



## FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

APRIL 6, 2025

10:00 A.M.

OAK GROVE LUTHERAN CHURCH  
7045 LYNDAL AVENUE SOUTH, RICHFIELD, MINNESOTA

# WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT OAK GROVE LUTHERAN CHURCH

## Our Mission Statement

*To Put the Love of Jesus into Action,  
As We Welcome, Serve and Love All People.*

### PRELUDE

### WORDS OF WELCOME

#### + CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father,  
and of the † Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Most merciful God,  
**we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.**

**Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

**+ GATHERING HYMN**

*Christ, the Life of All the Living*  
vss. 1 & 3

ELW 339

**+ GREETING**

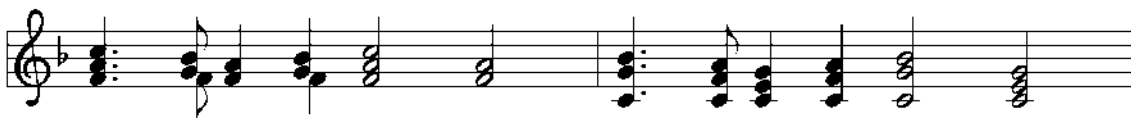
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

**+ KYRIE**

*Kyrie Eleison*

ELW 155



1, 3	Ky - ri - e	e - lei - son.	Ky - ri - e	e - lei - son.
2	Chris - te	c - lei - son.	Chris - te	c - lei - son.
1, 3	Lord, . . .	have mer - cy.	Lord, . . . .	have mer - cy.
2	Christ, . . .	have mer - cy.	Christ, . . . .	have mer - cy.



Ky - ri - e	c - le	-	i - son.
Chris - te	c - le	-	i - son.
Lord, . . .	have mer	-	cy.
Christ, . . .	have mer	-	cy.

**+ PRAYER OF THE DAY**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray, Creator God,  
you prepare a new way in the wilderness, and your grace waters our desert.  
Open our hearts to be transformed by the new thing you are doing, that our lives may proclaim the extravagance of your love given to all through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

**PSALM** Psalm 126

*Read responsively.*

When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dream.

**Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy; then it was said among the nations, "The LORD has done great things for them."**

The LORD has done great things for us, and we rejoiced.

**Restore our fortunes, O LORD, like the watercourses in the Negeb.**

May those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy.

**Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, carrying their sheaves.**

**NEW TESTAMENT READING** Philippians 3:4b-14

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead. Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**ANTHEM***The Wonderful Cross*

Chorale

**TEMPLE TALK***Meals on Wheels*

Elisa Tvete

**+ GOSPEL ACCLAMATION***Return to the Lord*

ELW p. 151



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and mer - ci - ful,



slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

**+ GOSPEL** John 12:1-8

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twelfth chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.****SERMON***Pressing On*

**+ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.\*  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

**+ PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Each petition concludes with:  
God in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

**+ SHARING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of the risen Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**OFFERING**

## **+ OFFERING PRAYER**

Gracious Provider,  
you set your immense treasures among us,  
opening your heart to the world.  
As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love,  
deepen our commitment to sharing those  
treasures with others,  
through our Savior, Jesus Christ.  
Amen.

## **+ GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**+ SANCTUS**

*ELW p. 153*



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san-na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes



in the name of the Lord. Ho - san-na in the high - est.

**+ WORDS OF INSTITUTION**



## + LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven,

hallowed be thy name,

thy kingdom come,

thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread;

and forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us;

and lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,

and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

## LAMB OF GOD

ELW 195

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on  
us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

## INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

1 Be - neath the cross of Je - sus I long to take my stand;  
 2 Up - on the cross of Je - sus, my eye at times can see  
 3 I take, O cross, your shad - ow for my a - bid - ing place;

the shad - ow of a might - y rock with - in a wea - ry land,  
 the ver - y dy - ing form of one who suf - fered there for me.  
 I ask no oth - er sun - shine than the sun - shine of his face;

a home with - in a wil - der - ness, a rest up - on the way,  
 And from my con - trite heart, with tears, two won - ders I con - fess:  
 con - tent to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss,

from the burn - ing of the noon - tide heat and bur - dens of the day.  
 the . . . won - der of his glo - rious love and my un - wor - thi - ness.  
 my . . . sin - ful self my on - ly shame, my glo - ry all, the cross.

## **BLESSING**

### **+ PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Generous Host,  
you have shared your feast with us and made us new.  
Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities,  
that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom,  
in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

### **+ BENEDICTION**

God our tender parent,  
God the crucified one,  
God the reconciling Spirit,  
✠ bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

+ SENDING FORTH HYMN

God's Work, Our Hands  
vss. 1 & 4

ACS 1000



1 God's work, our hands: work - ing to - geth - er,

4 God is at work in and a - round us:



build - ing a fu - ture, re - pair - ing the world,

seed - lings are sprout - ing and bread's on the rise!



rais - ing up homes, plant - ing new gar - dens,

Washed and set free, hum - bled and hon - ored,



feed - ing the hun - gry and shelt - 'ring the cold.

gift - ed by grace, we re - spond in God's love.



Bless, God, our hands as we work in your name,

Bless, God, our lives as we an - swer your call,



shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.

shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.

**+ DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.

**Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **Mid-Week Lenten Worship with *Holden Evening Prayer***

The theme for our Wednesday Lenten worship this year is *Living with Questions*. Asking questions is a normal part of the human experience. We do not have to be ashamed of our doubts or hide our questions, before God and each other. In fact, God fully welcomes them and welcomes us. May your questions speak to all of us as we move together toward the great and joyous mystery of Easter resurrection.

**Week 5: April 9** *What Was It Like Growing Up Gay in the Lutheran Church?*

### **Hosannah Brunch: Sunday, April 13**

Please remember to join us for this great fundraiser supporting Oak Grove Youth Campers. Brunch will be in the Fellowship Hall, starting at 9 am. We will close during the 10 am service and start again at 11 am. This is a freewill donation. We will be serving cinnamon and caramel rolls, assorted muffins with gluten-free choice, ham egg scramble, and sausage egg scramble.

Anyone wanting to sign up please look for a clipboard on the table under the tree. Members that have taken "eggs" from the tree, please drop off the items at church between Wednesday, April 9, and Saturday, April 12, by 9 am. Any questions please reach out to Joan Liljenquist at [jbotsie02@aol.com](mailto:jbotsie02@aol.com) or call her at (612) 600-7636. Thanks so much.

### **Peace and Justice Team**

A new ministry opportunity is being formed at Oak Grove Lutheran Church. Please consider being a part of the *Peace and Justice Team!* At the close of our forum on Christian nationalism, someone asked if the congregation could have more opportunities to learn and share about justice issues today. This desire is also shared by God, who in Micah 6:8 says to us, "*What does the Lord require of you, but to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God.*"

Some members of Oak Grove have already stepped forward to be a part of this ministry. Please join them in this important work for God and others! If you would like to be a part of the team, please contact Pastor Lee or Mary Beth Mohn.

## **Lunch Bag Decorating Service Project**

All confirmation students, their families, and the congregation are invited to come together and decorate lunch bags for Meals On Wheels! This event will take place on Wednesday, April 23, from 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Treats will be provided. Please come help us decorate 500 bags and make someone's day a little brighter! Thank you!

– Kelli Olson, *Oak Grove Education Coordinator*

## **Drivers Needed for Meals on Wheels**

Do you own and drive a car? Do you have an extra hour in your day, once a month? Are you looking for an opportunity to volunteer? Well, I have just the thing for you! I am in need of drivers to help deliver Meals on Wheels to residents in Richfield. Oak Grove delivers meals every fourth week. Meals are delivered on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. I need to supply 3-4 drivers for each of those days. The meals get picked up at Normandale Lutheran Church located at 62nd and Normandale Blvd. Once your route is completed, the meal bags get returned back to the same location, or if you wish you can drop the black bag, which holds the hot meals, along with the paperwork right here at Oak Grove. There is a large box located in the coat room where you can place the bag. It takes about 1 to 1-1/2 hours from start to finish. I may call on you once a month or every other month, whichever works best for your schedule.

If you are interested in helping out with this very rewarding opportunity, you may contact me at (651) 270-0005 and I would be happy to answer any questions you may have. I want to take this opportunity to thank all of my drivers who already deliver Meals on Wheels. Your service does not go unnoticed! Without you, this program would not be able to exist. Thank You!

– Becky Hanson, *OG MOW's Driver Coordinator*

### **Property Commission Help Needed:**

- 1-2 people to help clean the gutters of rock that the rain washes into them. (Ask Julie Tvete about details.)
- Someone to clean the filters on the AC
- Anyone who has expertise in electrical, plumbing, or small engine repair that would be willing to be on a call list
- Need 3-4 people who would be willing to shovel and put down salt or sand as needed during the week if it snows. Obviously we hopefully will not need anyone until the fall, but would like to get a list started.

### **Quiet in the Sanctuary**

With the new camera system, we have noticed that it easily picks up sound in the sanctuary, particularly before and after the service. Please be aware of this and come into the sanctuary quietly and whisper if conversation is needed. Thanks!

### **Prayer Chain**

We are starting a prayer chain and need people who would like to be included as a contact person to pass along the prayers. What would be needed is one person to start it by texting or calling a couple of people who would each contact a couple more people and so on. The prayers would only be passed along if the person needing the prayers contacts the church office and gives their permission. If you would like to be included as a contact person please text or call Georgeanne at (952) 212-7155.



## **OAK GROVE CORE VALUES STATEMENT**

**Love** one another with compassion and care, just as Christ loves us.

**Welcome** all people into fellowship with hospitality.

**Accept** others as they are, treating each person with respect and dignity.

**Worship** God through music and ministry, reflecting our Lutheran heritage while embracing new ways of worship.

**Grow** in faith rooted in the Gospel, both as individuals and as a faith community.

**Serve** the Lord by generously sharing our faith, time, talents, and resources with the community and the world.

## **OAK GROVE EVENTS THIS WEEK**

### **Sunday, April 6**

- 8:45 am Chorale Rehearsal
- 9:00 am Coffee Hour, Fellowship Hall
- 10:00 am Worship Service, Sanctuary
- 11:00 am Sunday School, SS Rooms

### **Monday, April 7**

### **Tuesday, April 8**

- 9:30 am Staff Meeting, Library
- 10:00 am Care Club, Fellowship Hall
- 1:00 pm Bible Study, Fireside Room
- 7:00 pm Council Meeting, Fireside Room

### **Wednesday, April 9**

- 9:30 am Bible Study, Fireside Room
- 5:00 pm 8th Grade Mentoring and Meal, Fellowship Hall
- 7:00 pm Lenten Worship Service: *Holden Evening Prayer*, Sanctuary

### **Thursday, April 10**

### **Friday, April 11**

Offices Closed

### **Saturday, April 12**

- Setup for Hosannah Brunch, Fellowship Hall
- 8:00 am Men's Bible Study, Library
- 9:00 am Joy Bells Practice, Sanctuary

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Sunday, April 13** — Palm Sunday Worship, 10 am & Hosannah Brunch, 9 am  
Palm Processional, "Noisy Offering," and Youth Choir

**Thursday, April 17** — Maundy Thursday Worship, 7 pm, House of Prayer

**Friday, April 18** — Good Friday Worship, 7 pm

**Sunday, April 20** — Easter Sunday Festival Worship, 8:30 am and 10 am

**Sunday, April 27** — Worship with Confirmation, 10 am

**Worship Leaders for next Sunday, Sunday, April 6**

**Assisting Minister:** Carol Swenson

**Scripture Reader:** Carol Tveite

**Communion Servers:** Nickie Wigdahl and John Wigdahl

**Worship Leaders for next Sunday, April 13**

**Assisting Minister:** Dan Curry

**Scripture Reader:** *Needed*

**Communion Servers:** Jeanne Hanson and Gordy Hanson

**Media – Facebook Live:** Les and Becky Hanson, Julie, Curtis and Elisa Tvette

**Sound Team:** Hermès Radison, Al Tuff, Mike Tveite, and Curtis Tvette

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*Oak Grove Lutheran Church sits on traditional lands of the Dakota people.  
We acknowledge, with gratitude, the many blessings we receive from this land.*

*Children are always welcome in worship. Activity bags are available  
in the library or ask an usher for help in locating them.*

**Restrooms:** *Located downstairs near the fellowship lounge.*

**Hearing devices:** *Personal hearing devices are available through the ushers.*

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If you're done with this bulletin, please leave it in the pew. It will be recycled.

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# Oak Grove Lutheran Church

## Staff

**Rev. Lee Hallstrom, *Interim Pastor***  
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Kelli Olson, *Education Coordinator*  
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Jeanne Hanson, *Financial Manager*  
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Erin Draeger, *Day Care Director*

Richard Jefferson, *Librarian*

## Music Staff

Morva Klein, *Organist*

Carol Swenson, *Chorale*

Julie Tvette and Elisa Tvette, *Bell Choirs*



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Office Hours: Monday – Thursday, 9 am to 2 pm