

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

Feb. 18, 2024

1st Sunday in Lent

10:30 am



A Thought to Ponder

"Cultural racism—the cultural images and messages that affirm the assumed superiority of Whites and the assumed inferiority of people of color—is like smog in the air. Some days it is so thick it is visible, other times it is less apparent, but always, day in and day out, we are breathing it in." – Beverly Daniel Tatum, author of *Why Are All the Black Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria?*

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

Vaughn Sheff

God has given us the sign of the rainbow,

A covenant between God and all of creation.

God has given us the commandments,

The teachings of old to guide us to God.

God has sent Jesus to us,

The Word made Flesh to live among us.

God has shown us the Way, the Truth, and the Life,

May we turn our hearts and minds to worship and follow Christ.

*Opening Hymn

“God of the Sparrow” (vss 1, 3–5)

***Prayer of Confession**

Vaughn Sheff

God of the depths, searcher of hearts, you know the tumult of our lives – a busyness that bruises those nearest, a loneliness that claws at the soul, a fearfulness that leads to distrust. You know our longing for a more centered life – time for reflection and prayer; gracious unhurried times with friends and family; renewing rest and exercise; growing moments to deepen our faith and witness.

God of our days and our wishes, lead us into this holy time of Lent so we can let go of that which pulls us from your path. Give us the courage to persist in prayer, excel in kindness, and walk gently on the earth. Heal the wounds we carry, forgive the errors we commit, and lead us to new life.

***Assurance of Grace**

Vaughn Sheff

The gift of forgiveness from God, through Jesus Christ, makes us able, with the power of the Holy Spirit, to choose to forgive, renew and live again in right relationship with each other and with our God.

We are forgiven and given grace. Thanks be to God!

Reception of New Members

Eric Johnson

David & Stephanie Larsen

Katie Muhlbach

James Purcell

Nina Seery

Gail Sudman

Sarah Utter

Joyce Yohnke

In the name of Jesus, we welcome you to Oak Grove. We will celebrate the good news of Jesus with you and nourish our faith together. As followers of Jesus, we promise to work with you to bring God's love, peace, and justice to our church, community, nation and world. Thanks be to God who unites us!

***Passing of the Peace**

Vaughn Sheff

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 "God of the Sparrow" (verse 6) 22

After the hymn, children 3, 4, & 5 year olds may leave for Children's Church

Scripture Genesis 9:8–17 (OT: p. 7 | LPOT: p. 9)
Mark 1: 9–15 (NT: p. 34 | LPNT: p. 42)

Message

Presentation of Tithes & Offerings

Call to Offering

Anthem/Offertory "I Life My Soul" *by Lori True*

*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

We recognize that the greatest gift is the gift of love. May our offerings distribute this love to the world: the small world we inhabit with the suffering people we know; the larger world where the power of love is sorely needed. 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**

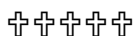
"O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go"

833

***Benediction**

Postlude

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*



Participants in worship today include:

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

Liturgist: **Vaughn Sheff** | Musicians: **Chancel Choir;**

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

Sound, Light, Video: **Greg Johnson, Pierce Flanagan & John Crampton**

Chancel flowers are given today by

Evelyn & Alan Gebhard, in *memory* of **son Michael**, and by
Mark & Marsha Pridgeon, in *memory* of **mother Hilda Pridgeon**.

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.

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



HINT #3: Countdown to April 14 Opportunity Fair

(a Mission Committee event)

If you believe education is a key to a better life, how can you help kids of today? If you answered, **VOLUNTEER IN AN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, YOU JUST EARNED AN A+**

Coldest Night of the Year Walk: Saturday, Feb. 24 (4:00 pm)

A group from Oak Grove will be participating in the Coldest Night of the Year (CNOY) walk in downtown Minneapolis to raise awareness of homelessness and food insecurity in Minneapolis, and to raise money for Agate Housing + Services. Look for the sign-up sheet in the Narthex to join the “walkers.” If you are unable to walk, but wish to make a financial contribution to Agate, you can write a check to Oak Grove (write Agate on memo line) or go to the CNOY website (<https://cnoy.com/location/minneapolis>) to make an online donation to any of our “walkers” or to the Oak Grove team. Questions? Contact Bill Pomroy (218-391-3319).

Oak Rovers: Monday, Feb. 26 (5:00 pm)

Join us at Willy McCoys (10700 France Ave S, Bloomington 55431) for dinner. Oak Rovers is a group of members and friends (mostly over 50 but all are welcome) from Oak Grove. Questions? Contact Patsy Fisk (pafisk1947@gmail.com or 952-977-9900). We hope to see you there!

Todd Peterson Memorial Service: Thursday, Feb. 29 (2:00 pm)

Please join us to celebrate the life of former Oak Grove member Todd. We will gather at Oak Grove to remember our wonderful friend. Visitation will begin at 1:00 pm. Following the service, you are invited to join the family and friends in the church social hall for refreshments and continuing conversation around the table. The service will also be livestreamed on YouTube and Facebook for those unable to attend in person. <https://bit.ly/ogpc-todd-peterson>

OAK GROVE & COMMUNITY



Feb. 20 | Tea for Caregivers (10:30–11:30 am)
Contact Pastor Bart

Feb. 21 | Ladies Who Lunch (12–2:00 pm)
Killers of the Flower Moon
Location: home of Bev Heise
Contact Pastor Mary

Feb. 21 | WoW! Dinner & Programs (5:45 pm)
Tacos (\$7 adults, \$4 kids, \$20 family)

Feb. 22 | Men's Prayer Breakfast (7:30 am)
Contact Jack Kley (952-831-4138)
Denny's (4209 American Blvd W)

Feb. 22 | Grief Support Coalition (4:30–6:00 pm)
Topic: Sibling Loss
St. Luke's Lutheran Church
(1701 W Old Shakopee Rd, Bloomington)

Feb. 24 | Children's Board Game Day (1–4:00 pm)
Contact Pastor Mary

All events are at Oak Grove unless otherwise noted.

Woven Voices Concert: Sunday, Feb. 25 (3:00 pm)

Woven Voices is a chamber choir composed of experienced singers from various Minnesota-based choirs. We come together to joyfully explore and share choral literature written for soprano and alto voices.

Woven Voices will be presenting their Mid-Winter Concert "The Faces of Women" in the Oak Grove Presbyterian Church sanctuary.

Free will donations gratefully accepted. No ticket required. The singers will be unmasked for the concert.

Annual Congregational Meeting: Sunday, Feb. 25 (following worship)

Please join us for the Annual Meeting of Oak Grove Presbyterian Church. We will need to secure a quorum of at least 50 people to conduct official church business. Printed annual reports are available in the narthex.

Following the meeting, everyone is invited to the **Chili Cook-off** in the social hall. Please sign up if you are going to bring a chili so we know better how to plan. Condiments (cheese, crackers, sour cream, chips) will be provided. Sign-up sheets are in the narthex. **YOU** are the judges – whose chili will be the best overall, most spicy, best vegetarian / vegan and most colorful? A free will offering will be collected to help fund scholarships to the intergenerational Civil Rights Pilgrimage in Alabama this summer.

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.