

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

March 31, 2024

Easter Sunday

8:15 am & 10:30 am



A Thought to Ponder

“Jesus' resurrection gives us hope and courage that with the power of the Holy Spirit, no injustice is too large to overcome...” – Alessandra Harris, Black Catholic, Author, Writer, Speaker

We Gather in God's Name

Prelude

“Chorale and Canon” – *Tallis*
“Shine, Jesus, Shine” – *arr. Pethel*
“He is Exalted” – *arr. Pethel*

Easter Orchestra

Lighting of the Christ Candle

***Processional Hymn** “Jesus Christ Is Risen Today”

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***Call to Worship**

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Hallelujah!

The stone was rolled away.

Christ is Risen!

The tomb was found empty.

Christ is Risen!

The angel said, “Do not be afraid.”

Christ is Risen!

No matter where we are, we proclaim now and always,

Christ is Risen! Christ is Risen Indeed!

***Prayer of Confession**

Amanda Fineran

We confess to you, O Risen Christ, that we need resurrection more than ever. We need new life now. Guide us to find the seeds of new life in the midst of the world we are in. Call us to perceive where the stone is being rolled away. Break us open to the world even while we keep ourselves safe. Remind us that the resurrection, the new life in you, begins here and now with us. Help us to boldly declare that Christ is Risen! Christ is Risen, indeed. Amen.

*Assurance of Grace

Amanda Fineran

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen, indeed!

Death is destroyed!

Life is restored!

Sin is no more!

Alleluia! Amen!

We Listen for God's Word

Anthem

“O Morn of Beauty”

Sibelius, arr. Matthews

Time for the Young & Young at Heart

Hymn of Response

“Halle, Halle, Hallelujah” (*refrain only, sing twice*)

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Scripture

Mark 16:1–8 (NT: p. 54 | LPNT: p. 66)

Message

***Affirmation of Faith**

We celebrate the resurrected Jesus, who lives among us,

whose Spirit empowers us to remove barriers, tear down walls, heal divisions, and seek peace without and within.

We celebrate the resurrected Jesus, who lives among us,

whose Spirit empowers us to see our siblings' good as our own and to be their advocate, to love our neighbor as ourselves, and to contribute to the well-being of every part of Christ's body, so that indeed we can build up, and grow up, and be joined together into a new structure: Where Christ's Spirit dwells, where Christ's Spirit empowers us, to be peace-seekers, peace-finders, and peacemakers.

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.

Presentation of Tithes & Offerings

Call to Offering

Anthem/Offertory “Alleluia! Jesus is Risen!”

arr. Burkhardt

***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**

Eternal God, on this Easter Sunday we celebrate Jesus’ faithfulness to your vision of love and justice, and your faithfulness to him through the Resurrection. We celebrate your love that knows each of us by name. We pray that these gifts may truly be symbols of our faithful discipleship and that they may bless the world with Jesus’ love. Amen!

We Go Forth in God’s Name

***Closing Hymn**

“Christ the Lord Is Risen Today!”

Note: If you’d like to sing the Hallelujah Chorus during the Benediction with the choir, please come up during the closing hymn.

*Benediction

May the loving power of God, which raised Jesus to new life, strengthen you in hope, enrich you in love, and fill you with joy.

We shall celebrate Easter! Alleluia! We will live our lives to the Glory of God, and live in Easter joy and Easter hope.

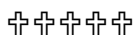
May the blessing of God be upon your homes, the blessing of Christ be upon us, the blessing of the Spirit be on us all.

Chorale Benediction “Hallelujah Chorus”

G. F. Handel

Postlude

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*



Participants in worship today include:

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

Liturgist: **Amanda Fineran** | Musicians: **Chancel Choir;**

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

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

Easter Orchestra

Violin: Emily Lassiter;

Flute: Cece Klueh, Enid Lang, Bianca Stoesz;

Clarinet: Nick Samsal | Saxophone: Dale Copeland;

French Horn: Becky Dop, Linda Johnson;

Trumpet: Arnie Ness, Matt Rutland, Kris Knutsen;

Trombone: Sam Radtke | Bass: Andy Nail

Oak Grove Intergenerational Civil Rights Pilgrimage: June 19–22



Now is the time to sign up for the Civil Rights Pilgrimage to Tennessee, Mississippi and Alabama! We're looking forward to sharing this transformative, thought-provoking trip together. The trip is designed for people ages 16 and up, and will be facilitated by the non-profit, Catalyst for Harmony. For more information and to sign up, visit: <https://bit.ly/ogpc-civil-rights-trip>

If you would like to speak to an organizer, please contact Kathy Howell (kathyhowell@comcast.net) or Mary Koon (mkoon@oakgrv.org); either of them would be happy to share our enthusiasm for and information about the journey and ways to participate in fund-raising to offset costs.

We will travel as a group of about 20 people. Oak Grove and friends have priority sign-ups now. After April 7, if needed, we will share the invitation with other churches.



Sankofa- a word from Ghana. This Sankofa bird symbolizes retrieving from the past in order to move forward in the present.

OAK GROVE & COMMUNITY



- Apr. 1 | Church office is closed
- Apr. 2 | Burgers 'n Brew Men's Fellowship (noon)
Contact Jim McCarl (952-948-2991)
Zeke's (7700 W Old Shakopee Rd)
- Apr. 2 | Evening Star Circle (3–5:00 pm)
Contact Connie Nesbitt (612-702-0684)
- Apr. 3 | WoW! Dinner & Programs (5:45 pm)
Hot Dogs (\$7 adults, \$4 kids, \$20 family)
- Apr. 4 | Men's Prayer Breakfast (7:30 am)
Contact Jack Kley (952-831-4138)
Denny's (4209 American Blvd W)
- Apr. 4 | Mission (6–8:00 pm)
Contact Greg Johnson (612-590-7461)
- Apr. 4 | Deacons (7–8:30 pm)
Contact Jen Pol (952-881-0273)
- Apr. 8 | Singles Fellowship (5–6:00 pm)
Contact Jane Jacobson (612-267-9068)
Zeke's (7700 W Old Shakopee Rd)
- Apr. 8 | Soul Sisters (7–8:30 pm)
Contact Pastor Mary

All events are at Oak Grove unless otherwise noted.

Grief Support Coalition Thursdays (4:40–6:00 pm)

Churches in the Bloomington-Richfield area are working together to provide free support and education for adults who are grieving the death of a loved one. You can start any series at any time. There is no commitment on attendance and no cost, just show up! Each session includes an educational presentation followed by small groups to share concerns and experiences.

The Spring Series, April 4 through May 16, will be hosted by Oak Grove Lutheran Church (7045 Lyndale Ave S, Richfield 55423). For more information, visit <https://brgriefcoalition.com>.

April 4: Growing Through Grief & Multiple Loss

April 11: How Families Grieve

HINT #9: Countdown to April 14 Opportunity Fair *(a Mission Committee event)*



Are you looking for a group that is working to end gun violence? If you answered, yes, **MOMS DEMAND ACTION** *may be the place for you!*

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.