

# Oak Grove Church of the Brethren

## February 23, 2025

**\*Calling in Hymn** *Lord, I Want to Be a Christian* insert  
An enslaved person asked a Presbyterian preacher in Hanover, VA, “Lord (sir), I want to be a Christian.”  
This is allegedly the origin of this spiritual.

### Welcome and Announcements, Joys and Concerns

**Prelude** *Here’s One* Spiritual/arr. M. Hayes

### \*Call to Worship

*The congregation responds in bold.*

We come, those who seek to trust in God.

**We commit ourselves to do as Jesus would do for those around us.**

We come, delighting in all the wonders God provides for us.

**We would not worry, but open ourselves to God’s heart.**

We come, waiting patiently for God to speak.

**We will be still, listening for God’s words of hope and peace.**

### \*Prayer of Invocation

Jesus, you choose grace over grudges and create community with us rather than standing isolated from us.

**You are our Brother and Servant, who cradles the fists of hatred in your scarred hands, doing good to those who do evil.**

You are the breath of wonder who blows death’s dust off our shoulders, who fills our empty souls with resurrection life,

**whispering words of peace into hearts full of anger.**

Fill our hearts with so much of your love that there is no room left over for anything else. Amen.

**\*Hymn** *There is a balm* # 627  
The refrain of this spiritual answers Jeremiah’s question, “Is there no balm in Gilead?” (Jer. 8:22)

**Children’s Story** Kirsten Lubbs-Robinson

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

**Offertory** *Meditation on “Erie”* Sheets

**\*Response** *Praise God from whom* # 119

**Anthem** *I Will Arise medley* American folk

### Hearing from God’s Word

**Scripture** Genesis 45:1-5 (OT, p. 42)  
Luke 6:27-38 (NT, p. 64)

**Message** *The cost of non-retaliation*

### 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** *Lift every voice and sing* # 579  
Written by John Rosamund Johnson, this is a hymn of faith and hope after what “the dark past has taught us”.

### \*Benediction

### \*Postlude

\*Please stand as you are able.

## THIS WEEK AT OAK GROVE

Monday	9:00 a.m.	ESL
	9:00 a.m.	Crafters
	12:30 p.m.	Backpacks
Tuesday	5:30 p.m.	Handbells
Wednesday	9:00 a.m.	ESL
	5:30 p.m.	Men’s Bible Study
	7:00 p.m.	Choir
Thursday	9:30 a.m.	Women’s Faith Study
	2:00 p.m.	Games
	6:00 p.m.	Constitution Revision Comm.

*Roundtable at Bridgewater is February 28-March 2.*

Sunday	9:45 a.m.	Sunday School
	11:00 a.m.	Worship
		<i>“Guess Who’s Coming to Lunch”</i>

## PRAYER

Jonna Detweiler, cancer treatment  
Rachel Mabe, battling cancer  
Marge Montgomery, Pheasant Ridge Rehab  
Tanya Pizzullo, cancer surgery recovery  
Marianne Pittman, hospice care  
Dave Jones, rehab for broken leg  
Youth *Discipleship 101* membership class

## CHURCH STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS

Pastor	Tim Harvey pastortim@oakgrovecob.org
Minister of Nurture and Music	Carol Elmore elmores24153@gmail.com
Worship leader	Vincent Pizzullo
Worship leader (3/2)	Scott Yingling
Nursery (Infant)	Joan Simpson
Nursery (Children)	Anna Hosey & Cooper Purcell
Nursery (Infant- 3/2)	Amanda & Jaxson Leddy
Nursery (Children- 3/2)	Cooper Purcell
Head Usher	Bill Hall
Acolyte	Amelia Hosey and Nora Smith
Sound Booth	Don Pizzullo, Evan Jacobs & Eli Raymond
<u>Instrumentalists</u>	
Stephen Wills	organ
Joe Blaha	piano

## ATTENDANCE AND OFFERING (2/16)

Sunday School- 45  
Worship- 95 (in person); 30 (online) = 125  
Offering- \$ 8,324.23; \$ 755.00 (online) = \$ 9,079.23

## 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.



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