justice Committee)

"Water is life. We are the people who live by the water. Pray by these waters. Travel by the waters. Eat and drink from these waters. We are related to those who live in the water. To poison the waters is to show disrespect for creation. To honor and protect the waters is our responsibility as people of the land."

– Winona LaDuke, American economist, environmentalist & writer

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

Easter Honorariums / Memorials:

Today, Sunday, March 19 is the last day to sign up and 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 given to homebound members and/or people on the prayer list.

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!

Adult Faith Formation: Sundays

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.

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 22: Tacos

March 29: Hot Dogs

WoW! for Adults: Wednesdays at 6:15 pm

March 22: We will conclude the series, *Trouble the Water: Conversations to Disrupt Racism and Dominance*.

March 29: Final wrap-up conversation

Antiracism Accountability Group: Thursday, March 23 (6:30–8:00 pm)

All are welcome and invited to join our conversation. The group typically meets the fourth Thursday of the month via Zoom (<https://bit.ly/3JQoN4I>).

We are folks interested in gathering to hold ourselves accountable in the pursuit of antiracism. Newcomers and all are welcome as we're all seeking to grow from wherever it is we are starting.

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Prayer Shawl Ministry: Tuesday, March 28 (10 am to noon)

We meet on the fourth Tuesday of each month at church. The patterns, yarn and needles are provided. We are looking for more people who love to knit or crochet.

This ministry started over 16 years ago at Oak Grove. Recipients say they feel surrounded with prayers and love. All are welcome. Questions? Contact Nancy Kachel at 952-884-1895. We hope you will join us!

Palm Sunday Brunch: Sunday, April 2 (8:45–10:00 am)

The Deacons are thrilled to be offering the return of Palm Sunday Brunch. The menu will include an egg bake, fruit, muffins, juice, milk, and coffee. A free will-offering will be accepted. Please join us!

If you are not currently serving as a Deacon and would like to help setup on Saturday or Sunday or with cooking, serving or cleanup on Sunday, please contact Lisa Pomroy at lisaorbill@msn.com or 218-591-4979, or look for a signup sheet in the narthex.

Requiem by John Rutter: Sunday, April 2

Our Chancel Choir and an instrumental ensemble will present this exquisite choral piece, Requiem, by John Rutter at the 10:30 am service.

The instrumental ensemble includes flute, oboe, cello, harp, tympani and organ. Cece Klueh, Jessi McKinnon and Emma Wasko are the soloists.

Requiem has seven sections, written as an “archlike meditation on the themes of life and death”. Please invite family and friends to join you in worship on April 2.

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 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.

OAK GROVE & COMMUNITY

Voices for Climate Song Circle: Sunday, March 19 (4–5:30 pm)

Join Minnesota Interfaith Power & Light for their March “Voices for Climate” song circle at United Theological Seminary (767 N Eustis St #140, St Paul 55114). No need to be a “singer;” all voices welcome, including kids! Sarina Partridge will lead simple songs that all can join, and help us experience the joy, hope, and community that is possible through music-making!

Please register so we can let you know of any updates to the event. Following the song circle, there will be a potluck dinner from 6–7:30pm. Bring a dish or beverage to share. Please let us know in the “Registration notes” section whether you plan to join the potluck. To register, visit: <https://bit.ly/3YRvSbJ>.

The Deacons' Bench

Please come to the Deacons Bench located just outside the social hall. Need to send a card? We have Get Well, Sympathy, Birthday, and plain note cards! If the recipient is a member of Oak Grove, simply put their name on the envelope and we will address it and mail it for you. If the recipient is a non-member, please write their name and full address on the card. Leave cards ready to be mailed in the basket on the bench. We hope that you will participate in this important ministry of care.



The rosebud on the chancel this week is in honor of
Baby Krentz, born March 14, 2023.

Parents are Katie & Jake Krentz, siblings are Aiden,
Amelia & Harper, uncle is Travis Scott, and
proud grandparents are Nancy & Rory Scott.
