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

Oct. 18, 2026 **21st Sunday after Pentecost** **10:30 am**

Baptism

A Thought to Ponder

"Every child born into the world is a new thought of God, an ever fresh and radiant possibility." – *Kate Douglas Wiggin, Educator & Author*

We Gather in God's Name

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Centering Time/Lighting of the Christ Candle

Call to Worship (*based on Psalm 96*) Amber Cotton

One: Sing to the Holy One, all the earth. Declare God's glory!

All: Great is the Holy One, who made the heavens and the earth.

One: Sing a new song unto the Holy One. Join with all creation in praise and reverence!

All: We witness God's marvelous works among the peoples.

One: Worship the Holy One, all the earth! Declare God's sovereignty!

All: Rejoice and be glad! God is great! Let us worship God!

***Opening Hymn** "O for a World" 372

***Prayer of Confession** Amber Cotton

All: Gracious God, you have revealed yourself in scripture, prophets, and the Christ. Yet, we have reduced your gospel of liberation for all people, restoration of all creation, and redemption for the world into personal piety and devotion. We make idols of the trappings of empire, trusting in our own plots and plans while failing to believe and trust you with bold, transformative prayers. Help us, O God, live in faith and access your power. Remind us that you equip and endow us to be your body in the world so that all may flourish and experience abundance. Amen.

***Assurance of Grace** Amber Cotton

One: Beloved One, God continues to do a new thing in us and will strengthen and encourage us to be bold and faithful in the journey. Receive the invitation to new and full life in Christ. Reject hopelessness, fatalism, and despair.

All: God has given us a spirit to live in the kin-dom and be ambassadors and agents of the good news for the glory of God and the good of the world. Thanks be to God!

Passing of the Peace Amber Cotton

One: Let us greet one another as new beings, reconciled to God and one another. The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you. (*Exchange the peace with those around you.*)

We Listen for God's Word

Time for the Young & Young at Heart

The Sacrament of Baptism Leighton Douglas
child of Idee & Jake Douglas

All: With joy and thanksgiving we welcome you, Leighton, into Christ's Church. We promise to love, encourage and support you, to share the good news of the gospel with you, and to help you know and follow Christ.

Hymn of Response "These Treasured Children" (vss 1 & 5) 487

Scripture Colossians 3:12–17 (NT: 201 | LPNT: 246)

Message

Faith Talk Ron Dubis

Presentation of Tithes & Offerings

Call to Offering

Anthem/Offertory "God, We Gather As Your Children"
by Lohman, arr. Keesecker

***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**

God of good and perfect gifts receive our humble gifts of time, talent, and treasure. May they contribute to a world of abundance and your kindom come. May we experience the joy and privilege of giving as a gift in and of itself. Amen.

Prayerd 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** "Together We Serve" 767

***Benediction**

Sending Song "What Does the Lord Require of You? 70

Postlude

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*

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Participants in worship today include:

Presiding Pastors: **Bart Roush & Mary Koon;**
Liturgist: **Amber Cotton** | Faith Talk: **Ron Dubis** | Musicians: **Chancel Choir;**
Pianist/Organist: **Nancy Jensen** | Director of Music: **Judy Cooper;**
Sound, Light, Video: **Greg Johnson, Randy Dop & Ruth Dukelow;**
Greeter: **Sarah Utter** | Custodian: **Bear Brown**

Chancel flowers are given today by
the Greimel family, in ***memory*** of ***Sue's dad, Skip Mooney,***
and by **Greg & Linda Johnson,** in ***memory*** of ***our parents,***
Mayo & Pearl Johnson and Jake & Dorothy Karlen.

Congregational Meeting & Waffle Breakfast: Sunday, Oct. 25

There will be a short congregational meeting immediately following worship to elect the incoming class of Elders (Karen Alonzi, Amanda Fineran, Jeff Hotchkiss, Iris Karow, Mark Pridgeon), Deacons (Cathy Colborn, Shannon Hauger, Curt Lambrecht, Glenda Robicheau, Marikay Wolf), as well as members-at-large (Sandy Crum, Cece Nedrud) to the Nominating Committee.

Join us in the social hall following the congregational meeting for a **waffle breakfast** complete with lots of toppings, hash browns, sausage, and orange juice prepared by Oak Grove youth! Free will donations will be gratefully accepted.

OAK GROVE & COMMUNITY

Adult Faith Formation: Sundays, 9:00–10:00 am

Please join us in the Fireside room for informative, faith-filled speakers and topics. Afterwards, join us in the social hall for coffee and refreshments.

Oct. 25: Spiritual Practices and the Reformation, Pastor Erica. One of the mottos of the 16th Century Protestant Reformation Movement was “the Reformed Church, always Reforming.” On Reformation Sunday, let’s talk about the spiritual practices of our spiritual ancestors from that time period, and how we might adopt and adapt (reform) them for our own times.

Children & Youth Faith Formation: Sundays, 9:30–10:15 am

Children (preschool to 5th grade) will start in the community room before proceeding to their classrooms. Youth (6th–12th grades) will meet in room 5 (middle school) on the lower level for Sunday School.

All Saints Sunday: Nov. 1 (during worship)

On All Saints’ Sunday, we celebrate the promise of everlasting life. We will be reciting the names and ringing the bell during worship for each Oak Grove member who has joined the Church Triumphant in the past year (Nov. 1, 2025–Oct. 31, 2026). If someone close to you, whom you want listed, has died in the past year, please send the name of the person, birth and death dates, relationship to you and a photo, if possible, to ogpc@oakgrv.org by Wednesday, Oct. 28.

Contribution Statements

Statements were sent last week covering all donations/offerings Jan. 1–Sept. 30. We invite you to review your statement for accuracy. Reminder, statements are sent to the email address we have on file or mailed to those without one. Feel free to contact Laura Nemcek with any questions (952-512-2052 or LNemcek@oakgrv.org). ***Thank you!***

Calling All Handcrafters & Bakers!

We will be holding the Alternative Christmas Marketplace on Sunday, Dec. 6 (9–10:30 am and following worship service). We are looking for donations of handcrafted items, as well as jams, baked goods and other edible items. We especially would like to have Christmas Cookies and other Christmas treats. Questions? Contact Sharon Nolte (952-292-4889 or sharonnolte@yahoo.com).!

OAK GROVE & COMMUNITY

Oct. 20 | Tai Chi (5:45–7:15 pm)
Free; all levels welcome

Oct. 21 | Ladies Who Lunch (12–2:00 pm)
In the Sea There are Crocodiles
by Fabio Geda
Contact Pastor Mary

Oct. 21 | WoW! Dinner (5:45–6:30 pm)
Baked Potato Bar
($7 adults, $4 kids, $20 family)

Oct. 21 | Matthew Black Concert (6:30–7:30 pm)

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

Oct. 23 | Tai Chi (5:45–7:15 pm)
Free; all levels welcome

Oct. 26 | Listening Group (1–2:30 pm)
Contact Pastor Mary

All events are at Oak Grove unless otherwise noted.

Oak Grove Fall Clean-up
Saturday, Oct. 24 (8:30 am to noon)

We will be cleaning up the church grounds to get them ready for the winter season.

We will be raking and bagging leaves, trimming bushes, and doing some window cleaning. Please bring a rake, a pair of gloves and other trimming tools. Snacks and liberal breaks will be provided.

Come for all or part of the morning, whatever your schedule allows. Your help is greatly appreciated by the Building & Operations Committee.

Pledging for 2027

As you look ahead to 2027, prayerfully consider how you give your time, talents and treasures to Oak Grove. Together, we serve and bring forward that light in the darkness, which is Christ's message through us. The darkness cannot overcome it.

Please consider making a financial gift and bring your pledge card to church on Commitment Sunday, Oct. 25, or pledge online at oakgrv.org/pledge. Pledges are used for budgeting purposes only and are not a financial commitment. Thank you all for your continued support of Oak Grove!

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.