

Oak Grove Church of the Brethren  
December 8, 2024 • Second Sunday of Advent

Prelude Coventry Carol English Carol

Children's Nativity and Songs Luke 2:1-20, Matt 2:8-10  
Go, Tell On the Mountain  
Jesus, We Will Sing of Your Hope, Peace, Joy, Love

Announcements, Joys and Concerns

\*Call to Worship

*The congregation responds in bold.*

Along redemption's quest, we find a difficult journey. It is easier to go with the flow, to remain where we are, to be unconcerned about things we've been told are not our concern.

**And yet we come from a long line of questers whose faithfulness helps us discern that the way things are must yield to the way things must be.**

We do not know everything; we have little to offer. Yet we lend ourselves to what is possible in God. May we say with Mary,

**"Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." We light this candle to help us discern our purpose in the darkness.**

Lighting second Advent candle Barnes Taylor

\*Prayer of Invocation

Merciful God, throughout time and place many ordinary people have heard your call. Discerning what was possible, they made their lives available to you and carried your work forward, a generation at a time.

Now we are here, and we hear your call. Moved by Jesus' birth so many years ago, we offer ourselves to prepare the way for his return. Amen.

\*Hymn *O little town of Bethlehem* (vs. 1, 2, 4) # 191

Offering *Ave Maria* Bach/Gounod  
(Sam Phillips, viola)  
To make an online contribution,  
scan the QR code on the back of the bulletin.

Offertory

\*Response *Gloria* (refrain) # 197

\*Hymn *Watchman, Tell Us of the Night* insert

Hearing from God's Word

Scripture Luke 1:26-38, 46-55 (NT, p.56)  
Message *Redemption's Quest: Discern*

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 *O come, O come, Immanuel* (vs. 1, 5, 6) # 172

\*Benediction

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

\*Postlude *O Little Town of Bethlehem* Redner  
\*Please stand as you are able.

THIS WEEK AT OAK GROVE

Monday 9:00 a.m. ESL  
Tuesday 7:00 p.m. Handbells at Fairington  
Wednesday 9:00 a.m. ESL  
6:00 p.m. Men's Bible Study  
7:00 p.m. Choir  
Sunday 9:45 a.m. Sunday School  
11:00 a.m. Worship  
5:00 p.m. Caroling

PRAYER

Jonna Detweiler, cancer treatment  
Rachel Mabe, battling cancer  
Phyllis Meadows, Pheasant Ridge Nursing Center  
Marge Montgomery, rehab at home  
Lowell Foutz, heart issues  
Carol Jones, rehab at home  
Tanya Pizzullo, cancer diagnosis  
Rena' Brown, hip surgery recovery  
Garland Brown, pneumonia  
Gil Henshaw, treatment for lung infection

***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	Joyce Harmon
Worship leader (12/15)	Trenton & Kristin Marcum
Nursery (Infant)	Julie Carroll, Pam Conner
Nursery (Children)	Trenton & Kristin Marcum Cooper Purcell
Nursery (Infant-12/15)	Randall Eakin & Amanda Leddy
Nursery (Children-12/15)	Lisa Newell & Robin Craighead Cooper Purcell
Head Usher	Bill Hall
Sound Booth	Don Pizzullo, Evan Jacobs & Eli Raymond
Church Closer	Milton Hartman
Church Closer (12/15)	Mike Elmore
<u>Instrumentalists</u>	
Stephen Wills	organ
Joe Blaha	piano

## ATTENDANCE AND OFFERING (12/1)

Sunday School- 50  
Worship- 107 (in person); 17 (online) = 124  
Men's Bible Study- 7  
Offering- \$ 5,748.00; \$ 210.00 (online) = \$ 5,948.00

## 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*

**Oak Grove  
Church of the Brethren  
Second Sunday of Advent  
December 8, 2024**

## 20 Watchman, Tell Us of the Night

ABERYSTWYTH 7.7.7 D

John Bowring, 1825; alt. 1972

Joseph Parry, 1879

**Children Participants**

Handing our bulletins: Rex Robinson

Reader: Lincoln Yingling

Mary: Harper Frantz

Joseph: Connor Hosey

Baby Jesus: Wyatt Smith

Angels: River Harmon, Annabelle Baird, Zaya Lane, Colleen Smith (Gabriel)

Shepherds: Donovan Hernandez, Jack Frantz, Gemma Yingling, Becca Duncan

Animals: Aria Duncan (donkey), Ava Duncan (sheep), Cesc Elmore-Martinez (sheep), Nora Smith (cow)

Star: Halle Turpin

Wisemen: Elan Lane, Miles Price, Barnes Taylor

A big thanks to Martha Gregory, Sharon Hanger, and Morgan Taylor for coordinating our Nativity for today!

1. Watch-man, tell us of the night, What its signs of prom-ise are.  
 2. Watch-man, tell us of the night, High-er yet that star as-cends.  
 3. Watch-man, tell us of the night, For the morn-ing seems to dawn.

Trav - eler, o'er yon moun-tain's height, See that glo - ry - beam - ing star.  
 Trav - eler, bless - ed - ness and light, Peace and truth its course por - tends.  
 Trav - eler, dark-ness takes its flight, Doubt and ter - ror are with - drawn.

Watch-man, does its beau - teous ray Aught of joy or hope fore - tell?  
 Watch-man, will its beams a - lone Gild the spot that gave them birth?  
 Watch-man, let your wan - derings cease; Has - ten to your qui - et home.

Trav-eler, yes; it brings the day, Prom - ised day of Is - ra - el.  
 Trav-eler, a - ges are its own; See, it bursts o'er all the earth.  
 Trav-eler, lo, the Prince of Peace, Lo, the Son of God is come!

*\*May be sung antiphonally.*

This tune in a higher key, 303

Alternate tune: ST. GEORGE'S WINDSOR, 551