



FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

FEBRUARY 2, 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

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

WORDS OF WELCOME

+ CONFSSION 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.

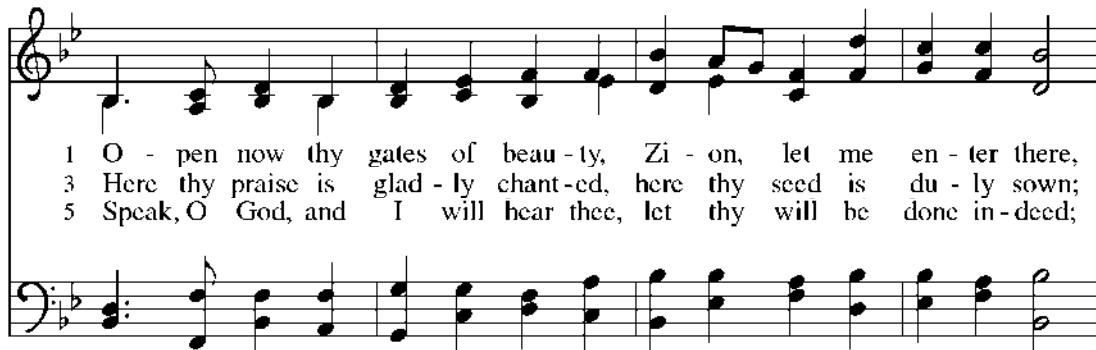
Amen.

+ GATHERING HYMN

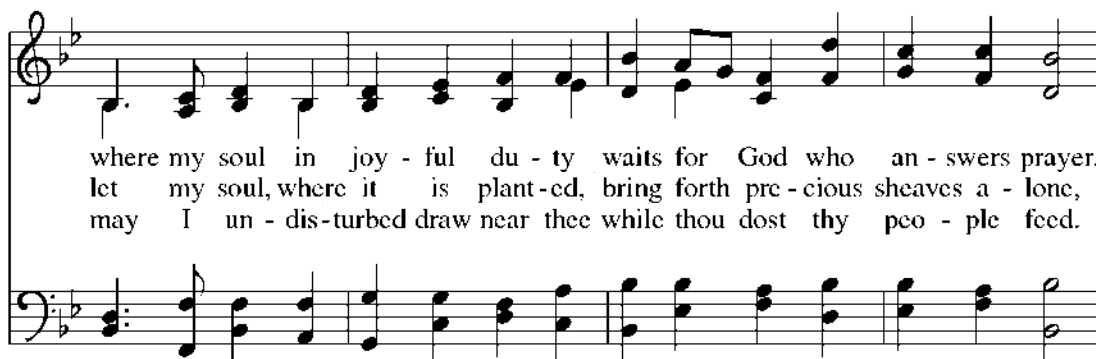
Open Now, Thy Gates of Beauty

ELW 533


vss. 1, 3 & 5



1 O - pen now thy gates of beau - ty, Zi - on, let me en - ter there,
3 Here thy praise is glad - ly chant - ed, here thy seed is du - ly sown;
5 Speak, O God, and I will hear thee, let thy will be done in - deed;



where my soul in joy - ful du - ty waits for God who an - swers prayer.
let my soul, where it is plant - ed, bring forth pre - cious sheaves a - lone,
may I un - dis - turbed draw near thee while thou dost thy peo - ple feed.



Oh, how bless - ed is this place, filled with so - lace, light, and grace!
so that all I hear may be fruit - ful un - to life in me.
Here of life the foun - tain flows; here is balm for all our woes.

+ 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

Glory Be to God in Heaven

ELW 204



- 1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
- 2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
- 3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

+ PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray, Almighty and ever-living God,

increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and love; and that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

ANTHEM *Hear Us Lord, and Renew Our Lives* Pam Gmitro & Morva Klein

PSALM 71:1-6

Read responsively.

In you, O LORD, I take refuge; let me never be put to shame.

**In your righteousness deliver me and rescue me;
incline your ear to me and save me.**

Be to me a rock of refuge, a strong fortress, to save me, for you are my rock and my fortress.

**Rescue me, O my God, from the hand of the wicked,
from the grasp of the unjust and cruel.**

For you, O Lord, are my hope, my trust, O LORD, from my youth.

Upon you I have leaned from my birth; it was you who took me from my mother's womb. My praise is continually of you.

NEW TESTAMENT READING 1 Corinthians 13:1-13

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

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

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

+ GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia

ELW 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 4:21-30

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, "Is not this Joseph's son?" He said to them, "Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, 'Doctor, cure yourself!' And you will say, 'Do here also in your hometown the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum.'" And he said, "Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet's hometown. But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, and there was a severe famine over all the land; yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon. There were also many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian." When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage. They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff. But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

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

SERMON

The Greatest of These

1 Love has brought us here to - geth - er; love of fam - 'ly,
 2 Love is gen - tle, love is pa - tient, soft in words and
 3 Love does not re - joice at e - vil; love re - joic - es

love of friends; love, our vow till death should part us; love, God's
 kind in deeds. Love is strong and nev - er pom - pous; love puts
 in the right. Keen in giv - ing and for - giv - ing, spread - ing

gift, that nev - er ends. From our birth, through - out our life - time,
 first the oth - er's needs. Not quick - tem - pered or re - sent - ful,
 love is love's de - light. When two peo - ple pledge their u - nion,

love's in - sis - tence calls our name. Floods of wa - ters
 prone to take of - fense or brood, love ex - cels in
 all who wit - ness are re - newed, feast - ing at love's

can - not drown it or put out its danc - ing flame.
 grace and mer - cy, nev - er jeal - ous, nev - er rude.
 earth - ly ban - quet, tast - ing heav'n's be - at - i - tude.

+ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Iona Worship Book

We believe in God above us,
 maker and sustainer of all life,
 of sun and moon, of water and earth,
 of male and female.

We believe in God beside us,
 Jesus Christ, the word made flesh,
 born of a woman, servant of the poor,
 tortured and nailed to a tree.
 A man of sorrows, he died forsaken.

He descended into the earth
 to the place of death.
 On the third day he rose from the tomb.
 He ascended into heaven,
 to be everywhere present,
 and his kingdom will come on earth.

We believe in God within us,
 the Holy Spirit of Pentecostal fire,
 life-giving breath of the Church,
 spirit of healing and forgiveness,
 source of resurrection and of eternal life.
 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.

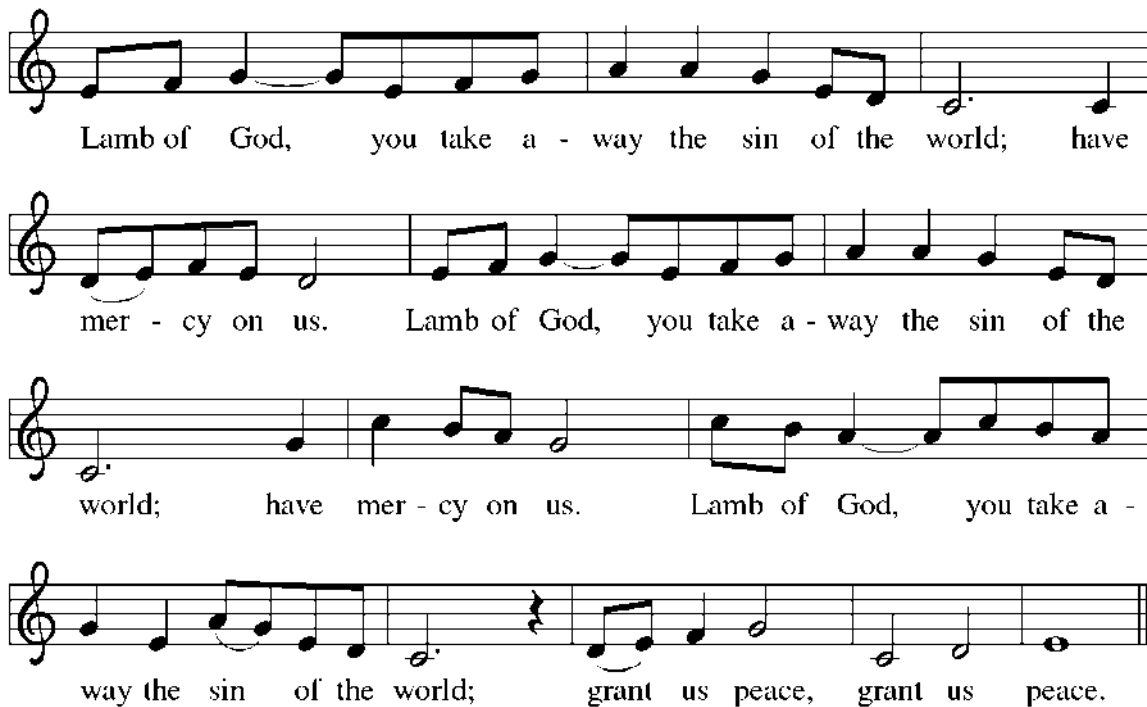
For the kingdom, the power,

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

DISTRIBUTION

Around You, O Lord Jesus

ELW 468

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.

1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on your peo - ple

4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils

pour your pow'r: crown your an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry;

we de - plore; let the gift of your sal - va - tion

bring its bud to glo - rious flow'r. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age

be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,

for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.

serv - ing you whom we a - dore, serv - ing you whom we a - dore.

+ 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

Gracias!

Many thanks to Tapestry Ministry for their generous gift of \$5,000 in 2024. We divided that gift to add \$2,500 to the Enduring Gifts Fund and included the remainder in our operating income for the year.

We are blessed to continue being in relationship with Tapestry and their ministry.

Congregational Devotional Book for Lent

Bless others in the congregation this Lent by sharing a devotion! Your devotion can be anything related to the faith that is meaningful to you, and you feel would bless others. You can base it on a Bible verse, a hymn, a personal experience, etc. (If you feel you would rather not compose something yourself, consider sharing another devotion that has been meaningful to you.) Please keep your devotion to about 150-250 words. You don't need to submit your devotion to Pastor Lee until February 23 (pastorlee@oakgrovelutheran.org) but please let him know soon if you will be willing to serve God in this way.

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.

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

We need your help

With Scott retiring we will all need to watch for things that need doing, make note of things that need fixing, etc. There will be an envelope on the small table outside the office with slips that you can fill out if you see something that needs doing or that we need to look at. The group that is setting up tables for meetings is doing their best to set up the right tables in the right rooms. If you get there and your tables aren't set up, please set them up and then let me know so that we can put it on our master list for next time. Please wash your own dishes, clean up your rooms when done, clean out coffee pots, etc. With all of us working together we can make this work. There will also be a cleaning service at church from 9 am to 1 pm Monday, Wednesday and Friday. They will do basic cleaning (bathrooms, garbage, dusting, floors, etc.)

Thanks for your cooperation – Julie Tvette (952-894-2361)

2025 Offering Envelopes

Offering envelopes for 2025 are available for pick-up in the narthex. The envelope numbers remain unchanged from last year and the packets are labeled. If you wish to start using envelopes, but have not used them previously, please sign-up on the pad next to the envelopes and a packet will be available for you next week.

Stewardship

There is still time to return your Statement of Intent to Oak Grove Lutheran. Pledge cards may be placed in the offering basket or dropped off in the office. If you're interested in the Vanco Simply Giving program, an automatic electronic way to give, please pick up an enrollment form in the office.

Building Key Inventory Project

Do you have your own key(s) for Oak Grove? Many keys are out there in circulation, and we need to get a more accurate idea of who has access to the building. We are taking an inventory of all building keys that have been issued, compiling a list of key holders, and adding a reference number to each.

Please check your key rings and locate any keys you may have at home. Keys may be brought to Amy in the office for numbering and recording on a key card. If you know of others who have keys and are not using them, please help to get the word out – those keys may be turned in. Working together, we can make Oak Grove a more secure building!

On 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 card will be completed.

Spanish Classes

Spanish classes start Tuesday, February 4th, and continue every Tuesday through April 29th – right here at Oak Grove! There will be supper 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 will be three levels available: Beginner, Intermediate, and Advanced. If you have any questions, contact Lidia Grabow.

OAK GROVE EVENTS THIS WEEK

Sunday, February 2

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

Monday, February 3

Tuesday, February 4

- 9:30 am Staff Meeting, Library
- 10:00 am Care Club, Fellowship Hall
- 1:00 pm Bible Study, Fireside Room
- 6:30 pm Lydia-Ruth Circle, Fireside Room

Wednesday, February 5

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

Thursday, February 6

Friday, February 7

- Offices Closed
- 5:00 pm Crafters' Group, Fellowship Hall

Saturday, February 8

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Tuesday, February 11** — Council Meeting, 7 pm
- Monday, February 17** — Presidents' Day, Offices Closed
- Tuesday, February 18** — Esther Circle Meeting, 7 pm
- Sunday, February 23** — Key Inventory, After Worship

Worship Leaders for Sunday, February 2
Assisting Minister: Michele Myroniuk
Scripture Reader: Barb Olson
Communion Servers: Gordy Hanson and Margie Risch

Worship Leaders for next Sunday, February 9
Assisting Minister: Lisa Hoyne
Scripture Reader: Carolyn Aura
Communion Servers: Dan Curry and Carolyn Aura

Media – Facebook Live: Les & Becky Hanson, Julie, Curt and Elisa Tvette,
Pam Krause, and Kathie Curry

*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

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Morva Klein, *Organist*

Carol Swenson, *Chorale*

Julie Tvette and Elisa Tvette, *Bell Choirs*

