

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

**Sept. 24, 2023**

**17th Sunday after Pentecost**

**10:30 am**



'Red Vineyards at Arles' (1888) by Vincent Van Gogh (www.wikiart.org)

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

“Bread for myself is a material question. Bread for my neighbor is a spiritual one.” – Nikolai Berdyaev, Russian philosopher, theologian, and Christian existentialist

# 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

### Call to Worship *(based on Psalm 105:1–5)*

Violette Gibson

O give thanks to the LORD, call on God's name,

**Make known God's deeds among the peoples.**

Sing to God, sing praises to God;

**Tell of all God's wonderful works.**

Glory in God's holy name;

**Let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.**

Seek the LORD and God's strength;

**Seek God's presence continually.**

Remember the wonderful works God has done,

**We give thanks to God as we enter this time of worship.**

### \*Opening Hymn

"For the Fruit of All Creation"

## \*Prayer of Confession

Violette Gibson

**God of justice and mercy, we confess that it is easier for us to argue with one another than to address systemic injustice. It is easier for us to be jealous and angry about unfairness we experience than to be concerned that our neighbors have their needs met. Forgive us for our short-sightedness. Call us into the work of justice with compassion, to love our neighbors and to seek justice for those around us. We remember that when we care for the needs of others, our own needs will be met. When we speak against injustice for others, we work for justice for ourselves. Remind us that we are interconnected with one another, that none of us are truly alone. Call us into your beloved community to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you. Amen.**

## \*Assurance of Forgiveness

Violette Gibson

God's steadfast love endures forever. God is full of compassion and mercy for all of us. God desires repentance and restoration, not judgment and punishment.

**We believe in the power of an all-loving, merciful and forgiving God who desires justice, and we know that mercy and forgiveness are gifts to us when we work for justice and restoration in the world. Amen.**

## \*Passing of the Peace

Violette Gibson

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** "Jesus Loves Me!"

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**Scripture** Matthew 20:1–16 (NT: p. 21 | LPNT: p. 26)

## Message

### Presentation of Tithes & Offerings

#### Call to Offering

Anthem/Offertory “We Will Be Your Church”

*Tina English*

#### \*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 to you, Holy God, may we remember those who are forgotten too many times – the hungry, the lonely, the homeless, the vulnerable – yet are important citizens in your kingdom of grace, justice, and hope. May these gifts be used well. In Jesus’ name, we pray. Amen.

#### Prayers of the People & The Lord’s Prayer

(<sup>^</sup> *Father, Mother or Creator*)

Our God<sup>^</sup> 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

“Together We Serve”

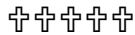
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#### \*Benediction

#### Postlude

- *Please rise in body or in spirit.*

<sup>^</sup> *During hymn, children 3, 4, & 5 years old may leave for Children’s Church*



*Participants in worship today include:*

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

Liturgist: **Violette Gibson** | Musicians: **Chancel Choir;**

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

Sound, Light, Video: **Greg Johnson, Randy Dop & Ruth Dukelow**

Chancel flowers are given today by **Marikay & Mike Wolf**,  
in *memory* of **parents Dick & JoAnn Berens and brother Kurt Berens.**

**Member Photo Directory Reminder:** There will be photographers available each Sunday through Oct. 1 after worship to take simple head shots of individuals, couples and families. If you would prefer to submit your own photo instead, please email it to [ogpc@oakgrv.org](mailto:ogpc@oakgrv.org). We look forward to getting as many photos as possible!

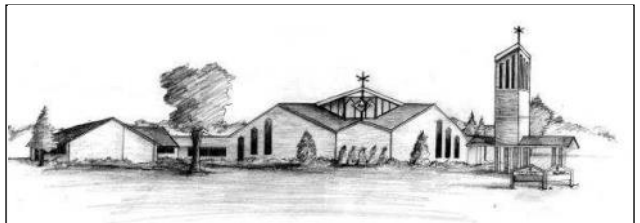
## Oak Grove Presbyterian Church

**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

## OAK GROVE & COMMUNITY

**Pastor Bart's 20th Ordination Anniversary!** Pastor Bart celebrated 20 years of ordained ministry on Sept. 21! We will recognize this milestone in worship today. Afterwards, the Personnel Committee will host a reception with some yummy treats!

**Saturday, Sept. 30: Woodcutting at Clearwater Forest: Saturday, Sept. 30** This is an event for all ages. Families can treat this event as an introduction to the property and a full weekend to hike, bike, kayak, swim and fish. We have campsites and some rooms with beds available if you would like to come up the night before and/or stay Saturday. If interested in going and/or knowing more about the event, please contact Carrie Wilkens at 952-240-5022 or [carriewilkens@comcast.net](mailto:carriewilkens@comcast.net).

### **Adult Faith Formation: Sunday, Oct. 1 (9–10:00 am)**

Bloomington Kennedy H.S. Principal Molly Hollenbeck will share with us what is happening in the educational community and how important the whole community is to the development of our youth.

**Presbyterian Bake Sale: Sunday, Oct 8 (9:30 am to Noon)** The Presbyterian Women bake sale is the fundraiser for our mission giving. We invite any member to please bring a homemade or bought baked item to the church Saturday, Oct. 7 between 10 am and noon, or Sunday morning by 8:30 am. Please have items individually wrapped. Questions? Contact Jody Milton (612-730-3962).

**Congregational Meeting: Sunday, Oct. 8 (following worship)** There will be a very short congregational meeting immediately following worship to elect the incoming class of Elders and Deacons. We hope you will join us.

### **Oak Rovers**

Monday, Oct. 16 (5:00 pm): Join us at Willy McCoys (10700 France Ave S, Bloomington 55431) for a bite to eat then off to Artistry (1800 W Old Shakopee Rd, Bloomington) for "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee" at 7:30 pm which is a "pay what you can" performance. Sign up at church or RSVP to Patsy Fisk (952-977-9900).

Sunday, Dec. 10 (2:30 pm): Join us for the annual Christmas Concert at Wooddale Church (6630 Shady Oak Road, Eden Prairie 55344). Tickets are \$15 and need to be paid for when signing up at church during the month of September. We will be carpooling from church. Questions? Contact Patsy Fisk (952-977-9900).

# OAK GROVE & COMMUNITY



Sept. 26 | Prayer Shawl Ministry (10a–Noon)  
Contact Nancy Kachel (952-884-1895)

Sept. 28 | Men's Prayer Breakfast (7:30 am)  
Denny's (4209 American Blvd W)  
Contact Jack Kley (952-831-4138)

Sept. 28 | Bible Study (12–1:00 pm)  
In-person or via Zoom  
Bring a lunch if you like  
Contact Pastor Bart of Mary

Sept. 28 | Grief Support Coalition (4:30–6:00 pm)  
Topic: Show Yourself Some Love:  
Self– Care & Grief Breaks  
Christ the King Lutheran Church  
(8600 Fremont Ave S, Bloomington)

Sept. 28 | Antiracism Accountability (6:30–8 pm)  
*via Zoom* (<https://bit.ly/3JQoN4I>)  
Contact Kathy Howell (952-200-5129)

Oct. 3 | Burgers 'n Brew Men's Fellowship (noon)  
Contact Jim McCarl (952-948-2991)  
*Zeke's (7700 W Old Shakopee Rd)*

Oct. 3 | Evening Star Circle (3–5:00 pm)  
Contact Connie Nesbitt (612-702-0674)

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

## **Frank Hedgcock Celebration of Life: Sunday, Sept. 24 (2:00 pm)**

Location: Founders' Ridge Chapel  
6600 Auto Club Road, Bloomington

## **Intergenerational Orchestra Opportunity: Sunday, Oct. 22**

We'll be playing the prelude and hymns. There will be two rehearsals, Saturdays, Oct. 7 & 21 at 10:00 am. Please consider joining us!

Let Judy Cooper know so a folder can be ready for you! If you have questions, contact Judy at [jcooper@oakgrv.org](mailto:jcooper@oakgrv.org) or 952-250-9226.



**WoW! Dinner & Programs** Join us Wednesday evenings for a time of fellowship. No reservations are needed. Dinner begins at 5:45 pm and each meal includes salad and dessert. The suggested meal donation is \$7 for adults, \$4 for children and a max of \$20 per family. Faith Formation begins at 6:15 pm.

Sept. 27: Breakfast for Dinner | Oct. 4: Pasta

## **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).