OAK KNOLL
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Oak Knoll's Mission: Growing the Fruits of God's Kingdom

Galatians 5:22-23

Thanksgiving Eve Service

November 25, 2026 6:30 pm

Welcome to worship at Oak Knoll!
† Congregation please stand as able.

Welcome to our Thanksgiving Service of Gratitude! We gather today as one body, In harmony with one another and all of creation as a reflection of God's gift of oneness to us all. Through this we see our mutual interdependence and that our solitude is bound within a multitude.

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 *For the Beauty of the Earth,* arr. James Koerts

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREETING

P: We gather in the name of ☩ God, our Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer.

C: Amen.

P: God hears the cry of the needy, and does not wait for us to call before coming to our aid;

C: While we were still lost in our brokenness and sin, God came to us, lived among us, died our death and rose to lead us into life.

P: And so we come to worship, to offer God our devotion and love, our thanksgiving and praise.

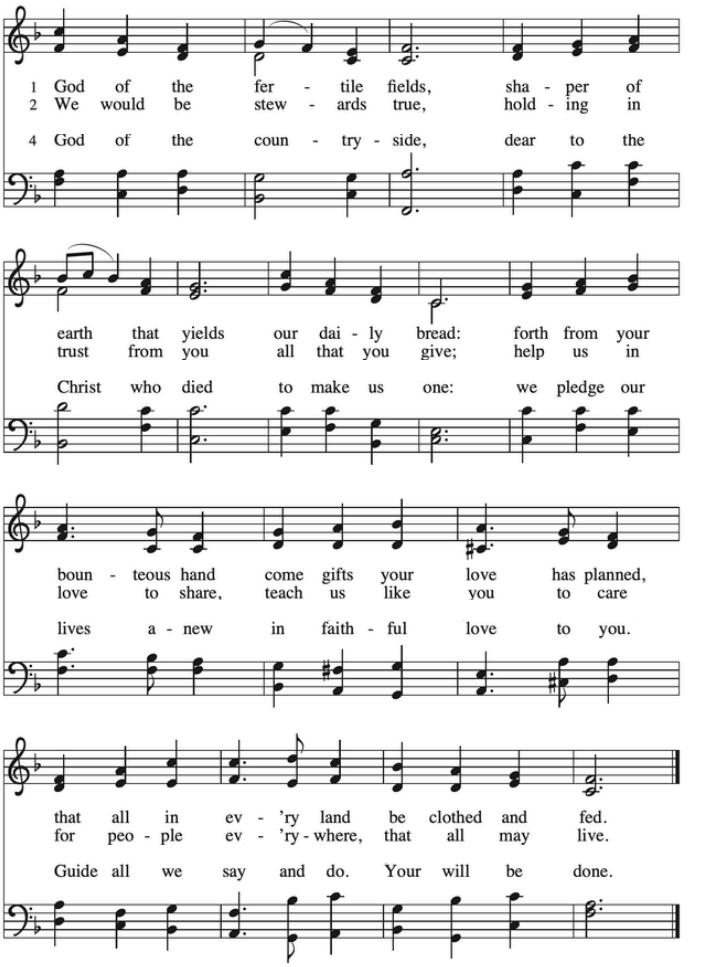
C: For God is worthy. Praise to our God.

Written by John van de Laar @2008 Sacredise

† OPENING HYMN

God of the Fertile Fields

All Creation Sings 1063,
stanzas 1, 2, 4



Text: Georgia Harkness, 1891–1974, alt.
Music: ITALIAN HYMN, Felice de Giardini, 1716–1796
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† PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray together the prayer of the day,

C: Almighty God, your generous goodness comes to us new every day. By the work of your Spirit lead us to acknowledge your goodness, give thanks for your benefits, and serve you in willing obedience, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

A SPECIAL THANKSGIVING READING *Thanksgiving Revolution,* by Carol Penner & posted on Leading in Worship:http://carolpenner.typepad.com/leadinginworship/

God, on this Thanksgiving we know enough to give thanks.
Our prayers often begin, "Thank you God for…"
and then we make a list.
The list is longer today, because it's thanksgiving.

But what if thankfulness has nothing to do with lists?
What if thankfulness is more like the difference between night and day,
the difference between being shut in and being free,
the difference between holding on and reaching out?
What if thankfulness is not something to be grasped,
not something that can be simply said,
not some thing at all?

What if thankfulness is transformation?
A Copernican revolution of the heart,
a re-centering, from our selves to your Son.
A blossoming, from bud to flower,
all the way to the ripe red apple.
A movement from life to death,
and beyond the grave to resurrection.
What if Thanksgiving is Christmas, Good Friday
and Easter all rolled into one.

When we are tempted to simply list our thanks,
or give our thanks,
show us the wider horizon,
where we are the extravagant gesture,
pressed down, shaken together, running over--
thankful people made in your image.

GOSPEL READING

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 17th Chapter
C: Glory to you, O God.

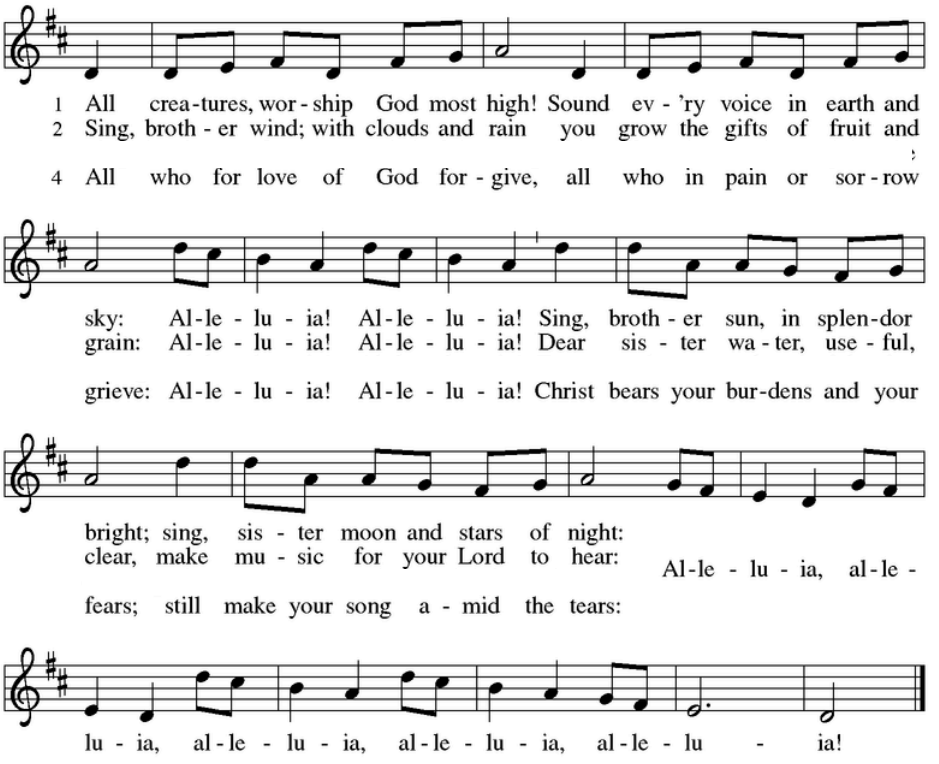
Luke 17:11-19
11 On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria
and Galilee. 12 As he entered a village, ten men with a skin disease approached him.
Keeping their distance, 13 they called out, saying, “Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!”
14 When he saw them, he said to them, “Go and show yourselves to the priests.” And
as they went, they were made clean. 15 Then one of them, when he saw that he was
healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. 16 He prostrated himself at
Jesus’s feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. 17 Then Jesus asked, “Were
not ten made clean? So where are the other nine? 18 Did none of them return to give
glory to God except this foreigner?” 19 Then he said to him, “Get up and go on your
way; your faith has made you well.”

P: The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

HOMILY Vicar Allie Papke-Larson

† HYMN OF THE DAY All Creatures, Worship God Most High!

Red Hymnal 835, stanzas 1, 2, 4



Text: Francis of Assisi, 1182–1226; tr. composite
Music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Köln, 1623
Text © 1997 Augsburg Fortress.

† THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

P: Let us pray for this community, the church and all of creation.

A brief silence. After each petition:

P: Lord in Your Mercy
C: Hear our Prayer

† SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

OFFERING *Thank you for supporting our ministry together.*

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 ***http://oklutheran.org/give-online.*** *and click on the 'Give Online' button on the top of the page.*

Music selection by Matt Cerar

† OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Let us pray together.
C: Eternal God, our time, talents, and treasures are gifts from you. Receive what we offer, and all that you entrust to us, until hungry no more, all the world is fed, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

† AN INDIGENOUS VERSION OF THE LORD'S PRAYER

P: And now we say together a version of the Lord's Prayer, written by a Nez Perce Elder

C: **Oh Great Spirit, You are our Shepherd Chief, In the most high place whose home is everywhere, Even beyond the stars and moon. Whatever You want done let it be done everywhere. Give us Your gift of bread day by day. Forgive our wrongs as we forgive those who wrong us. Take us away from wrong doings. Free us from all evil, For everything belongs to You. Let your power and glory shine forever. Amen**

(Written by Hattie Corbett Enos -Nez Perce Elder)

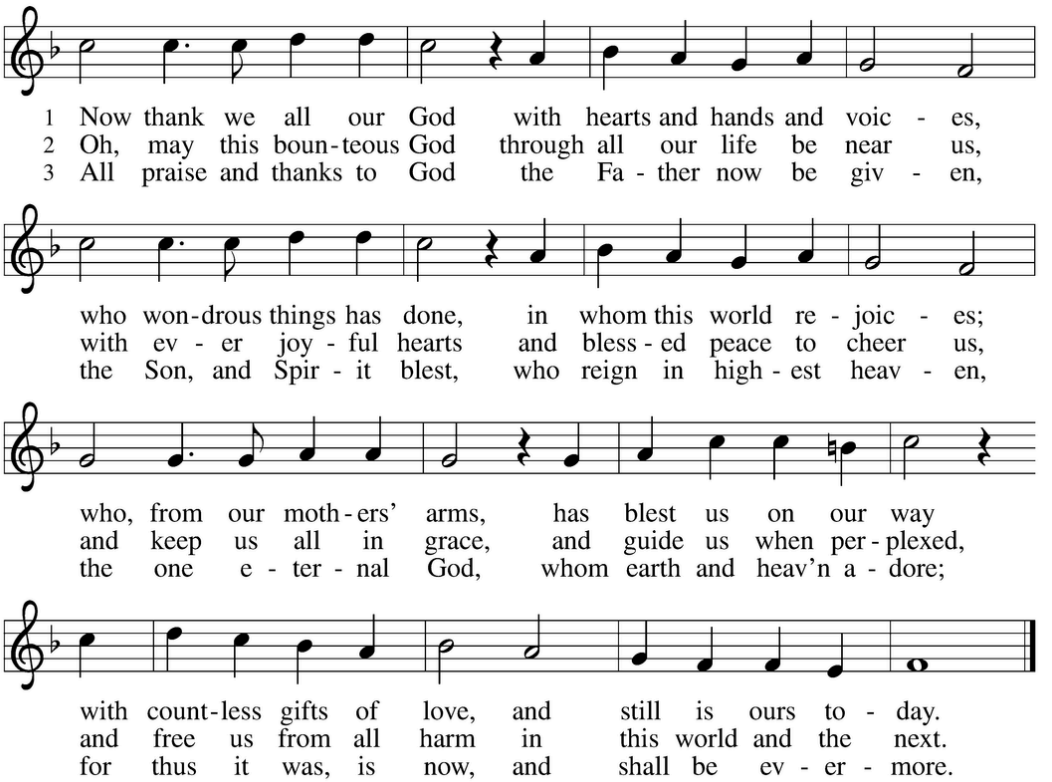
GOD SENDS US OUT TO SERVE

† BENEDICTION

P: Great Spirit, our Creator God, look upon these faces gathered in holy community together and send them anywhere you would have them go. Walk with them so that they may face the winds of change and walk the good road. Enlighten them. Sustain them. May God our Creator be with you this day and always.

C: Amen.

† SENDING HYMN *Now Thank We All Our God* Red Hymnal 839



† DISMISSAL

P: God in Peace to Love and Serve the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE *Now Thank We All Our God,* arr. Gail Smith

Parts of this evening's liturgy was borrowed from "Indigenous People's Liturgy", a service compiled by Dr. Kelly Sherman-Conroy. She is a Native American theologian, activist and storyteller. She is a member of the Oglala Lakota Nation, and the first Native woman theologian in the ELCA to have received a Ph.D. Her work focuses on systemic theology, Lakota spirituality and racial reparations. She is an outspoken champion for social justice and healing, and her work has received national and worldwide acclaim. She is an adventurer, a mother and a friend.

Oak Knoll Lutheran Church Special Congregation Meeting-December 6, 2026

Please join us **November November 29 at 10:45** in the Rose room for a Q&A about the repeal of Oak Knoll's current constitution dated January 29, 2023, and adopt a new constitution complying with the August 2025 ELCA Model Constitution.

The special Congregation Meeting will be held at 10:45am on December 6, 2026.

Maynards Day is Monday, November 30th - All sales go to ICA

Join us for a fun and festive way to kick off the holiday season! On Monday, November 30, Maynards in Excelsior (685 Excelsior Boulevard, Excelsior, MN, 55331) gives back 100% of proceeds back to ICA. Reservations fill up quick, so make yours today at www.opentable.com/maynards-excelsior or call 952-470-1800. Enjoy a lovely meal while supporting our neighbors in need!

ButterBraid Sales Close Soon!

If you haven't ordered your ButterBraids, you only have a couple more days. You can order online or reach out to Christina Black by December 1. All orders will be delivered to the church for pick up in mid-December. All proceeds will benefit summer camp and those going to the ELCA Youth Gathering.





Advent Worship Services

Please join us for Advent worship services, **Wednesdays, December 2, 9, & 16 at 6:30pm**. These services will be a candle lit time of reflection and preparation. Soup supper is served from 5:45pm - 6:15pm.

Breakfast with Santa - Saturday, December 5th



Please save the date for a fun and delicious neighborhood meal with Santa on December 5th at 9:30-11am. There will also be plenty of holiday crafts for families to enjoy!

Sign up to volunteer at Breakfast with Santa at the Welcome Desk or at oklutheran.org/serve, or sponsor the event at oklutheran.org/sponsor. Your sponsorship funds will help us pay for food, drinks, activities, and outreach for this fun event. Please consider donating what you can, or sponsoring five meals for $35. Thank you for supporting this community event!

Women of Song Concert

The choir, Women of Song, under the direction of Patricia Connors, will present "Sweet Radiant Mystery," a concert of Advent and Christmas music, here at Oak Knoll on **Saturday, December 5, 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.

Order Christmas Poinsettias

We will be taking Christmas poinsettia orders to adorn our sanctuary on Christmas Eve **now through December 9th**. Each order is $20 and proceeds go to Oak Knoll's youth ministry. Sign up online at oklutheran.org or at the welcome desk in the Narthex. You may pay online at oklutheran.org/sponsor or by check. You are welcome to take home your poinsettia following our second Christmas Eve worship service.

Amazing Grace Hmong Lutheran Church's New Year's Celebration

Amazing Grace's Hmong New Year celebration takes place **Saturday, December 12, 2026** at St. Philip's Lutheran Church in Fridley, MN. The formal program begins at 2:00 PM and the meal is at 3:30 PM.

Oak Knoll members are invited to attend this joyous celebration. Please RSVP via sign up genius at oklutheran.org

The location for the celebration is: St. Philip's Lutheran Church, 6180 Hwy 65 NE Fridley, MN 55432-5106. Park in the West parking lot and enter through the Fellowship Hall doors.

PCYC Holiday Gift Drive - December 12th



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 12th.

Oak Knoll will be collecting unwrapped gifts for the PCYC Christmas Gift Sale now through November 29th.

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 gifts for all ages, valued at $10-15.

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

It's Holiday Turkey Time at ICA!

As we enter this season of gratitude, we are reminded of God's incredible faithfulness and the many blessings poured into our lives. It is a time for family, friends, reflection and gatherings around the table. Yet, for many families the holidays bring added financial strain and worry about putting a basic meal on the table.

This year Oak Knoll has an opportunity to help ensure that no one, served by our local ICA food shelf, goes without a holiday meal. They are asking for our support. **Each $25 donation will provide a family with a turkey and all the fixings!**

Stop by the Turkey Table in the narthex to drop off your donation **now through Sunday December 13th** after worship, drop off a check in the church office noting ICA Holiday Food Drive in the memo line anytime during church office hours or make an online donation at oklutheran.org/give, Ministry Partner Support, indicating it is for the ICA Holiday Food Drive.

Thank you for your continued support and generosity towards our ICA mission partner. Together we can share Christ's love through a meal shared this holiday season!

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LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Jay Rudi, Senior Pastor
Michele Abbott, Pastor
Allie Papke-Larson, Vicar

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF
Karla Stokke, Office Administrator
Bonnie Johnson, Finance Manager
Lisa Moore, Facility & Event Coordinator

PRESCHOOL
Kathryn Glorvick, Director

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

HOSPITALITY COORDINATORS
Ezra Black, Ivy Black,Sonja Leppa, River Vickerman

MINISTERS
All members & guests of Oak Knoll

Readers: Clay Haapala, Mike Mostrom

Ushers: Sean, Janelle & Zoe Weiser

PCYC

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 https://pcyc-mpls.org/about-pcyc/ or donate by giving to Oak Knoll's Ministry Partner of the Month at oklutheran.org/give or in person.