

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 26, 2023

5th Sunday in Lent

10:30 am



A Thought to Ponder (from the Social Justice Committee)

“If you have come to help me, you are wasting your time. But if you recognize that your liberation and mine are bound up together, we can walk together.”

– Lilla Watson, Murri (Indigenous Australian) visual artist, activist and academic

We Gather in God's Name

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Centering Time/Lighting of the Christ Candle

Call to Worship (*based on Psalm 107:1, 21–22*)

James Robles

O give thanks to the LORD, for God is good;

God's steadfast love endures forever.

Let us be thankful for God's steadfast love,

for God's wonderful works to humankind.

And let us offer thanksgiving sacrifices,

and tell of God's deeds with songs of joy.

Come, let us worship our God, gathered from near and far,

For God's steadfast love endures forever.

*Opening Hymn

"In the Bulb There is a Flower"

250

*Prayer of Confession

James Robles

Loving One, we confess that we get caught up in the day-to-day struggles of life and forget there is so much more. We are tired, exhausted even, and sometimes just want to focus on ourselves.

Forgive us for our privilege that at times offers us an escape to ignore the plight of others. Forgive us for failing to recognize the interconnected world we are in. Forgive us for the times we exaggerate our own struggles at the cost of meeting the needs of others. Forgive us for laying burdens upon ourselves that make it difficult to live into your ways. Call us into your way of love. Help us to let go of the burdens we have taken on unnecessarily. Help us to reach out to ask for help when we need it, and to offer help when we can. Remind us that you called us to be a people of covenant, with you, but also with one another, and that we need each other. Hold us to the promise to carry one another's burdens. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

***Assurance of Grace**

James Robles

There is nothing that we can do that will separate us from God's love in Jesus Christ. Repentance is the art of turning back to God, a daily life-long practice, to restore God's created intention in our lives and in our hearts.

We are forgiven, loved, and restored. We will seek to change our lives to align with God's intention, and know the grace and peace of Christ Jesus in our life. Amen.

***Passing of the Peace**

James Robles

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 11:1–45 (NT: p. 104 | LPNT: p. 127)

Message

Presentation of Tithes & Offerings

Call to Offering

Anthem/Offertory "Lord, Listen to Your Children" *by Medema/arr. Schrader*

***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.

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

"O God, Who Gives Us Life" (vss 1–2)

53

*Benediction

Postlude

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*

†††††

Participants in worship today include:

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

Liturgist: **James Robles** | 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 **Judy Cooper**,
in *gratitude* for *all choir singers, past and present*, and
Norma, Anne & Blair Ritterspach,
in *memory* of *Austin, husband & father*.

Interested in joining Oak Grove?

Class will be held following the 10:30 am service on Sunday, April 30 (lunch and childcare available) and during education hour on Sunday, May 7 (9:15–10:15 am), with introductions to the membership at the 10:30 am worship service. Questions? Contact Sandy Crum (952-715-1252). We would love to have you join!

Oak Grove Presbyterian Church

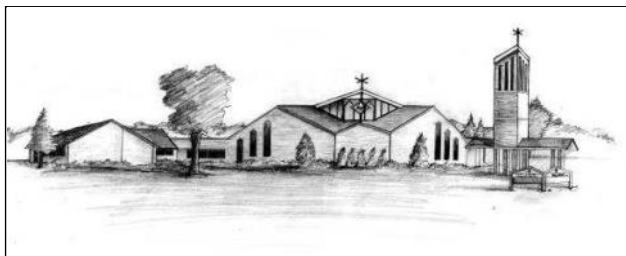
**Welcome, Oak Grove
members and visitors, we're
glad you're here!**

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.

Greeter: **Patsy Fisk**



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

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!

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 29: hot dogs and nachos are on the menu in honor of the 2023 baseball season opener so be sure to wear your Minnesota Twins apparel!

Please note, there will be no WoW programs during Holy Week (April 5) and April 12 will be the final program for the season until fall.

WoW! for Adults: Wednesdays at 6:15 pm

March 29: Final wrap-up conversation regarding the series, *Trouble the Water: Conversations to Disrupt Racism and Dominance*, and we will also host an intergenerational presentation from Clearwater Camp.

Please note, there will be no adult faith formation during Holy Week (April 5) and April 12 will be the final program for the season until fall.

Adult Faith Formation: Sundays

Please note there will be no adult faith formation on Palm Sunday (April 2) or Easter Sunday (April 9).

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.

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Help us restock VEAP’s onsite pantry shelves. For the week of March 26–April 2 we will be collecting diapers at Oak Grove. Checks are also acceptable, made payable to OGPC, with VEAP written in the memo line.

Presbyterian Women Bible Study: Date Change

The Evening Star Circle, led by Connie Nesbitt, will meet April 11 at 5:00 pm at Oak Grove instead of the usual first Tuesday of the month due to Holy Week.

We need your nature photos please!

For our Earth Day worship service on April 23, we are creating a prayer of thanksgiving and care for the Earth. We will create a slideshow using your photos of nature and the beauty of God’s creation.

Please look through your photos to find anything you find interesting and beautiful and email them to sgjerset@oakgrv.org by Wed. April 12. If you only have a hard copy, stop by the church office and we’ll scan it for you.

Oak Grove Cleanup Day: Saturday, April 29 (8:30 am to 3 pm)

Please join us for our annual clean, rake, sweep, wash, put away, get ready for better weather time at Oak Grove. Please plan to join us for the day or part of the day if you are busy. We encourage you to bring your own rake, gloves, and smile. Snacks and liberal breaks will be provided. This is traditionally a really fun time; some say it’s the best day of the year!

Timberwolves Outing

Our ticket deadline for the Sunday, April 2 (2:30 pm) game vs. the Portland Trail Blazers has been extended to Sunday, March 26. We still need 3 people to sign up to be a group. Tickets are \$35. Contact Ron Dubis (612-868-9194) for more information. Hope to see you there!

OAK GROVE & COMMUNITY

Shred Event/Youth Fundraiser: Saturday, May 13 (10 am to Noon)

Join Oak Grove Youth and ShredRight for a shredding event and fundraiser. Bring an unlimited amount of documents, receipts, etc. to be securely shredded onsite to the church parking. The cost is \$10/grocery bag or \$20/box. Your contribution will help fund the Youth trip to Washington, D.C. as well as helping the environment.

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!

Bridging Notice

Jump start your spring cleaning! Save \$50 when you schedule a Bridging truck to come to your home for a fee-based pickup through March 31, 2023. When booking, use the promo code **WINTER50** and save! Pay only \$75 (regularly \$125).

Book now at: <https://bit.ly/3nbt63U>

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!

The Spring Series (March 30–May 18) will be held at St. Bonaventure Catholic Church (901 E 90th St, Bloomington 55420)) in the education building behind the church (enter at door #6). For more information, please visit <https://brgriefcoalition.com>.

March 30: Growing Through Multiple Loss:

April 6: HOLY WEEK (no meeting)

April 13: How Families Grieve