

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

Jan. 21, 2024

3rd Sunday after Epiphany

10:30 am



Sadao Watanabe, "Disciples of Christ at the Sea of Tiberias" (1960).
Image courtesy of Freer Gallery of Art and Arthur M. Sackler Gallery.
Gift of Norman and Carolyn K. Carr

A Thought to Ponder (from the Social Justice Committee)

"Our only chance at dismantling racial injustice is being more curious about its origins than we are worried about our comfort."— Austin Channing Brown, Author of *I'm Still Here: Black Dignity in a World Made for Whiteness*

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

"I Love You, Lord"

by Klein/arr. Schrader

Call to Worship

Stephen Jones

There are varieties of gifts

But it is the same Spirit who gives them.

There are different ways of serving God,

But it is the same God who is served.

God works through each person in a unique way,

But it is God's purpose that is accomplished.

To each is given a gift of the Spirit,

To be used for the common good.

Together we are the body of Christ,

And individually members of it. Let us worship God!

***Prayer of Confession**

Stephen Jones

Loving Jesus, we confess that we have been afraid. We don't listen, because we don't want to hear where you challenge us to change. We don't follow, because we are afraid of where you will lead us. We have not gone where you have sent us, because we are afraid of encountering people different from us, because they may cause us to change. Forgive us for being afraid to listen to you, to follow you, and to go where you have sent us. Grant us the courage to step out in faith, to listen to your voice, and to be changed by your love through others and through your creation.

***Assurance of Grace** (*based on Psalm 139*)

Stephen Jones

O God, where can we go from your spirit? Where can we flee from your presence?

There is no place we can go, no place we can hide, where God cannot find us.

The darkness is as bright as day, for God's light shines in all.

We know that God's light is shining in us, God is with us, and God loves us. Amen.

***Passing of the Peace**

Stephen Jones

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, I Want to Be a Christian” (vss 1, 2, & 4)

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

Scripture

Mark 1:14–20 (NT: p. 35 | LPNT: p. 42)

Message

Presentation of Tithes & Offerings

Call to Offering

Anthem/Offertory “Soon and Very Soon” *by Crouch/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

Gracious and holy God, accept what we offer today: our finances, our faltering steps, our brokenness, our leftovers, our hope, our risking, our lives. Bless and transform all that we offer and all that we hold back, that new life may be ours, to celebrate and share in Jesus’ name. 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

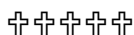
“Will You Come and Follow Me”

726

*Benediction

Postlude

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*



Participants in worship today include:

Presiding Pastor: **Bart Roush**;

Liturgist: **Stephen Jones** | Musicians: **Tenor & Bass Ensemble**;

Piano/Organ: **Nancy Jensen** | Director of Music: **Judy Cooper**;

Sound, Light, Video: **Andy Snyder, Pierce Flanagan & Ruth Dukelow**

Chancel flowers are given today by

Nancy Kachel, in *honor* of *family & Oak Grove staff*,
and by **Cecelia Laurie**, in *memory* of *mother Erlene Elliott*.

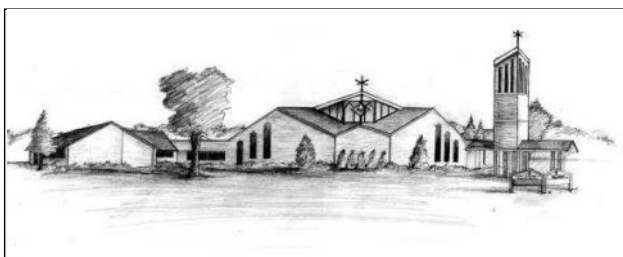
Oak Grove Presbyterian Church

**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

OAK GROVE & COMMUNITY

Adult Faith Formation Sunday, Jan. 28 (9–10:00 am): Taylor Kaspar, an attorney specializing in Family Law, will speak about end-of-life Estate Planning. Taylor is a dynamic speaker and will have lots of helpful information to share.

2023 Contribution Statements: Statements will be sent out via email the week of Jan. 22. If we don't have a current email on file, we will mail a hard copy instead. Feel free to contact Laura Nemcek with any questions (LNemcek@oakgrv.org or 952-512-2052). THANK YOU!

Oak Grove Town Hall Meetings: This is your chance to ask questions, share your input, and help chart the course of Oak Grove's future. There are two opportunities with the same information. We hope to see you there!

- Wednesday, Jan. 24: Enjoy a delicious dinner at 5:45 pm, followed by the Town Hall meeting at 6:15 pm as part of WoW. Unable to be here in person? Join via Zoom at: <https://bit.ly/ogpc-wow>.
- Sunday, Jan. 28: Join us after worship for the Town Hall meeting and lunch.

Feed My Starving Children: Saturday, Jan. 27 (2–3:45 pm) in Eagan

Children's Ministry is sponsoring a trip to Feed My Starving Children to pack meals. We still have 20 spots available. Please sign up in the Narthex on Sunday or contact Mary Koon (mkoon@oakgrv.org) or Cece Klueh (cklueh21@gmail.com).

Oak Rovers: Monday, Jan. 29 (5:00 pm): Join us at Willy McCoys (10700 France Ave S, Bloomington 55431) for dinner. Sign up at church. Questions? Contact Patsy Fisk (952-977-9900 or pafisk1947@gmail.com). We hope to see you there!

Oak Grove Men's Retreat: Feb. 2–4, 2024

Please join us for the Oak Grove Presbyterian Men's Retreat at Clearwater Forest. This is a great time of fellowship and recharging. Accommodations will be at Leaning Tree Lodge with Sat. breakfast, lunch & dinner, and Sun. breakfast provided. Cost will be determined by the number of attendees.

If cost is a barrier, there are options to help cover for those who are in need. To register, visit <https://bit.ly/ogpc-mens-retreat>. Questions? Contact Eric Duvall (952-567-4151) or Adam Wilkens (952-250-4877).

OAK GROVE & COMMUNITY



- Jan 23 | Prayer Shawl Ministry (10 am to noon)
Contact Nancy Kachel (952-884-1895)
- Jan 23 | Session meeting (6:45–8:15 pm)
Contact Pastor Bart
- Jan.24 | WoW! Dinner & Programs (5:45 pm)
Breakfast for Supper
(\$7 adults, \$4 kids, \$20 family)
- Jan. 25 | Men's Prayer Breakfast (7:30 am)
Contact Jack Kley (952-831-4138)
Denny's (4209 American Blvd W)
- Jan. 25 | Grief Support Coalition (4:30–6:00 pm)
Topic: Styles of Grief
St. Luke's Lutheran Church
(1701 W Old Shakopee Rd, Bloomington)
- Jan. 25 | Antiracism Accountability (6:30–8:00 pm)
via Zoom: <https://bit.ly/3JQoN4I>
Contact Kathy Howell (952-200-5129)

All events are at Oak Grove unless otherwise noted.

Intergenerational Retreat (March 1–3)

Join us at Clearwater Forest for a weekend of relaxation, recreation and fellowship with friends of all ages. We welcome families, couples and singles.

Lodging will be in Leaning Tree Lodge. Enjoy the outdoor winter recreation opportunities as well as pleasant indoor games, resting and relaxing.

The event will begin Friday evening and end on Sunday morning. We do our own meal preparations to lower the cost.

Sign-ups will begin in February. Questions? Contact Larry Pearson (952-835-9480 or pear3408@aol.com).

New Members Inquiry Lunch/Meeting: Sunday, Feb. 11 (after worship)

If you are interested in learning more about Oak Grove, and/or interested in joining the church, please join us for lunch following worship at 10:30 am.

We'll have a time of introductions, learn about Oak Grove, it's ministries and values, and the Presbyterian Church USA. Those who wish will be offered a tour of the building. If you are interested in attending, please contact Sandy Crum (952-715-1252 or crumsandy@gmail.com).

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.