

*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)

**Nov. 26, 2023**

**Christ the King/Reign of Christ**

**10:30 am**



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

“The antidote to feel-good history is not feel-bad history but honest and inclusive history.” – James Loewen, "Lies My Teacher Told Me"

## 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 8*)

Diane Prosser

O God, how full of wonder and splendor you are!

**We see reflections of your beauty and hear the sounds of your love wherever we turn.**

You created the universe yet care for each of us personally. You have made us in your image.

**You have assigned us the fantastic responsibility of carrying on your creative activity.**

O God, how full of wonder and splendor you are! What a gift it is to worship you!

#### \*Opening Hymn

"Earth and All Stars!"

## \*Prayer of Approach

Diane Prosser

“Help Me Unbury Wonder” *by Ted Loder*

**O God of the miracles, of galaxies and crocuses and children,**

**I praise you now from the soul of the child within me, shy in my awe,  
delighted by my foolishness, stubborn in my wanting, persistent in  
my questioning,**

**and bold in my asking you to help me unbury my talents for wonder  
and humor and gratitude, so I may invest them eagerly in the  
recurring mysteries of spring and beginnings, of willows that weep,  
and rivers that flow and people who grow in such endlessly amazing  
and often painful ways;**

**that I will be forever linked and loyal to justice and joy,  
simplicity and humanity, Christ and Christ’s kingdom. AMEN.**

## \*Passing of the Peace

Diane Prosser

Beloved children of God, let us greet one another with a sign of God’s peace.  
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, Listen to Your Children Praying (*sung twice*) 469

**Scripture** Philippians 4:4–7 (NT: p. 198 | LPNT: p. 242)  
Psalm 65 (OT: p. 527 | LPOT: p. 649)

**Meditation** “Wow!”

### Presentation of Tithes & Offerings

**Call to Offering**

**Anthem/Offertory** “All Good Gifts”

*by Joseph A. Martin*

## \*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

**Most Gracious God, accept our offerings of joy. Use our gifts of time, talent and treasure so that the burdens of this life may be shared, suffering relieved, justice done, and your love made known throughout the world. 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

*"All of Life is Filled with Wonder" by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette  
(To the tune of: "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee")*

## \*Benediction

## Postlude

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

*#During hymn, children 3, 4, & 5 years old may leave for Children's Church*



*Participants in worship today include:*

Presiding Pastor: **Mary Koon;**

Liturgist: **Diane Prosser** | Musicians: **Chancel Choir;**

Sound, Light, Video: **Greg Johnson, Pierce Flanagan & Ruth Dukelow**

Chancel flowers are given today by

**Mary Bowen-Eggebraaten & Noel Eggebraaten**, in *loving memory* of *our parents, Mary's sister Karen & Noel's brother Deon*, and by **Sharon Nolte**, in *memory* of *mother Margaret DeHart Kirk*.

**The River Heights Chorale presents**

***Winter Soundscapes***

**Sunday, December 3, 2023 (3:00 pm)**

**at Oak Grove Presbyterian Church**

Winter is upon us, but don't let that chill your spirits! Instead come inside and let The River Heights Chorale help you listen to winter as we paint a musical soundscape of this joyous holiday season. Free will offering gratefully accepted. No ticket required. Please come and enjoy an afternoon of beautiful music.

## **Oak Grove Presbyterian Church**

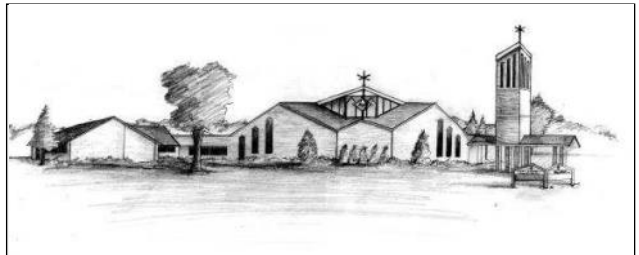
**Welcome, Oak Grove  
members and visitors, we're  
glad you're here!**

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: **Nancy Kachel**



### **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

## **Adult Faith Formation on Sundays (9–10:00 am)**

Dec. 3: No AFF due to the Alternative Christmas Marketplace

Dec. 10: Homework Connection

## **Alternative Christmas Marketplace: Sunday, Dec. 3 (9–10:30 am)**

Join us for the Marketplace in Gideon Pond Hall. During this time, there will be coffee, juice, and cinnamon rolls to enjoy as well as entertainment from some of our very own Oak Grovers. Additionally, there will be a photo booth, and handcrafted items for sale. We will have items from those who have shared their talents in the kitchen with things like baked goods, jams, pickles, and other food items for sale.

If you are a hand crafter and have items to donate for sale, or baked goods to donate, please drop them by the church office on or before Friday, Dec. 1, or you can drop them off at church between 9-noon on Saturday during setup. Questions? Contact Sharon Nolte at 952-884-1014 or sharonnolte@yahoo.com.

## **Knit Tree**

The OGPC Presbyterian Women will again sponsor the Knit Tree. Bring mittens, gloves, hats, and scarves for donations to Cornerstone. It will be up through Sunday, Dec. 10. Thank you!

## **PCUSA's Matthew 25 Summit: An Invitation to Innovation January 16–18 | Atlanta, Ga.**

The Matthew 25 Summit will bring mid-councils, churches, and individuals together to explore this vision. What does it mean to eradicate poverty; how can we begin dismantling systemic racism; how will we know if we are building a vital congregation? We are offering you an invitation to innovation. A chance to dialogue, learn, and grow with others in exploration. Featuring innovative speakers, thriving ministries, transformative workshops, and space to imagine what's next!

It would be wonderful to have a few attendees from Oak Grove to gather ideas and energies (Registration: \$199, Hotel: ~\$150/night, Flights: ~\$500). If you are interested in attending, please call the church office (952-888-4621) no later than Dec. 8, as hotels are filling up quickly. We do have some monies set aside to help defray the costs of attending. For more information, please visit: <https://bit.ly/46fHEiS>.

# OAK GROVE & COMMUNITY



Nov 28 | Prayer Shawl Ministry (10 am to noon)  
Contact Nancy Kachel (952-884-1895)

Nov 28 | Tea for Caregivers (10:30 am)  
Contact Pastor Mary

Nov. 29 | WoW! Dinner & Programs (5:45 pm)  
Tacos  
(\$7 adults, \$4 kids, \$20 family)

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

Nov. 30 | Bible Study (12–1:00 pm) via Zoom  
Contact Pastor Bart or Pastor Mary

Dec. 5 | Burgers 'n Brew Men's Fellowship (noon)  
Contact Jim McCarl (952-948-2991)  
*Zeke's (7700 W Old Shakopee Rd)*

Dec. 5 | Evening Star Circle (3–5:00 pm)  
Contact Connie Nesbitt (612-702-0684)

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



## 2024 Chancel Flower Sign-ups

All are invited to contribute flowers to beautify the sanctuary and enrich our worship each week.

Your contribution of \$30 for each bouquet can be made in honor or memory of someone, in celebration and/or thanksgiving of loved ones. Each dedication will be acknowledged in the Sunday bulletin.

Contact Sharon Fields at 952-831-0504 or [urbanfields8@gmail.com](mailto:urbanfields8@gmail.com) or to sign up and reserve your special date.

## VEAP Donations

We as a church will continue to collect donations year-round for VEAP, so please take note of the collection bin each time you come. There will be a sign with suggested donations by week of the month, but any and all non-expired food items are welcome



The white rose on the baptismal font commemorates the completion of Baptism for **Glenn Pettit** who joined the church triumphant on Nov. 20, 2023. "In Life and Death we belong to God."

## **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).