

OAK GROVE

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

November 27, 2022

First Sunday of Advent

Important Dates

November 26	Youth Christmas Tree Lot opens		
November 27	Intergenerational Lantern Parade	6:45 pm	Oak Grove Park
November 30	Advent Market	5-7 pm	Grand Hall
December 2	Children's Drive-In Movie	6 pm	Back Parking
December 4	Youth Christmas Party	5:30 pm	Oak Grove Park
December 10	Season of Hope: A Christmas Concert	3:30 and 6 pm*	Sanctuary
December 11	Season of Hope: A Christmas Concert	6 pm	Sanctuary
December 14	Service of Hope	6 pm	Sanctuary*
December 18	Youth Ice Skating	1 pm	Away

Christmas Services

December 21	Travelers Service	6:30 pm	Oak Grove Park
	<i>Bring a blanket or chair(s) and come sip hot chocolate with us around the fire as we celebrate Christmas in the Park. (Rain plan will be Fellowship Hall.)</i>		
December 24	Children's Christmas Service	3 pm	Oak Grove Park
	Modern Worship Service	5 pm	Fellowship Hall*
	Traditional Worship Service	5 pm	Sanctuary*
	Traditional Worship Service	8 pm	Sanctuary
December 25	Traditional Worship Service	11 am	Sanctuary*

Last Week of 2022

December 26-27 **Church Offices Closed**
 December 28-30 **Church Offices Open**

*Postmark checks by 12/31 for
 2022 giving and drop off by*

*This service will be livestreamed at youtube.com/ogumc



Connect with Oak Grove

Thank you for participating in worship today. We're glad you're here.

Open your camera app and scan the QR code to visit ogumc.org/connect to

- register your attendance
- ask to speak to a pastor
- sign up for congregational emails
- request to join the church
- or give online.

8:30 AND 11 A.M. ORDER OF WORSHIP

November 27, 2022

First Sunday of Advent

Gathering Music	Ballade de Jésus-Christ Leanne Herrmann, piano	L Shackley
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Welcome and Announcements		Dr. Joseph McBrayer
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Introit	In Him There Is No Darkness At All <i>In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike. The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.</i>	K Thomerson
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*Call to Worship		Dr. McBrayer
God has promised us a Savior. We await his arrival. Let us prepare our hearts for him. We will make him room.		

*Hymn	Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus	UMH 196
<i>(At the 11:00 a.m. service, children in Pre-K, Kindergarten, and 1st grade are invited to leave for Children's Church during the last stanza of this Hymn. Children will return to the service on the final hymn. If you are new to Oak Grove, please come with your child to the gathering area at the front and someone will assist you in getting your child checked in.)</i>		

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

This advent we await the light of the world, the promised savior who will guide us through the darkness. We light the first candle of the Advent Wreath to remind us that God has promised to give us light for our journey.

Congregational sung response: **Stars keep the watch. When night is dim,
one more light the bowl shall brim,
shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together.
People look east and sing today. Love the Light is on the way.**

A Morning Prayer and The Lord's Prayer		Dr. McBrayer
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Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Anthem (11:00)	My Song in the Night Chancel Choir	arr. P Christiansen
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O Jesus, my Savior, my song in the night, come to us with Thy tender love, my soul's delight. Unto Thee, O Lord, in affliction I call, my comfort by day and my song in the night. O why should I wander, an alien from Thee, or cry in the desert Thy face to see, my comfort and joy, my soul's delight, O Jesus, my Savior, my song in the night.

Psalter Lesson	Psalms 122	Carter Loughran
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The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

*Hymn

Blessed Be the God of Israel

UMH 209

Offertory Prayer

Dr. McBrayer

Lord, you have promised to love us and sustain us. Help us to step into our future unafraid, knowing that you will provide for us and for all people out of the abundance of your mercy. Amen.

Offertory Anthem

O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright
The Afternoon Choir

P Nicolai

O Morning Star, how fair and bright thou beamest forth in truth and light, O Sovereign meek and lowly! Thou Root of Jesse, David's Son, my Lord and Master, thou hast won my heart to serve thee solely! Thou art holy, fair and glorious, all-victorious, rich in blessing, rule and might o'er all processing. Thou heavenly Brightness! Light divine! O deep within my heart now shine, and make thee there an altar! Fill me with joy and strength to be thy member, ever joined to thee in love that cannot falter; toward the longing doth possess me; turn and bless me; here in sadness eye and heart long for thy gladness!

*Doxology

Tune: Veni Emmanuel

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise God, all creatures here below.
Praise God above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

Sacrament of Holy Baptism (11:00)

Dr. Beth LaRocca-Pitts

Makenna Hope McBrayer, *daughter of Frances and Joseph McBrayer*

Congregational Pledge

With God's help, we will so order our lives after the example of Christ, that Makenna, surrounded by steadfast love, may be established in the faith, and confirmed and strengthened in the way that leads to life eternal.

God Claims You TFWS 2249

Makenna, Makenna, God claims you, God helps you, protects you, and loves you, too.

We this day do all agree a child of God you'll always be.

Makenna, Makenna, God claims you, God helps you, protects you, and loves you, too.

Old Testament Lesson

Isaiah 2:1-5

Dr. LaRocca-Pitts

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

**Christmas Promises:
Light**

Dr. LaRocca-Pitts

*Hymn

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

UMH 206

(Those who wish to join the church are invited to come forward.)

*Benediction

Dr. LaRocca-Pitts

*Postlude

Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying

D Cherwien

MUSIC NOTES BY JOHN COWDEN

This morning marks the beginning of the Advent season, the season in which we prepare for the coming of the Christ. Yes, the stores prepared for His arrival more than a month ago when they put away the Halloween costumes and candy in favor of the Christmas cards...and candy. But just for a moment, we pause and consider our world in darkness. What is darkness anyway? Darkness is naught but the absence of light...and the Light is coming. Let us receive it, relish in it, and then shine into the world around us. Listen for the ways our hymns and anthems challenge us to become children of the Light.

*Congregation stand as able.

UMH: United Methodist Hymnal / TFWS: The Faith We Sing

Children's Worship bags available at Parlor side door.

Nursery care available for children ages 3 and under in all worship services.

Worship Times and Locations

8:30 and 11:00 a.m.: Traditional (Sanctuary)
10:45: Modern (Fellowship Hall)

ONLINE: 10:45 a.m. – Modern Worship
ONLINE: 11:00 a.m. – Traditional Worship.
Facebook: [facebook.com/ogumc.org](https://www.facebook.com/ogumc.org)
YouTube: [youtube.com/ogumc](https://www.youtube.com/ogumc)

Our Pastors

Dr. Beth LaRocca-Pitts – *Senior Pastor* ext. 211
Dr. Amy Morgan – *Pastor of Service and Nurture* ext. 210
Dr. Joseph McBrayer – *Pastor of Invitation and Discipleship* ext. 212
Bishop Larry M. Goodpaster – *Bishop in Residence*

Our Program Staff

Dale Smith – *Executive Director* ext. 225
Rachel Fullerton – *Executive Assistant to the Senior Pastor* ext. 220
Pam Reynolds – *Director of Finance* ext. 224
Atticus Hicks – *Director of Modern Worship* ext. 208
Elizabeth Loughran – *Director of Children's Ministry* ext. 218
C.J. Lord – *Co-Director of Youth Ministries* ext. 202
Megan Biegel – *Co-Director of Youth Ministries* ext. 201
John Cowden – *Director of Traditional Music Ministry* ext. 226
Kara Johnson – *Director of Senior Adult Ministries* ext. 236
Leanne Herrmann – *Organist*

Our Church Information

Church Office 404-636-7558
Office Hours 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. M-F
Emergency Contact After Hours ext. 9
Address 1722 Oak Grove Road, Decatur, GA 30033
Website www.ogumc.org

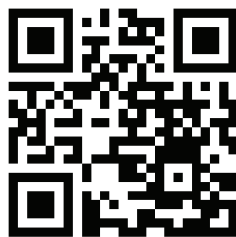
Our Schools

Oak Grove Christian School 404-636-5476
YCS (Young Children's School) 404-636-7951

Submitting Articles to the Oak Grove News:

Please be reminded that **Thursday 12 p.m. is the deadline** for information that you would like to add to the *Oak Grove News*. This will enable your article to appear in the following week's bulletin.

Send items to oakgrovenews@ogumc.org. Articles will run TWO times and may be edited for space. Indicate the two editions you prefer when the article is submitted. Thank you!



Connect With Us

Check the Oak Grove website for up-to-the-minute news on all events: www.ogumc.org/news

Make Sure You Stay in Constant Contact

Information on our ministries, news, and upcoming events is shared through our ConstantContact weekly congregational email. If your email address changes during the year, please contact Diane O'Steen, Membership/Database Admin., (dosteen@ogumc.org or 404-636-7558 ext.221)



YouTube