



SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

FEBRUARY 16, 2025

10:00 A.M.

OAK GROVE LUTHERAN CHURCH
7045 LYNDAL AVE. 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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
our creator,
our protector,
our wellspring of life.

Amen.

Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,
you speak blessing and compassion into the world.

**Forgive us for the ways we act
with judgment, cruelty, or indifference.**

**We ignore the needs of our neighbors;
we resist your call to oppose injustice;
we give in to scarcity and fear;**

we assume the worst about one another.

**Cleanse us from our faults
and release us from their grasp.**

Show us your lovingkindness.

**Restore our hearts and repair your world,
that we may live in Christ's ways.**

Amen.

† Please stand as you are able.

God proclaims these words of assurance:

“Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine.”

In † Christ, you are forgiven. In the Spirit, you are made free.

Refreshed by the waters of mercy, live anew as beloved children of God.

Amen.

+ GATHERING HYMN

Let Streams of Living Water

ELW 710



1 Let streams of liv - ing jus - tice flow down up - on the earth;
2 For heal - ing of the na - tions, for peace that will not end,
3 Your ci - ty's built to mu - sic; we are the stones you seek;



give free - dom's light to cap - tives, let all the poor have worth.
for love that makes us lov - ers, God grant us grace to mend.
your har - mo - ny is lan - guage; we are the words you speak.



The hun - gry's hands are plead - ing, the work - ers claim their rights,
Weave our var - ied gifts to - geth - er; knit our lives as they are spun;
Our faith we find in ser - vice, our hope in oth - ers' dreams,



the mourn - ers long for laugh - ter, the blind - ed seek for sight.
on your loom of time en - roll us till our thread of life is run.
our love in hand of neigh - bor; our home - land bright - ly gleams.



Make lib - er - ty a bea - con, strike down the i - ron pow'r;
O great weav - er of our fab - ric, bind church and world in one;
In - scribe our hearts with jus - tice; your way—the path un - tried;



a - bol - ish an - cient ven - geance; pro - claim your peo - ple's hour.
dye our tex - ture with your ra - diance, light our col - ors with your sun.
your truth—the heart of strang - er; your life—the Cru - ci - fied.

+ 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.

+ HYMN OF PRAISE

Now the Feast and Celebration

ELW 167



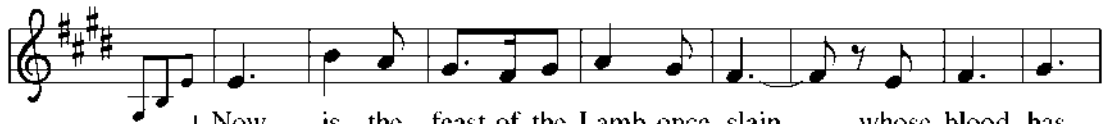
Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion



sings for joy to the God of life and love and free - dom;



praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!



1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has



freed and u - nit - ed us to be one great peo - ple of God.



2 Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and might, all hon - or and



glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.

3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo-ple of
 God; to make all things new. *Refrain*

+ PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray, Living God,

in Christ you make all things new. Transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your glory, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

PSALM 1

Read responsively.

Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers;

but their delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law they meditate day and night.

They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper.

The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away.

Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;

for the LORD watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

NEW TESTAMENT READING 1 Corinthians 15:12-20

Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ—whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

+ GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia

ELW p. 151



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

+ GOSPEL Luke 6:17-26

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the sixth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus] came down with [the twelve] and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

Then he looked up at his disciples and said: "Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh. Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets. But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry. Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep. Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

A Level Place

vss. 1, 3 & 4



1 Build a long - er ta - ble, not a high - er wall,

3 Build a broad - er door - way, not a long - er fence.

4 When we lived as ex - iles, ref - u - gees a - broad,



feed - ing those who hun - ger, mak - ing room for all.

Love pro - tects all peo - ple, spar - ing no ex - pense.

Christ be - came our door - way to the reign of God.



Feast - ing to - geth - er, strang - er turns to friend,

When we em - brace com - pas - sion more than fear,

So must our ta - bles wel - come those who roam.



Christ breaks walls to piec - es; false di - vi - sions end.

Christ tears down our fenc - es: all are wel - come here.

None can be ex - clud - ed; all must find a home.

+ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

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 of grace, **hear our prayer.**

+ SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the risen Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

OFFERING

+ OFFERING PRAYER

God of grace,
your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas.
Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts.
Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always. 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

Holy, Holy, Holy

ELW p. 207



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er 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, ho - san - na in the high - est.

+ WORDS OF INSTITUTION

+ LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father 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.

LAMB OF GOD

ELW p. 112-113



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 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry for a word of peace.
 2 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry for a world re - leased
 3 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry that the hun - ger cease,



To hun - gry hearts un - sat - is - fied the love of God is
 from hun - gry folk of ev - 'ry kind, the poor in bod - y,
 and know - ing, though we eat our fill, the hun - ger will stay



not de - nied. We come, we come to the hun - gry feast.
 poor in mind. We come, we come to the hun - gry feast.
 with us; still we come, we come to the hun - gry feast.

BLESSING

+ PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Nourishing God,
 at this table you have refreshed us
 with holy gifts of food and drink.
 Strengthen us for service,
 and send us out to embody your good news
 of liberation and healing for the sake of the world.
 In the name of Christ we pray,
Amen.

+ BENEDICTION

The Spirit of the triune God ✠ bless you with joy,
 anoint you with compassion, and send you in love.
Amen.

+ SENDING FORTH HYMN

Canticle of the Turning (vss. 1 & 4)

ELW 723



1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the
4 Though the na - tions rage from . . age to age, we re -



God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the
mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait,
liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp.



You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my
This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my
prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be



name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?
crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.



My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your jus - tice burn.



Wipe a - way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.

+ DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live in hope.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mid-Week Lenten Messages

This year, Pastor Lee would like to base his Wednesday Lenten messages on your questions. You are invited to submit questions on the Christian faith and life that are of importance/interest to you, and you feel would speak to others as well.

Pastor will select some of the questions to preach on during our mid-week Lenten worship. Also, your questions will help him know what is on your heart and mind as he prepares other sermons while he is at Oak Grove.

Please submit your questions in one of two ways:

1. Email your question to: pastorlee@oakgrovelutheran.org
2. Write your question on a piece of paper and place it in the small box in the church narthex.

Nomination Forms

Would you like to nominate a pastoral candidate? Nomination forms are available in the office. Please submit nominations by **February 28** by placing completed forms in the envelope in the church office.

Parents of Seniors

In 2023 we started a new ministry to remind our graduates that their Oak Grove family is always here to surround them with warmth and support by making them a lap quilt. In order to design and craft a special quilt for each student, we need some info from you. Please tell us about your student (future plans, school graduating from, favorite color and animal, hobbies, etc.), by email or text to Marilyn Jacobson or Kathie Curry by **February 28** (or sooner).

Got Pop Cans?

We are still collecting pop cans (and only pop cans) in the trash can outside the elevator on the bottom level. The money goes toward helping kids go to camp! Thanks!

Sponsor a Camper!

Your support is always appreciated, especially this year with the cost of attending camp going up 8% for Camp Wapo. The Youth will have multiple fundraisers this year but if you are able to sponsor a camper or two, that would be very helpful. Please reach out to Kelli Olson for more information.

Thank you all so much for your ongoing support of our youth!

Kelli Olson & Your Oak Grove Youth

Youth Bake Sale

Thank you all for your generous support for the Youth Bake Sale. We raised \$544. We appreciate all your support! Thank you!

Kelli Olson & Your Oak Grove Youth

Building Needs Forms

If you see something around the building that needs attention, please find a yellow Building Needs form on the small table outside of the church office. You may note whether it concerns a need for "cleaning," "consumables" or "repair" and describe the issue. Please leave your name and date, so that we may follow-up as needed.

Building Key Inventory Project

Please check your key rings and locate any keys you may have at home. Next Sunday, **February 23**, Amy will be in the office after worship until 11:30 am for a special Key Inventory Day, for those folks who are not able to come to office hours during the week! Keys will be physically imprinted with a unique number and a key record card will be completed. Working together, we can make Oak Grove a more secure building!

Spanish Classes

Spanish classes began at the beginning of February and continue every Tuesday through April 29th – right here at Oak Grove! Supper is offered first at 6:00 pm if you're interested, otherwise classes start at 6:30 pm and go until 8:00 pm.

Suggested payment is \$125 (less than \$10 per class). There are three levels available: Beginner, Intermediate, and Advanced. If you have any questions, contact Lidia Grabow.

Tour and Winter Concerts: Healing Body, Mind, Spirit

Join the National Lutheran Choir (NLC), under the leadership of Jennaya Robison, for *Healing Body, Mind, Spirit*. Hear the NLC at the Chapel of St. Thomas Aquinas on Sunday, March 2, 4:00pm. This performance will include a premiere of a new three-movement composition called "Three Songs for Healing" by Hans Bridger Heruth with text by Brian Newhouse. Additionally, this concert will include works by Karen E. Black, Sergei Rachmaninoff, Eric Whitacre, Moses Hogan, and more. Adults and Seniors: \$35 | Students: pay what you can | 18 and Under: Free. Discounts for groups of 10+! Call the NLC Office at 612-722-2301 for group tickets. For tickets and more information, please visit NLCA.com.

OAK GROVE EVENTS THIS WEEK

Sunday, February 16

- 9:00 am Coffee Hour, Fellowship Hall
- 10:00 am Worship Service, Sanctuary
- 11:00 am Sunday School, SS Rooms
- 11:00 am Milestones, Fireside Room

Monday, February 17

Offices Closed for Presidents' Day Holiday

Tuesday, February 18

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

Wednesday, February 19

- 9:30 am Bible Study, Fireside Room
- 6:30 pm Confirmation, Fireside Room & SS Room
- 7:00 pm Chorale, Sanctuary

Thursday, February 20

Friday, February 21

Offices Closed

Saturday, February 22

- 8:00 am Men's Bible Study, Library
- 9:00 am Joy Bells Practice, Sanctuary

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, February 22—Girl Scout Cookie Booth, Parking Lot (11 am to 4 pm)

Sunday, February 23 — Due date to submit Lenten Devotions to Pastor Lee

Sunday, February 23 — Key Inventory, After Worship

Friday, February 28 — Due date to submit Pastoral Candidate Nominations

Wednesday, March 5 — Ash Wednesday Service, 7 pm

Worship Leaders for Sunday, February 16

Assisting Minister: Lisa Hoyne

Scripture Reader: Greg Peterson

Communion Servers: Matt Cutter and Murt Hanson

Worship Leaders for next Sunday, February 23

Assisting Minister: Carol Swenson

Scripture Reader: Kelli Olson

Communion Servers: Julie Tvete and Jeanne Hanson

Media – Facebook Live: Les and Becky Hanson; Julie, Curtis and Elisa Tvete;
Pam Krause; and Kathie Curry

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

*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.*



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

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Richard Jefferson, *Librarian*

Music Staff

Morva Klein, *Organist*

Carol Swenson, *Chorale*

Julie Tvete and Elisa Tvete, *Bell Choirs*



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