

**Oak Grove Church of the Brethren**  
**December 1, 2024 • First Sunday of Advent**

**Introit** *Tidings Carol* Liebergen  
 (Kathie Robinson, flute)

**Welcome and Announcements, Joys and Concerns**

**Prelude** *Away in a Manger* J.R. Murray  
 (Amelia Hosey, piano)

**\*Call to Worship** Gavin Robinson  
*The congregation responds in bold.*

In the beginning, when the Spirit of God swept over the formless chaos that was not yet Creation, God spoke the first word: “Let there be...”

**...and life emerged from nothingness: stars, planets, animals, and humans dwelled in the perfection of God’s shalom. God was with them all.**

After creation was broken and God’s good earth wound down to barrenness, redemption’s quest began with God’s word to Abram: “Go to the land that I will show you...”

**...and a people emerged from barrenness. Some were faithful and creative; others were stubborn and hurtful. God was with them all.**

To a generation that lives in between Jesus’ coming and his coming again; in a time and place where we celebrate faithfulness and grieve brokenness, God’s invitation comes again: join redemption’s quest!

**We do not know what we will find on the road ahead. But we know the One who calls us to depart is with us all! We light this candle to guide our way.**

**Light the first Advent candle** Graeme Robinson

**\*Prayer of Invocation** Eli Raymond

**Open our ears, Calling God, that we might hear your invitation to depart and follow wherever your lead. Open our hearts, Saving Jesus, that we might be moved with passion for those people and places without your shalom. Blow within us, Invigorating Spirit, and fill us with all we need for faithfulness. Amen.**

**\*Hymn** *Come, thou long-expected Jesus* # 178

**Children’s Story** Isaac Hernandez, Amelia Hosey, Eli Raymond, Gavin and Graeme Robinson, Serenity Rodkey

**Offering**

*To make an online contribution, scan the QR code on the back of the bulletin.*

**Offertory** *Veni, Veni Emmanuel* arr. Young

**\*Response** *Gloria, in excelsis Deo* (refrain) # 197

**\*Hymn** *Watchman, Tell Us of the Night* insert  
 (Joe Blaha, recorder)

**Hearing from God’s Word**

**Scripture** Genesis 11:27 – 12:4 Vincent Pizzullo  
 Matthew 1:1-17

**Message** *Redemption’s Quest: Depart*

**Pastoral Prayer, with the Lord’s Prayer**

**Our Father in heaven, holy is your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

**\*Hymn** *Soon and very soon* # 611

**\*Benediction**

**\*Sending Song** *We three kings* (refrain) #1045

**\*Postlude**

*\*Please stand as you are able.*

**THIS WEEK AT OAK GROVE**

Monday	9:00 a.m.	ESL
	12:30 p.m.	Backpacks
Tuesday	5:30 p.m.	Handbells
Wednesday	9:00 a.m.	ESL
	6:00 p.m.	Men’s Bible Study
	7:00 p.m.	Choir
Thursday	2:00 p.m.	Games
Saturday	6:30 p.m.	Christmas Together Banquet at Camp Bethel
Sunday	9:45 a.m.	Sunday School
	11:00 a.m.	Worship

**PRAYER**

Jonna Detweiler, cancer treatment  
 Rachel Mabe, battling cancer  
 Phyllis Meadows, Pheasant Ridge Nursing Center Rm. 210  
 Marge Montgomery, rehab at home  
 Lowell Foutz, heart issues  
 Carol Jones, rehab at home  
 Tanya Pizzullo, cancer diagnosis  
 Rena’ Brown, hip surgery recovery

***You will see several Nativity sets decorating our church. They are from the collection of Emma Jean Woodard. Please enjoy.***

## CHURCH STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS

Pastor Tim Harvey  
pastortim@oakgrovecob.org

Minister of Nurture and Music Carol Elmore  
elmores24153@gmail.com

Worship leader Youth  
Worship leader (12/8) Joyce Harmon

Nursery workers (Infant) Holly Belcher and Mary Wilson  
Nursery workers (Children) Randall Eakin & Gloria Harmon

Nursery workers (Infant-12/8) Julie Carrol & Pam Conner  
Nursery workers (Children-12/8) Trenton & Kristin Marcum

Children's Story Youth/Martha Gregory

Head Usher Bill Hall

Sound Booth Don Pizzullo, Evan Jacobs & Eli Raymond

### Instrumentalists

Stephen Wills organ  
Joe Blaha piano

## ATTENDANCE AND OFFERING (11/24)

Sunday School- 43

Worship- 115 (in person); 16 (online) = 131

Offering- \$ 10,579.00; \$ 1,016.29 (online) = \$ 11,595.29

## CONNECTING WITH OAK GROVE



Find us on Facebook:  
Oak Grove Church of the Brethren



Interested in supporting our mission and ministry financially? Scan this QR code to contribute to via Tithely.



We have a limited number of spaces reserved for those with mobility challenges. If you are able, please park in the spaces farther away from the church.



Pews and chairs marked with this logo are reserved for persons with mobility challenges and their companions.



Our Meditation Garden is available for prayer in the side yard of our church property.



Need a hearing device, wheelchair, cushion, or have a question? Our head usher will be glad to be of assistance.



Childcare is available during the worship service for children birth to 2<sup>nd</sup> grade.



Hospitality is an important part of our life together—we want to know your name! If you're new here, we'd be glad to make a nametag for you. If you've been here a while, we'd love to provide a permanent nametag.



## *REDEMPTION'S QUEST: AN ADVENT JOURNEY*

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