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. 25, 2026 **Commitment Sunday** **10:30 am**

A Thought to Ponder

"The world does not need the church to talk about what is already possible. The work of the church is to battle the world's definition of what is believable and unbelievable." – *Walter Brueggemann, A Gospel of Hope (2018)*

We Gather in God's Name

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Centering Time/Lighting of the Christ Candle

Call to Worship Eric Johnson

One: God is our dwelling place from year to year, age to age. And yet, we become complacent, forgetting who we are.

All: God, reform us and reshape us.

One: God's life surges forth through creation, like grass that renews every morning. And yet we prefer to be dust, swept away in the wind of every new idea and new fad.

All: God, reform us and reshape us.

One: God turns to us, and has compassion on us, so the great work of our lives manifests Christ's glorious love to the world.

All: God, reform us and reshape us. Inspire us in the continuing reformation of the church and be present to us as we worship you!

***Opening Hymn** "Great God of Every Blessing" 694

***Prayer of Confession** Eric Johnson

All: Living God, you are the One who is always on the move, always creating and re-creating, always doing a new thing. And yet, we confess, O Lord, that our lives can become static, routinely paralyzed by doubt and fear. We remain stuck in patterns of greed, jealousy, and self-interest. We doubt your promises of abundant, everlasting life and so we live in dread of our neighbors, our friends, and our enemies. (*continued next page*)

Our souls remain still. We do not love as you love. Nor do we live as you would have us live, with courage, generosity or the boldness of the gospel. Forgive us, O God. Renew us by your Spirit, and reform us with your compassion, remaking us more fully into the image of Christ, and as nimble servants of your reign. Amen.

***Assurance of Grace** Eric Johnson

One: Friends, the good news of the gospel is that God's love in Christ stretches so deep and so wide that it infiltrates every broken place in our hearts and in our world. Our hatred is met with love, our cruelty is met with compassion, our sins and our trespasses are met with forgiveness.

All: God's forgiveness is greater than anything we have ever done, or could do. We open our hearts to let the love of God in, because in Christ we are forgiven, freed, made new. Amen.

Passing of the Peace Eric Johnson

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

Hymn of Response "These Treasured Children" (vss 1 & 4) 487

Scripture 1 Corinthians 12 (NT: 174 | LPNT: 211)

Message

Call for the Offering & Receiving of 2027 Pledges

Presentation of Tithes & Offerings

Call to Offering

Anthem/Offertory "We Will Be Your Church" *by Tina English*

***Doxology**

All: 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.

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer (^Father, Mother or Creator)

All: 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.

Prayer of Dedication

All: Loving God, you have given us life and freedom. Everything we have and everything that we are is a gift from you. You call us to be stewards of the gifts you give us.

***Hymn of Response** "We Lift Our Voices" 710

***Prayer of Dedication of our 2027 Pledges**

One: Let us pray and dedicate the pledges we have received and those we have yet to receive.

All: Loving God, we are saying yes to following you. May these pledges be used to make sure all are welcome here; bring relief to the suffering; feed the hungry; clothe the poor; give shelter to those who need it; and bring justice to the oppressed.

(*continued next page*)

As we look forward to the coming year open our eyes to what is possible in your sight. May we be part of the adventure that comes when serving you with our whole heart and being. May we continue to do justice, act mercifully, and walk humbly with you, our God. 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 & Erica Schemper;**
Liturgist: **Eric Johnson** | Musicians: **Chancel Choir;**
Pianist/Organist: **Nancy Jensen** | Director of Music: **Judy Cooper;**
Sound, Light, Video: **Randy Dop, Pierce Flanagan & Ruth Dukelow;**
Greeter: **Diane Baumgartner** | Custodian: **Bear Brown**

Chancel flowers are given today by
Ann Allen, in ***memory*** of ***parents, Marian & George Dingman,***
and by **Diane Baummgartner,** in ***memory*** of ***parents,***
Howard & Susan Baumgartner.

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.

Nov. 1: Pastor Bart, a continuation of the conversation from September about Christian Faith and Public Witness as we prepare for the week of the election.

Nov. 8: We'll watch and discuss an interview with Hanna Reichel, author of For Such a Time as This: An Emergency Devotional. A helpful resource to review this week as we consider the needs for Christian public witness in the post-election season.

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. Members may also bring a framed photo of a family member, friend, or loved one that has passed to be displayed in the sanctuary.

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).

REMINDER: Turn your clocks back!

Daylight Saving Time ends on Sunday, Nov. 1 at 2:00 am so remember to set your clocks BACK one hour before going to sleep on Saturday!

OAK GROVE & COMMUNITY

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

Oct. 27 | Prayer Shawl Ministry (10a–Noon)
Contact Nancy Kachel (651-208-7449)

Oct. 27 | Tea for Caregivers (10:30–11:30 am)
Contact Pastor Mary

Oct. 27 | Tai Chi (5:45–7:15 pm)

Oct. 27 | Session (6:45–8:15 pm)
Contact Pastor Bart

Oct. 28 | WoW! Dinner & Programs (5:45–7:00 pm)
Sloppy Joes and Macaroni & Cheese
($7 adults, $4 kids, $20 family)

Oct. 29 | Men's Prayer Breakfast (7:30 am)
Denny's (4209 American Blvd W)
Contact Jack Kley (952-831-4138)

Oct. 30 | Tai Chi (5:45–7:15 pm)

All events are at Oak Grove unless otherwise noted.

SAVE THE DATE!
Saturday, Oct. 31: Trunk or Treat

Come one, come all! Wear a costume, pull up your car and provide treats for excited trick-or-treaters! We know we'll have a great time.

Please plan to arrive by 10:15 am (the event begins at 10:30 am) to set up in the upper parking lot. If we have more, we'll continue into the lower lot. We hope to see you there!

Pre-Election Day Worship Service

We will gather on Monday, Nov. 2 at 6:30 pm in the sanctuary for a brief, casual, worship service ahead of the national election. We will spend time in song and prayer offering our hopes and concerns for the election. In addition, Oak Grove is a polling location, and we will pray over the various places and for the workers that will be in the building on election day.

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.