



**AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM  
AND  
SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**APRIL 27, 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

## WELCOME

### + THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!**

In the name of † the One  
who was, who is, and who is to come.

**Amen.**

Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection,  
and called to live the baptized life,  
let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Holy God,  
we give you thanks for the waters of baptism,  
waters that make a people your own,  
that restore to wholeness,  
and empower us to be witnesses in your name.  
Baptized into you, O Living One,  
**make us one as you are one.**

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism,  
waters that strengthen believers  
and give new life to beloved servants of your church;  
waters that extend your boundless love  
and cross barriers of our own making.  
Baptized into you, O Living One,  
**make us one as you are one.**

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism,  
waters that open the hearts of believers  
and give a voice in the night to those in captivity;  
waters that set your people on a new path,  
rejoicing in the Spirit's power.  
Baptized into you, O Living One,  
**make us one as you are one.**

Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One,  
that our every day is shaped by these waters  
that give us our very lives in you.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One.  
**Amen.**

**+ GATHERING HYMN** *Hallelujah! Jesus Lives!* *ELW 380*  
vs. 1 – All, 2 – Men, 3 – A cappella, 4 – Women, 5 – All

**+ 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** *Awesome God*  
(sung twice)

*Our God is an awesome God  
He reigns from heaven above  
With wisdom, power, and love  
Our God is an awesome God*

## **+ PRAYER OF THE DAY**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray, O God,

**you give us your son as the vine apart from whom we cannot live. Nourish our life in his resurrection, that we may bear the fruit of love and know the fullness of your joy, through Jesus Christ, our savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## **PSALM** Psalm 150

*Read responsively.*

Alleluia.

O praise God in his holiness;  
praise him in the firmament of his power.

**Praise him for his mighty acts;  
praise him according to his excellent greatness.**

Praise him with the blast of the trumpet;  
praise him upon the harp and lyre.

**Praise him with timbrel and dances;  
praise him upon the strings and pipe.**

Praise him with ringing cymbals;  
praise him upon the clashing cymbals.

**Let everything that has breath  
praise the Lord.**

Alleluia.

## NEW TESTAMENT READING Revelation 1:4-8

John to the seven churches that are in Asia:

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed<sup>[a]</sup> us from our sins by his blood and made us a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Look! He is coming with the clouds;  
every eye will see him,  
even those who pierced him,  
and all the tribes of the earth will wail on account of him.

So it is to be. Amen.

“I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God,  
who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## + GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The image shows two staves of musical notation for the Gospel Acclamation. Both staves are in the treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The melody is written on a five-line staff. The lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.' are written below the notes. The first staff ends with a double bar line, and the second staff also ends with a double bar line.

## + GOSPEL John 20:19-31

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

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came

and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe<sup>d</sup> that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **MESSAGE**

*Commit Yourself to the Lord*

Commit yourself to the Lord;  
trust in him, and he will help you.

*Psalm 37:5*

## **SONG OF THE DAY**

*This Little Light of Mine*

*ELW 677*

## **AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM**

Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for Abby Bajula and Evelynn Follett, one with us in the body of Christ, who are making public affirmation of their baptism.

Let us pray:

Merciful God, we thank you for Abby and Evelynn whom you have made your own by water and the Word in baptism.

You have called them to yourself,  
enlightened them with the gifts of your Spirit,  
and nourished them in the community of faith.

Uphold your servants in the gifts and promises of baptism,  
and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth.

We ask this in the name of Christ.

**Amen.**

## **PROFESSION OF FAITH**

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

**I renounce them.**

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

**I renounce them.**

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

**I renounce them.**

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**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.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

### **AFFIRMATION**

You have made public profession of your faith.

Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:

to live among God's faithful people,

to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,

to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,

to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,

and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

**I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.**

People of God, do you promise to support Abby and Evelynn and pray for them in their life in Christ?

**We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.**

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life.

### **LAYING ON OF HANDS**

Father in heaven, for Jesus' sake, stir up in *Abby/Evelynn* the gift of your Holy Spirit; confirm her faith, guide her life, empower her in her serving, give her patience in suffering, and bring her to everlasting life.

**Amen.**

Let us rejoice with Abby and Evelynn, our sisters in Christ!

**We rejoice with you in the life of baptism. Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the good news to all the world.**

## PRAYER OF BLESSING

OFFERING

*Goodness of God*

Finley Adele Jones

### + SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of our risen Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*You are invited to share God's peace with one another.*

### + OFFERING PRAYER

Risen One,

**you have gathered us around your table of grace  
along with these gifts we bring.**

**Come among us again,**

**breathe your life into us,**

**and enliven us with this meal,**

**that we may live as your risen body in the world.**

### + 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. 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.

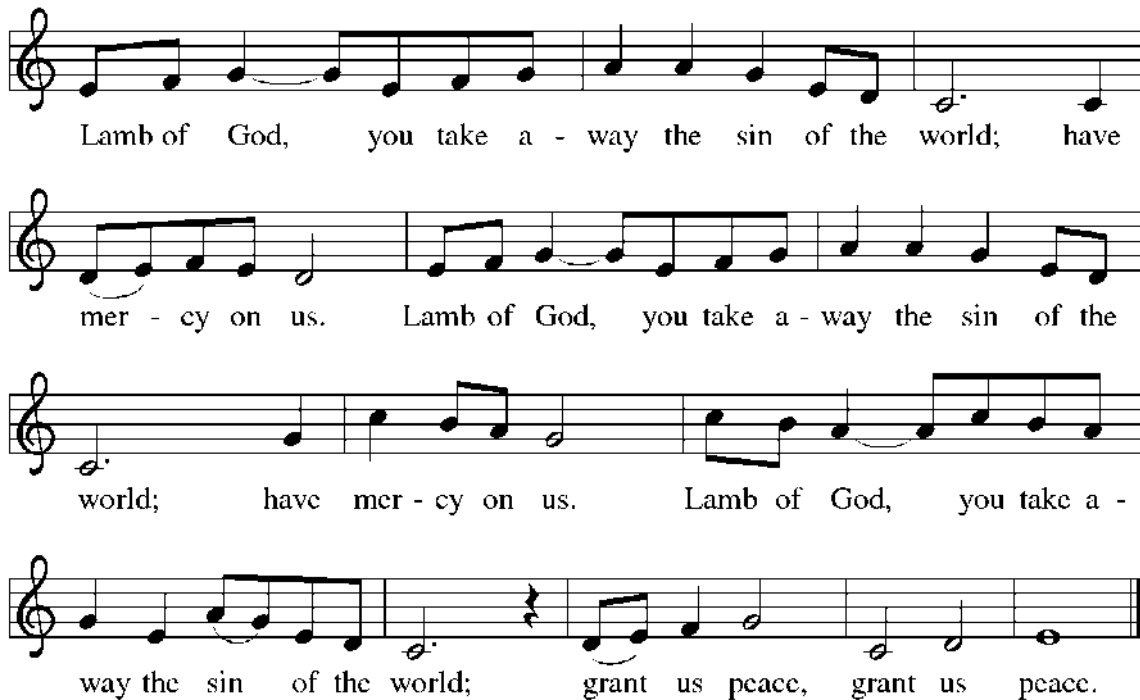
For the kingdom, the power,

and the glory are yours, now and forever.

Amen.

## LAMB OF GOD

ELW p. 112



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

### DISTRIBUTION

*Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song*

ELW 808

### + PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Living One,  
in this feast you have made yourself known to us.  
Send us now to tell of your wonders,  
sing of your glory,  
and proclaim your risen life  
to a wounded and weary world.  
**Amen.**

**+ BENEDICTION**

The triune God,  
who was, who is, and who is to come,  
Sovereign, † Savior, and Spirit,  
light your way with resurrection dawn,  
now and always.

**Amen.**

**+ RECESSIONAL SONG**

*Light the Fire*

*I stand to praise you, but I fall to my knees  
My spirit is willing, but my flesh is so weak*

*So light the fire (light the fire)  
in my soul (in my weary soul)  
Fan the flame (fan the flame)  
make me whole (make my spirit whole)  
Oh Lord you know (Lord you know)  
where I am (just where I am)  
So light the fire in my heart again.*

*I feel your arms around me, as the power of your healing begins  
Your Spirit moves through me, like a mighty rushing wind*

*(Light the Fire CCLI Song #332454 ©1986 Bloodsmith. Music For use solely with the  
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**POSTLUDE**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Blessings

We ask God's blessing upon Abby Bajula, daughter of John and Stacy Bajula, and Evelyn Follett, daughter of Travis Follett and Erin Stertz-Follett, today as they affirm their baptisms and profess their faith in Christ Jesus. Please remember them in your prayers.

### Thank you!

We are grateful to Finley Adele Jones for providing special music today.

### Community Garden Sign Up Time

This is our twelfth year for our Oak Grove Community Garden. And over these 12 years many gardeners have used our organic garden to grow their own vegetables, produce and herbs. It doesn't matter if you have a green thumb with years of experience or you're interested in just trying or you want your children or grandchildren to see how their food is grown – all are welcome!

What do our gardeners grow? Tomatoes, peppers, carrots, lettuce, potatoes, squash, green beans, cucumbers, herbs and much more. Vines (such as cucumbers and squash) should be contained on a trellis or something similar as we like to keep our woodchip pathways clear. We have 39 plots available.

The cost is still \$15 which helps pay for organic dirt, wood chips and other little items. I'm in the narthex today, **Sunday, April 27**, for those who want to sign up in person. You can also call me or send me an email. Payment can be cash, checks or via your donation account.

– *Marilyn Jacobson* (612) 385-2520 or [Mmjacobson2@msn.com](mailto:Mmjacobson2@msn.com)

### Got Pop Cans? Bring by May 4!

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

The collection will be ongoing, but the Curries plan to make a trip to the recycling center soon, so please bring in your cans by **Sunday, May 4**.

## **Oak Grove at the MN Twins—Sunday, June 8**

Last year Oak Grove Lutheran Church members attended a Minnesota Twins baseball game. We have reserved another game this year! It will be on **Sunday, June 8, at 1:10 pm.**

The price is \$64, which includes admission to the game, food, and non-alcoholic beverages. A sign-up sheet is in the church office. Please make checks out to Terry Gambaiani. **Please sign-up and pay by Wednesday, May 14.** Tickets will be available after May 25.

If you have any questions, please talk with Terry Gambaiani, Gordy Hanson, John Grabow, or Carol Martin (all ushers for the Minnesota Twins). Note: we have 12 ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) accessible seats.

– *Terry Gambaiani* (612) 270-6465.

## **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:**

- Anyone who has expertise in electrical, plumbing, or small engine repair that would be willing to be on a call list

## **Join the Sound System Team**

We are looking for people to join the sound system team. You do not need to know anything about how to make it work. We will provide training on how to make sense out of all of those knobs and how to use them. We will sit with you while you are learning how to make changes during a service. We will stay with you while you are taking control but are not yet confident enough to go it alone. If you are interested, contact Curtis Tvette (email me at [curtis.tvete@comcast.net](mailto:curtis.tvete@comcast.net), or text me at 612-750-2820). Or leave your contact information with Amy Hanson in the church office.

## **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.

## **Peace & Justice Team – Organizing Meeting/Kick-Off**

Following our two-part series on Christian Nationalism, several people expressed interest in a group that would explore ongoing social justice issues, become educated about divisive topics, and brainstorm activities that Oak Grove members and other interested community members could participate in to live out our mission “to put the love of Jesus into action as we welcome, serve, and love all.”



For those interested in participating, we'll be holding an organizing meeting/kick-off on Sunday, May 4th, downstairs immediately following the service, to brainstorm ideas and goals for this group, as well as determine a schedule for monthly meetings.

**Some potential ideas to discuss:**

- Hearing from various marginalized groups on the challenges they are facing in this current political environment.
- Exploring local activities where OGLC members could volunteer as a group to demonstrate putting Christ's love into action.
- Role-playing discussions on controversial topics to help people become more comfortable advocating for others in a respectful fashion.
- Viewing today's culture-war issues through the lens of the Gospel – what does Jesus tell us about how to proceed?
- Looking at additional ways Oak Grove members can be good stewards of our planet.
- Learning about other faith traditions, focusing on shared values.

**Meals on Wheels**

Dear Oak Grove Friends,

On Sunday, April 6th, there was a door offering after the service benefiting Meals on Wheels. An amount of \$324 was collected. Thank you to all of you who donated!!

A big thank you too to those of you who have contacted me to volunteer to drive and deliver meals to Richfield residents. Once again, I feel so blessed to be part of such a caring congregation!

If you wish to donate to Crosstown Meals on Wheels, or know someone who could benefit receiving meals at their home, go to the CMOW webpage at [www.crosstownmow.com](http://www.crosstownmow.com) to find out how.

With Deep Appreciation,

*Becky Hanson, OG CMOW Coordinator*

## **OAK GROVE EVENTS THIS WEEK**

### **Sunday, April 27**

9:00 am Coffee Hour, Fellowship Hall

10:00 am Worship Service with Affirmation of Baptism, Sanctuary

11:00 am Sunday School, SS Rooms and South Lawn

### **Monday, April 28**

### **Tuesday, April 29**

9:30 am Staff Meeting, Library

10:00 am Care Club, Fellowship Hall

1:00 pm Bible Study, Fireside Room

### **Wednesday, April 30**

9:30 am Bible Study, Fireside Room

### **Thursday, May 1**

### **Friday, May 2**

Offices closed

### **Saturday, May 3**

8:00 am Men's Bible Study, Library

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Sunday, May 4** — Peace and Justice Team Kick-Off Meeting, after worship

**Sunday, May 18** — Graduate Recognition in Worship, 10 am

**Saturday, May 24** — Funeral for Arnie Moe, 11 am, with visitation at 10 am

**Worship Leaders for Sunday, April 27**

**Assisting Minister:** Michele Myroniuk

**Reader:** Jeanne Hanson    **Communion Servers:** Matt Cutter and Julie Tvete

**Special Music:** Finley Adele Jones

**Worship Leaders for next Sunday, May 4**

**Assisting Minister:** Lisa Hoyne

**Reader:** Randy Hummel

**Communion Servers:** Margaret Olson and Kelli Olson

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

**Sound Team:** Hermès Radison, Al Tuff, and Curtis Tvete

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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.*



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***  
pastorlee@oakgrovelutheran.org

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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 Tvete and Elisa Tvete, *Bell Choirs*



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