

*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](http://www.oakgrv.org)

**April 30, 2023**

**Youth Sunday**

**10:30 am**



**A Thought to Ponder** (from the Social Justice Committee)

“The trees act not as individuals, but somehow as a collective. Exactly how they do this, we don’t yet know. But what we see is the power of unity. What happens to one happens to us all.”

– Robin Wall Kimmerer, author of *Braiding Sweetgrass*

## We Gather in God's Name

### Prelude

### Welcome & Announcements

### Opening Words

The earth and everything in it was created by God: the world and all who live in it.

**We recognize the Dakota people as the traditional stewards of the land where we now worship. We acknowledge the historic and on-going harm done to Indigenous people.**

We are called as a people of faith to do justice, act mercifully, and walk humbly with God.

**Therefore, we commit to repair relationships through action, honesty, listening, truth-telling, repentance, and restoration.**

### Centering Time/Lighting of the Christ Candle

Viola Solo

### Call to Worship

Mari Freeberg

Awe and wonder, gladness and generosity;

**May we witness God's love in community.**

May we share in worship and fellowship together,

**Knowing God's faithfulness and steadfast love.**

God calls us to share what we have with those in need,

**For our own hearts and lives are full of God's abundance.**

The Shepherd is calling you by name, listen to their voice,

**For you belong to God, and we belong together in Christ.**

**Let us worship God!**

### \*Opening Hymn

"Together We Serve"

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## **\*Prayer of Confession**

Mari Freeberg

**God of the Covenant, you called us from the beginning to be in community. You covenant with us through our ancestors to be our God, and you promised to be faithful in steadfast love. You have always remained true to us, though we have strayed from you. Remind us that your covenant is written on our hearts, that even when we are faithless, you remain faithful. Instill in us the hope that we always can find forgiveness, healing, and peace in you, our Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer, the maker of the unbreakable Covenant that is love in our hearts. Amen.**

## **\*Assurance of Grace**

Mari Freeberg

“For with the Lord there is steadfast love,” the psalmist declares, and we know God’s love through Jesus Christ—through his life, death, and resurrection. But we know God’s love more intimately through the love of one another. When we love and care for others, we are loved for and cared for. When we give, we receive. When we mourn, we are comforted. When we feel despair, others pray for us. Know this: you are never alone.

**There is nothing we can do that can separate us from God’s love in Christ Jesus. When we love and care for each other, Christ’s love grows in us. We will grow with Christ, grow in love, and serve one another. Amen.**

## **\*Passing of the Peace**

Mari Freeberg

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**      “Day By Day” (*sung several times*)

(Youth will be singing and the congregation are invited to join at Judy’s cue)

**Day by day, day by day. Oh, dear Lord, three things I pray:  
To see Thee more clearly, Love Thee more dearly,  
Follow Thee more nearly day by day.**

**Scripture**                      Acts 2:42–47 (NT: p. 120 | LPNT: p. 145)

**Message**

**Presentation of Tithes & Offerings**

**Call to Offering**

**Anthem/Offertory**      “Keep God’s Light”

*Mark Patterson*

**\*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**

**As we offer our gifts this day, may we join Mercy and Goodness in  
being in the lives of all who long for rest, who hunger for hope, who  
thirst for living waters, and who ache to be part of your community  
of grace and peace. In Jesus' name, we pray. 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

"Blest Be the Tie That Binds"

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\*Benediction

Postlude

\* *Please rise in body or in spirit.*

†††††

*Participants in worship today include:*

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

Liturgist: **Mari Freeberg** | Viola: **Evan Wilkens;**

Percussion: **Caitlin Lucic** | Musicians: **Chancel Choir;**

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

Sound, Light, Video: **Andy Snyder, Pierce Flanagan, Randy Dop;**

**Chancel flowers** are given by **Jan Carter**, in *memory* of **husband Jerry Carter**, and **Mary Bowen-Eggebratten & Noel Eggebratten**, in *memory* of **our parents, Mary's sister Karen and Noel's brother Deon.**



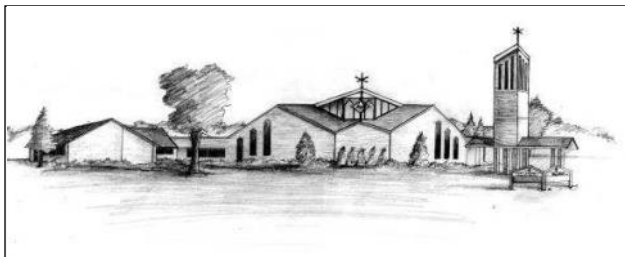
# Oak Grove Presbyterian Church

**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](mailto:ogpc@oakgrv.org)

952-888-4621

## **Pentecost Special Offering: April 10–May 28**

The Pentecost Offering unites us in a church-wide effort to support young people and inspire them to share their faith, ideas, and unique gifts with the church and the world. A gift to the Pentecost Offering helps the church encourage, develop, and support its young people, and also address the needs of at-risk children. If we all do a little, it adds up to a lot. **Thank you!**

- 40% stays with Oak Grove
- 25% supports young adult volunteers
- 25% supports youth ministries
- 10% is devoted to children at-risk

Ways you can give: Use the special offering envelope, write a check to Oak Grove (put Pentecost in the memo line) or donate online at: [www.oakgrv.org/donate/](http://www.oakgrv.org/donate/)

# OAK GROVE & COMMUNITY



May 2 | Burgers 'n Brew Men's Fellowship (noon)  
Contact Jim McCarl (952-948-2991)  
*Zeke's (7700 W Old Shakopee Rd)*

May 2 | Evening Star Circle (5–7:00 pm)  
Contact Connie Nesbitt (612-702-0684)

May 4 | Men's Prayer Breakfast (7:30 am)  
Contact Jack Kley (952-831-4138)  
*Denny's (4209 American Blvd W)*

May 4 | Bible Study (12–1 pm)  
*via Zoom (<https://bit.ly/2YttqHM>)*

May 4 | Grief Support Coalition (4:30–6 pm)  
Topic: How to Go Back to Familiar Places  
*St. Bonaventure Catholic Church  
(901 E 90th St, door #6)*

May 7 | Adult Faith Formation (9–10:15 am)  
Topic: Anti-Semitism in our state & world  
*Jewish Community Relations Council*

May 8 | Singles Fellowship (5–6:00 pm)  
Contact Jane Jacobson (612-267-9068)  
*Zeke's (7700 W Old Shakopee Rd)*

May 8 | Soul Sisters (7–8:30 pm)  
Contact Pastor Mary

May 10 | Goodrich-Nord Circle (9:30 am)  
Contact Meg Robles (612-798-5935)

May 13 | Creative Hands Crafting (9am–Noon)  
Contact Ruth Dukelow (952-923-0799)

May 13 | Shred Event (10 am–Noon)  
Youth Fundraiser: \$10/bag or \$20/box  
*Oak Grove Parking Lot*

*All events are at Oak Grove unless otherwise noted.*

## Seeking a reliable car

Do you have a reliable extra car that you are not using? One that you may be willing to sell at a good price or give to someone?

We are aware of a few persons that are in need of an affordable vehicle. If this is something that you might consider, please contact Mary Koon or Bart Roush. Thank you!

## Earth Day Expo

Oak Grove put on a very successful Earth Day "Electrify Everything" event on Saturday April 22.

The event featured talks by experts on the federal Inflation Reduction Act and heat pumps as a powerful climate solution, and included tours of Oak Grove's Green projects.

An estimated 70 people attended, many from other faith communities who came to learn from our experience here at Oak Grove. Thanks to all the volunteers! For more information, visit <https://bit.ly/41RHTj4>.

## **Oak Grove's Purpose**

Oak Grove is a joyful, inclusive, compassionate community of faith seeking to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God.

## **Values**

Beyond our faith in God, our example in Jesus, and guidance from the Holy Spirit, our congregational values are the underlying ethic by which we define our community.

Authenticity

Celebratory Joyfulness

Compassion

Deep Relationships

Humble Curiosity

Inclusivity

Justice

## **Statement of Land Acknowledgement**

We collectively acknowledge that Oak Grove Presbyterian Church is located on the traditional and ancestral lands of Indigenous people. We reside on land that holds great historical, spiritual, and personal significance for the Dakota, Native Nations and Indigenous people of the region. The land was ceded by the Dakota to the U.S. Government through treaties created and upheld with racist underpinnings.

By offering this land acknowledgment, we affirm tribal sovereignty and will work to hold Oak Grove Presbyterian Church accountable to Indigenous people and Nations. We recognize, and continually seek to support and advocate for the sovereignty of the Native Nations in this territory and beyond.

For more information, please visit our website [www.oakgrv.org](http://www.oakgrv.org).