

OAK GROVE CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

DECEMBER 28, 2025

Introit *Children, Go Tell It On the Mountain* Joseph Martin

Welcome and Announcements, Joys and Concerns

Prelude *Christmas Suite* arr. Arnold B. Sherman

***Call to Worship**

The congregation responds in bold.

We recently celebrated Jesus' birth as a baby in a Bethlehem stable.

Today we consider Jesus' visit as a boy to the temple in Jerusalem.

Luke records that when Jesus' parents found him in the temple after he had been missing, he was "sitting with the Jewish teachers, listening to them and asking questions."

We come to this church building to learn about divine truths and to nurture our relationship with God.

In response to his parent's reprimand for staying behind and not traveling with them, Jesus answered, "Did you not know I had to be in my father's house?"

We find it important to include in our lives times like this when we acknowledge the importance of being in the presence of God.

***Prayer of Invocation**

Lord God—as the boy Jesus remained in the temple to talk to the teachers, this morning we gather in this church building to worship God. As Jesus sought to learn more about God, we affirm the importance of being in God's presence. Reveal Yourself to us this hour, Lord God, we pray. Amen

***Hymn** *Amen, Amen* insert

Children's Story Amanda Leddy

Offertory Thought

Living in a relationship with God helps us to identify the holy moments of our lives and to resist temptation to do wrong. Our being here this morning prepares us to live more faithfully to God. This includes using our time, talents, and treasure to make life better for others.

Offertory

In the Bleak Midwinter arr. Brad Nix
To make an online contribution, scan the QR code on the back of the bulletin.

***Response**

In the bleak midwinter (vs. 5)

1037

What can I give Him, poor as I am?

If I were a shepherd, I could bring a lamb;

If I were a wiseman, I would do my part;

Yet what I can I give Him—give Him my heart.

Song

The Garden by Ross Flora, Millard Flora

(Ross Flora, Millard Flora and J.T. Spartaro)

Hearing from God's Word

Scripture

Luke 2:41-52 (NT, p. 59)

Message

Looking in the Wrong Places

Rev. J. D. Glick

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**

Good Christian friends, rejoice (vs. 2, 3)

210

***Benediction**

***Postlude**

Variations on today's hymns

*Please stand as you are able

PRAYER

Sharon Wertz (Star City Nursing and Rehab)

Lois Sowder (Terra Bella Pheasant Ridge)

Dan Brogan (Berkshire Health and Rehab)

Gladis Lehman (Friendship Manor)

Marge Montgomery (Pheasant Ridge)

Jonna Detweiler, ongoing medical treatment

Rachel Mabe, battling cancer

Ralph Petcher, recovering at home

Jake Keating, recovering at home

Bill Fowler, recovering at home

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 2nd 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.



Peacefully. Simply. Together.

**OAK GROVE
CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN**

DECEMBER 28, 2025

THIS WEEK AT OAK GROVE

Monday 12:30 p.m. Backpack
Church Office Closed January 1, 2026.

Sunday 9:45 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Worship



The After-Church Fellowship Team needs help!

If you are interested, there's a sign-up sheet in the fellowship hall. We'll also have a short walk-through with Kathie and Janet on Sunday, January 18th at 12:30 p.m. This will be a great opportunity to become more familiar with the church kitchen and see how everything works.

For more info, contact [Ellen Phillips](#) or [Rhonda Marcum](#).

CHURCH STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS

Pastor Tim Harvey pastortim@oakgrovecob.org

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

Instrumentalists

Stephen Wills, organ
Joe Blaha, piano

Worship leader

Connie Bierly

Infant Nursery

Holly Belcher and Amanda Leddy
Holly Belcher (January 4)

Childcare

Randall Eakin, Tina Angle, and Cooper Purcell
Ellen Phillips and Cooper Purcell (January 4)

Head Usher

Bill Hall

Sound Booth

Don Pizzullo, Evan Jacobs, Eli Raymond

Deacon of the Month

Deacon Committee

ATTENDANCE AND OFFERING (12/21)

Sunday School- 61

Worship- 150 (in person); 18 (online) = 168

Offering- \$ 7,969.45; \$ 423.61 (online) = \$ 8,393.06

The Garden

Ross Flora, Millard Flora

Down by the creek in that holler
As a child was where I'd wander
I planted seeds, prayed to the father
In grandpa's garden
Before my innocence forgotten
Before my heart had hardened
Before my grace was all but fallen
I walked in the garden
Daddy warned about taking silver
Thirty pieces worth your soul
And be mindful of the serpent
That forbidden fruit takes its toll
In the many miles that took me from home
I got lost, and found out on my own
Learned the hard way, lessons that I'd known
When I left the garden
Am I still a son begotten
Is my soul still sovereign
Have my decisions bound the pardon
Found in the garden
Daddy warned about taking silver
Thirty pieces worth your soul
And be mindful of the serpent
That forbidden fruit takes its toll
Give me strength or give me mercy
If I'm to reap these seeds I've sown
But my weary heart need not worry
Cause I find forgiveness in this
ground is grown
Here in the garden
Daddy warned about taking silver
Thirty pieces worth your soul
Boy be mindful of the serpent
That forbidden fruit takes its toll
Here in the garden
Here in the garden

Amen, Amen

All

A - men a - men, a - men, a - men, a -

Leader

1 See the lit - tle ba - by_____
 2 See him at the tem - ple_____
 3 See him at the sea - side_____
 4 See him in the gar - den_____
 5 Then they cru - ci - fied him,_____
 men._____
 men,_____
 a|_____
 ly - ing in a man - ger_____
 tal - king to the el - ders;_____
 prea - ching and heal - ing_____
 pra - ying to his Fa - ther_____
 Je - sus, our Sa - vior,_____
 on how they
 the in
 and he

Christ mas mor - ning,
 mar - veled at his wis - dom,
 blind and fee - ble.
 deep - est sor - row.
 rose on Eas - ter.

last time

men, a - men, a - men, a - men.

Text: African-American spiritual
Tune: African-American spiritual,
arr. Nelsie T. Johnson (1912-)



Irregular
[Amen, Amen]