

# Oak Knoll's Mission: Growing the Fruits of God's Kingdom Galatians 5:22-23

# **Christ the King Sunday**

November 23, 2025 9:30a.m.

Welcome to worship at Oak Knoll!

† Congregation please stand as able

Before the service begins, we invite you to use this time of silence for individual prayer and reflection.

By attending in-person worship you are consenting to being part of the livestream broadcast.

At Oak Knoll we welcome and encourage children in worship. We have a prayground up front and welcome children and parents to use this space to participate in worship together. We also have a play area in Fellowship Hall where you can hear the service if your child needs a break from the sanctuary worship space.

**GATHERING MUSIC** 

Crown Him with Many Crowns, arr. Neil Archer

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS** 

## **GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME**

#### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Oh How Good it is, arr. Molly Ijames, Oak Knoll Choir, Joni Sutton, Andy Anema - Percussion, Peter Leppa - Guitar

Oh how good it is when the family of God Dwells together in spirit in faith and unity. Where the bonds of peace, of acceptance and love Are the fruit of His presence here among us.

(refrain) So with one voice we'll sing to the Lord And with one heart we'll live out His word Till the whole earth sees the Redeemer has come For He dwells in the presence of His people.

Oh how good it is on this journey we share
To rejoice with the happy and weep with those who mourn.
For the weak find strength the afflicted find grace
When we offer the blessing of belonging (refrain)

Oh how good it is to embrace His command To prefer one another forgive as He forgives. When we live as one we all share in the love Of the Son with the Father and the Spirit (refrain)

## **† CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS**

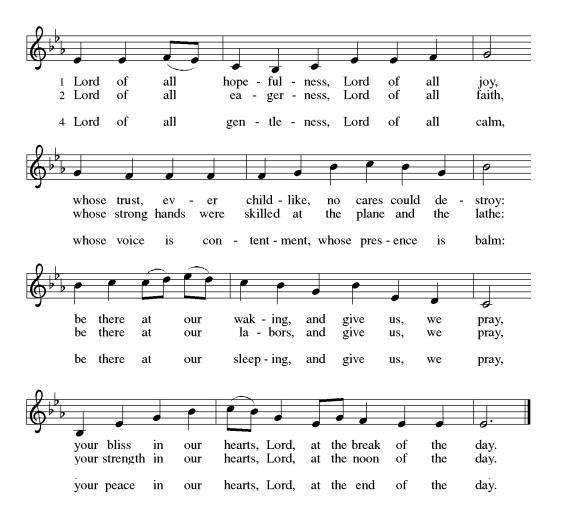
- P Blessed be the holy Trinity, 

  → one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

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

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

- P Faithful God,
- you have shown us the ways of your heart, yet we stray from your paths. We are stuck in sinful systems of oppression and do not embrace the freedom of your faithful promises. We ignore our neighbors. We exploit the earth. We reject your abundance, trusting our impulses instead of your steadfast love. Repair our relationships, restore what we have broken, renew our hearts, and bring us to new life. Amen.



Text: Jan Struther, 1901–1953 Music: SLANE, Irish traditional Text © Oxford University Press 1931.

#### **† 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** (from ELW liturgy Setting Six pages 165-166)

Kyrie (from the Greek for "Lord have mercy") was originally a shout of praise directed towards God. It is meant to be a joyful cry of "The Lord is merciful!" rather than a plea for mercy.

Cantor: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Cantor: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Cantor: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Cantor: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.



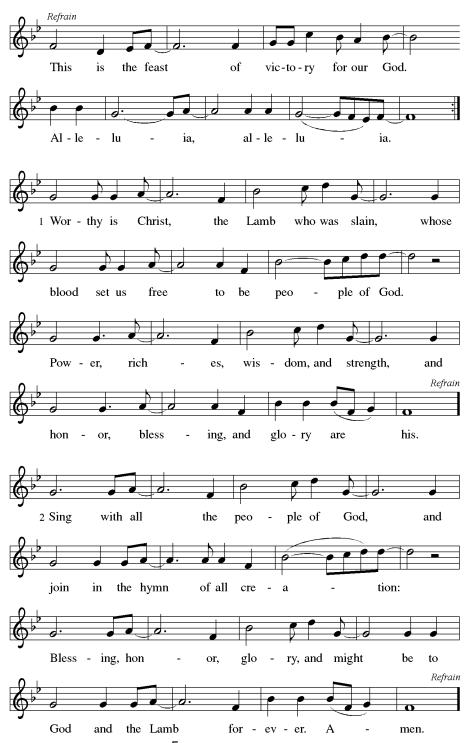
Cantor: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



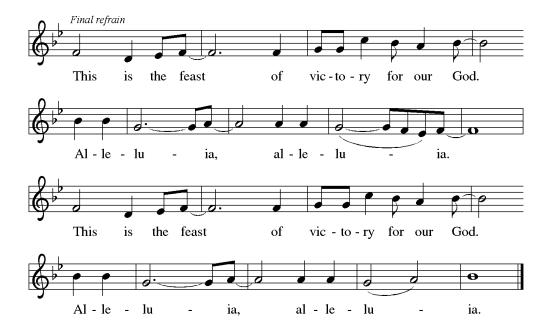
# † HYMN OF PRAISE

This is the Feast

Final refrain continued on next page



#### Final retrain - continued



#### **+ PRAYER OF THE DAY**

- P The Lord be with you. 

  And also with you.
- P Let us pray together.
- **ఆ** God of hope, how often have we found ourselves in exile, separated from your presence! Restore us, and help us find you when we seek you. Amen.

#### FIRST GRADE MILESTONE - FRUITS OF THE SPIRIT

# McKenna Bradley and Charlotte Cox

Sunday School Time: After the milestone, all children (ages 3-5<sup>th</sup> grade) are invited to join leaders in the Sunday school room for a special kids' lesson. Children are also more than welcome to remain in worship with their families. Sunday school children will return to service following the offering.

<sup>1</sup>These are the words of the letter that the prophet Jeremiah sent from Jerusalem to the remaining elders among the exiles and to the priests, the prophets, and all the people whom Nebuchadnezzar had taken into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon.

. . . .

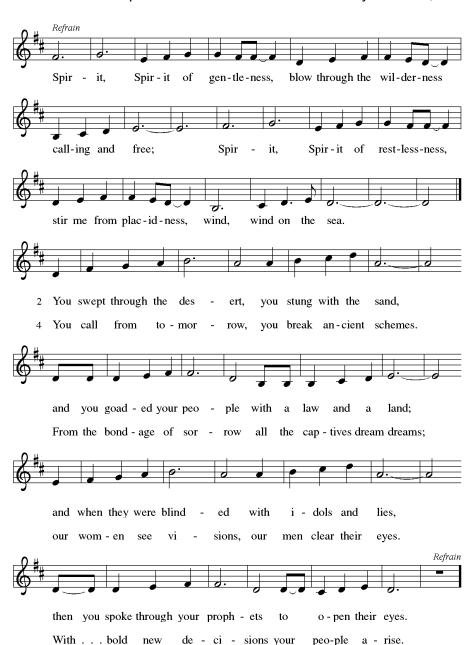
<sup>4</sup>Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, to all the exiles whom I have sent into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: <sup>5</sup>Build houses and live in them; plant gardens and eat what they produce. <sup>6</sup>Take wives and have sons and daughters; take wives for your sons, and give your daughters in marriage, that they may bear sons and daughters; multiply there, and do not decrease. <sup>7</sup>But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the Lord on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare. <sup>8</sup>For thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: Do not let the prophets and the diviners who are among you deceive you, and do not listen to your dreams that you dream, <sup>9</sup>for it is a lie that they are prophesying to you in my name; I did not send them, says the Lord.

<sup>10</sup>For thus says the Lord: Only when Babylon's seventy years are completed will I visit you, and I will fulfill to you my promise and bring you back to this place. <sup>11</sup>For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. <sup>12</sup>Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you. <sup>13</sup>When you search for me, you will find me; if you seek me with all your heart, <sup>14</sup>I will let you find me, says the Lord, and I will restore your fortunes and gather you from all the nations and all the places where I have driven you, says the Lord, and I will bring you back to the place from which I sent you into exile.

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

SERMON

Vicar Chantal Branker



Text: James K. Manley, b. 1940 Music: SPIRIT, James K. Manley Text and music © 1978 James K. Manley, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

peo-ple a - rise.

#### **† THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

P God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence. After each petition:

P We pray to you,

Blessed Be God, the Source of All Life, Red Hymnal 210

C





Text: Holy Baptism and Related Rites, Renewing Worship 3 Music: Carl F. Schalk, b. 1929
Text © 2002 and music © 2003 Augsburg Fortress.

## **† SHARING OF THE PEACE**

P The Peace of the Lord be with you all. And also with you.

In the first letter of Peter, the church is described as the priesthood of all believers. The work of the priesthood is to mediate between God and people. Prayer is part of that work; in our prayer we invite God to work in the world and in the lives of people.

Sharing of the Peace is a visible, concrete way we reach out to the members of God's family around us. We show our willingness to be agents of God's love and peace in the world in which we live. The opening words are from Galatians 3:28.

King of Kings, arr. Nick Robertson, Oak Knoll Choir, Makenzie Ross - Soprano, Joni Sutton, Andy Anema - Percussion, Sylvi and Sonja Leppa - Strings

In the darkness we were waiting without hope, without light 'Til from Heaven You came running, there was mercy in Your eyes To fulfill the law and prophets to a virgin came the word From a throne of endless glory to a cradle in the dirt

(refrain) Praise the Father, praise the Son Praise the Spirit, three in one God of glory, Majesty Praise forever to the King of Kings

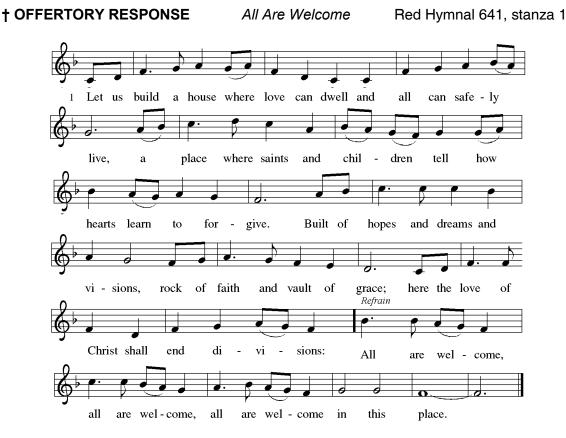
To reveal the kingdom coming and to reconcile the lost
To redeem the whole creation you did not despise the cross
For even in your suffering you saw to the other side
Knowing this was our salvation Jesus for our sake you died (refrain)

And the morning that You rose all of Heaven held its breath
'Til that stone was moved for good for the Lamb had conquered death
And the dead rose from their tombs and the angels stood in awe
For the souls of all who'd come to the Father are restored
And the church of Christ was born then the Spirit lit the flame
Now this gospel truth of old shall not kneel, shall not faint
By His blood and in His name, in His freedom I am free
For the love of Jesus Christ who has resurrected me (refrain)

Sometimes the Offering is viewed as a break in the service, a chance for the congregation to do some "fundraising". Actually, the offering is an act of worship. As we give our offering, we symbolically give ourselves to God. Our money is our servanthood in spendable pieces.



You can go directly to Oak Knoll's Online Giving page through <a href="http://oklutheran.org/give.">http://oklutheran.org/give.</a> and click on the 'Give' button on the top right of the page.



Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
Music: TWO OAKS, Marty Haugen
Text and music © 1994 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638, www.giamusic.com, 800.442.3358,
All rights reserved. Used by permission.

#### **+ OFFERTORY PRAYER**

- P Let us pray together.
- ☑ God of healing and hope, you bless those who are hungry, promising to fill them with good things. Fulfill that promise through us and these your gifts. Nourish us with the abundance of your feast and unite us into the blessed body of Jesus Christ our Savior, now and forever. Amen.

## GOD COMES TO US IN THE MEAL

### **† HOLY COMMUNION**

- P The Lord be with you. 

  And also with you.
- P Lift up your hearts.
  We lift them to the Lord.
- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- It is right to give God thanks and praise.

#### **+ WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

#### **† THE LORD'S PRAYER**

- P Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:
- 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.

The culmination of the worship service is the celebration of the Sacrament of Holy Communion, also called the Eucharist. Eucharist is a Greek word which means "thanksgiving".

The Words of Institution are the words Jesus spoke at the Last Supper when he "instituted" the sacrament. The Apostle Paul wrote these words in I Corinthians 11:23 -25.

The Lord's Prayer can be found in Matthew 6:9-13 and Luke 11:2-4.

#### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

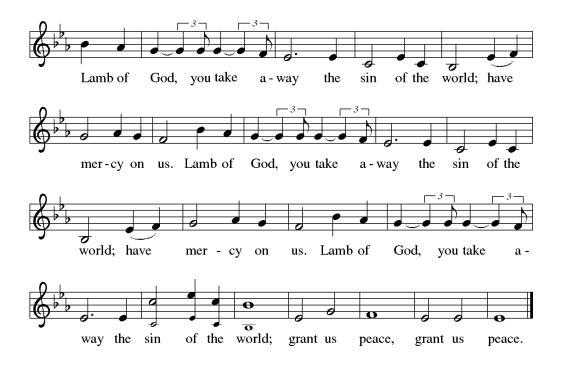
P There is a place for you at the table of God. Come, receive the food that does not perish, a taste of life eternal.

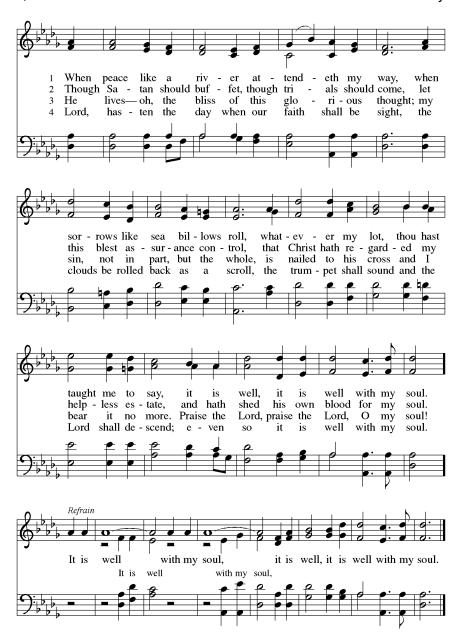
Jesus invites all to come forward to receive his gift of forgiveness and grace.

Today we will be celebrate continuous communion. The communion servers will give you the consecrated communion elements. After drinking the wine/juice you can place the small cup in the basket.

If you desire juice instead of wine or gluten-friendly wafers, please indicate to the server by raising your index finger. They will extend the plate to you--the gluten free wafers are located in the center dish--and you are invited to take one yourself.

#### **DISTRIBUTION** Please join in singing Lamb of God and distribution hymns:





Text: Horatio G. Spafford, 1828–1888 Music: VILLE DU HAVRE, Philip P. Bliss, 1838–1876 Beautiful Savior Red Hymnal 838



Text: Gesangbuch, Münster, 1677; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823–1904 Music: SCHÖNSTER HERR JESU, Silesian folk tune, 19th cent.

#### † POST-COMMUNION BLESSING & PRAYER

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

#### Amen.

- P Let us pray together.
- God of field and flower, wheat and grape, you have nourished us with the bread of heaven that gives life to the world. Strengthened by the body and blood of your Son, send us out to gather your good gifts for all who hunger and thirst, and embolden us to love and serve in Christ's name. Amen.

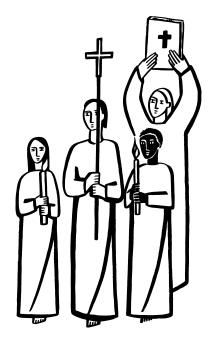
## **GOD SENDS US OUT TO SERVE**

#### **+ BENEDICTION**

P The love of God the Sovereign strengthen you. God the Son save you, and God the Holy Spirit anoint you for the work ahead.

The Holy Trinity bless you  $\pm$  and grant you a faithful and courageous heart now and forever.

#### Amen.





Text: Henry van Dyke, 1852–1922 Music: HYMN TO JOY, Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770–1827, adapt. † DISMISSAL P Go in peace. Share the harvest. 

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE Fanfare on Joyful Joyful, arr. Don Phillips

## Children, Youth & Family Pie Night - TONIGHT, November 23rd @ 6:30pm

Children and youth of all ages and their families are invited for a showing of a special Thanksgiving show as we enjoy pie. Please bring a pie to share! Sign up here.



## **Last Chance for The Knoll!!**

THE KNOLL continues Season 4 with new episodes every Friday. This is the last week **Stephen will be in Fellowship Hall after worship today** with his rolling recording cart to record short greetings for The Knoll. Stop by and share a greeting or a highlight of your week! Record your thoughts on today's service, or answer the question of the day. Your voices will be recorded and shared in the upcoming season of The Knoll.

## **Support ICA Food Shelf**

Right now, our neighbors are facing hardship and hunger with cuts to SNAP and other supports. Your gifts and donations can make all the difference!

How you can help:

 Donate food: Your non-perishable food items stock our shelves and provide direct relief. See our most-needed items list at <u>icafoodshelf.org/donate-food</u>. Please drop off all food donations in the Narthex.

Donate funds: ICA can turn every \$1 you donate into \$3 worth of food from food banks. Your financial gift provides more healthy, fresh options like milk and produce. Donate securely online at icafoodshelf.org/donate or by check in the Oak Knoll offering plate.



## Maynards Day is December 1st - All sales go to ICA

Join us for a fun and festive way to kick off the holiday season, with 100% of gross sales going directly back to ICA Food Shelf. Call now to make your reservation at 952.470.1800.

Maynards Restaurant, 685 Excelsior Boulevard, Excelsior, MN, 55331

### **ICA Turkey Drive**

A \$25 donation will provide a family in need with a turkey dinner, including all of the fixings this holiday season. To donate in person, visit:

- ICA Administrative Office; 12990 St. Davids Rd, Minnetonka
- ICA Food Shelf; 11588 K-Tel Dr, Minnetonka
- Cub Foods Minnetonka; 4801 County Rd 101, Minnetonka

To donate online, go to: <u>icafoodshelf.og/donate-turkey</u>

#### Thanksgiving Eve Worship & Pie - Wednesday, November 26th

Please join us on Wednesday, November 26th for Thanksgiving Eve Worship at 6:30pm followed by fellowship and pie! Sign up to bring a pie at the Welcome Desk.

We will also be collecting non-perishable items, canned goods, personal items, and cash donations for ICA Food Shelf. Thank you for your support!

#### **Order Christmas Poinsettias**

We will be taking Christmas poinsettia orders to adorn our sanctuary on Christmas Eve now through **December 7th**. Each order is \$20 and proceeds go to Oak Knoll's youth ministry. Sign up online at <a href="https://oklutheran.org/serve">oklutheran.org/serve</a> or find the paper signup at the welcome desk in the Narthex. You may pay online at <a href="https://oklutheran.org/sponsor">oklutheran.org/sponsor</a> or by check. You are welcome to take home your order following our second Christmas Eve worship service.



## **ADVENT WORSHIP SERVICES**

Please join us for Advent worship services, Wednesdays, December 3, 10, & 17 at 6:30pm. These services will be a candle lit time of reflection and preparation for the season. Soup supper is served from 5:45pm - 6:15pm.

Sign up to serve at one of our Advent Soup Suppers online at <u>oklutheran.org/serve</u> or at the welcome desk!



#### Breakfast with Santa - Saturday, December 6th

Join us for a fun and delicious neighborhood meal with Santa on **December 6th from 9:30-11am**. Please bring your own camera to take a photo with Santa. There will also be plenty of holiday crafts for families to work on! As always, this meal will be free for all. Gluten friendly and vegetarian options will be available.

Sign up to volunteer at Breakfast with Santa at the Welcome Desk or at <a href="https://oks.ncb/oks.nc

## **Women of Song Concert**

The choir, Women of Song, under the direction of Patricia Connors, will present "Give My Heart," a concert of Advent and Christmas music, here at **Oak Knoll on Saturday**, **December 6, at 7 pm**. The 50-voice choir, grateful to have found a home at Oak Knoll, invites the community to celebrate the season with them. No tickets are required. A free will offering will be collected.

#### A Heartfelt Farewell to Brooke Ruhlin

After seven wonderful years of faithful service, Brooke Ruhlin has resigned from her position as Facility and Finance Manager at Oak Knoll. Brooke has cared for our church facility, helped us steward our finances, and provided us with an excellent foundation as a place of hospitality to both members and guests. Her faithful commitment and dedication have been tremendous blessings to our staff and church family. **We will have a celebrating with cake after worship on Sunday November 30th.** If you'd like to bring a card, we will have a basket available that day.

## Sign up for Serving and Sponsorship

There are many opportunities to serve or provide sponsorship here at Oak Knoll -- this includes both ongoing and one-time activities. Check out <a href="https://oklutheran.org/serve">oklutheran.org/serve</a> and <a href="https://oklutheran.org/sponsor">oklutheran.org/serve</a> and <a href="https://oklutheran.org/sponsor">oklutheran.org/sponsor</a> to learn more about ways to share your gifts and enrich our community.



## **Sponsorship Opportunities**

There are plenty of Sunday's open to sponsor Sunday morning coffee and treats. The cost for coffee is \$50 for one slot up to \$150 for all three slots. You can sign up online at <a href="https://oklutheran.org/sponsor">oklutheran.org/sponsor</a> or at the welcome desk. You can pay online or by check. Thank you in

advance for your generosity in supporting Oak Knoll Lutheran Church!

• Upcoming available coffee dates: November 23, December 7, 14, 21, 28, 2025, and January 11, 18, 25



Plymouth Christian Youth Center is our Ministry Partner for November: Plymouth Christian Youth Center (PCYC) is a voluntary health, education, and welfare organization that was founded in 1954 to serve children and youth in the inner city of Minneapolis. Their mission is to enrich the skills, prospects, and spirit of North Minneapolis area youth and adults, in partnership with families and communities.

Your donations go toward paid internships and job training opportunities, free year-round academic and social-emotional enrichment of K-5 scholars, and supporting middle school youth through the Capri stage performances.

Learn more about PCYC at <a href="https://pcyc-mpls.org/about-pcyc/">https://pcyc-mpls.org/about-pcyc/</a> or donate by giving to Oak Knoll's Ministry Partner of the Month at <a href="https://oklutheran.org/give-online">oklutheran.org/give-online</a> or in person.

### **PCYC Holiday Gift Drive**

Over 3,000 gifts and 200 volunteers are needed to make the holidays brighter for 600 North Minneapolis youth who will shop for loved ones at the PCYC Gift Sale Store in the Capri. The annual gift sale will be on Saturday, December 13th.



Oak Knoll will be collecting unwrapped gifts for the PCYC Christmas Gift Sale now through November 30th.

Purchased gifts can be dropped off in the Narthex. You may also find a suggested shopping list in the Narthex. They are in need of NEW items, valued at \$10-25. Please purchase gifts for all ages. Children and youth will be shopping for infants, elementary and teenage siblings, and parents and grandparents.

You may also participate through volunteering for the gift sale or donating towards the cause. Find details at pcyc-mpls.org/gift-sale-2025/.



## Youth Christmas Party – December 14, 6:30 – 9:00 pm

All confirmation and high school youth are invited to the annual Christmas party. Please bring a white elephant gift to exchange and a dish to share. Sign up now.

### **OUTSIDE EVENT – Advent Family Retreat – December 5-7**

Luther Crest is holding a family retreat open to all ages. The whole family can join them for a weekend of fun games, worship, crafts, and advent themed devotionals! Get cozy by our fireplaces and stay together in our beautiful cabins by the lake and woods! A Friday night snack, Saturday breakfast, lunch, dinner, and snack, and Sunday brunch will be provided! Check in is Friday at 7PM and closing worship is Sunday at 11AM! Click here to register! Or, reach out to Christina Black if you're interested.

## **Live Nativity Needed**

We are looking for families (children & adults) to play shepherds, angels, Mary, and Joseph during our Christmas Eve services. These are not speaking roles. Simply put on a costume and walk in during the Christmas reading. Help bring the story to life!

Sign up to participate now!



## Youth musicians are invited to LSM 2026 at St. Olaf College!

Lutheran Summer Music Academy & Festival (LSM) is the nation's premier faith-based music academy for high school students. Young musicians come together from all over the country to immerse themselves in joyful music-making and build a supportive and welcoming community, living together on a college campus. During the day, students receive advanced musical instruction through large ensembles (Festival Choir, Band and Orchestra), chamber music, private lessons, and elective classes (such as conducting, composition, church music, jazz band, musical theatre, handbells). In the evenings, students attend recitals, Evening Prayer services, and social events with their friends. LSM 2026 takes place at St. Olaf College from June 21-July 19 (Full Session) or June 21-July 3 (Half Session) and is open to students who have completed grades 8-12.

Priority Enrollment is offered now through December 1 with a \$50 discount. Standard Enrollment is offered through March 1. General financial aid options are available.

Learn more: <u>LSMacademy.org/program</u> Apply: <u>LSMacademy.org/apply</u>

Questions: admissions@lutheransummermusic.org

Today, Sunday, November 23, 2025	
Worship	9:30 AM
Sunday School	9:45 AM
Coffee & Fellowship	10:30 AM
The Knoll-Mobile Cart - Fellowship Hall	10:30 AM
Children, Youth & Family Pie Night	6:30 PM
Monday, November 24	
Pew Sisters Bible Class	9:30 AM
Tuesday, November 25	
Wednesday, November 26	
Quilters	9:00 AM
Staff Worship Planning	11:00 AM
NO Confirmation	
Thanksgiving Eve Worship	6:30 PM
Thanksgiving Eve Pie	7:00 PM
NO Choir	
Thursday, November 27 - Office Closed	
Friday, November 28 - Office Closed	
Saturday, November 29	
Sunday, November 30	
Worship	9:30 AM
NO Sunday School	
Coffee and Fellowship	10:30 AM

## Oak Knoll Online Giving

You can go directly to Oak Knoll's Online Giving page through <a href="http://oklutheran.org/give.">http://oklutheran.org/give.</a> and click on the 'Give' button on the top right of the page.





## Oak Knoll Lutheran Church

600 Hopkins Crossroad Minnetonka, MN 55305-1486 (952) 546-5433 churchoffice@oklutheran.org www.oklutheran.org

#### PASTORAL STAFF

Jay Rudi, Senior Pastor Michele Abbott, Pastor Chantal Branker, Vicar

#### ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Brooke Ruhlin, *Finance & Facility Manager* Karla Stokke, *Office Administrator* Meg Gumbiner, *Communications Coordinator* 

#### PROGRAM STAFF

Matt Cerar, *Music Director*Parker Degerness, *Music Minister*Christina Black, *Director of Children*, *Youth & Family*Stephen Murray, *Streaming Director* 

PRESCHOOL Kathryn Glorvick, Director

HOSPITALITY COORDINATORS Ezra Black, Ivy Black, Sadie Longo, Sonja Leppa, Sylvi Leppa, River Vickerman

MINISTERS All members & guests of Oak Knoll

Cantor: Sam Black
Reader: Deborah Heltzer

**Prayer Leader:** Deborah Heltzer

Communion Servers: Marget & David Schmidtke, Liz Anema

Streaming Minister: Bob Samuelson

Ushers: Sandy Haapala, Sean Weiser, Nola Gilbert, Bella Madel

Counters: Anthony Stavig, Sean Weiser

Coffee & Treat sponsor: Your name could be here

# **Youth Activities Showcase**

If your child has an upcoming activity, we'd love to showcase it. Reach out to Christina Black at <a href="mailto:christina.black@oklutheran.org">christina.black@oklutheran.org</a> with details.