



OAK GROVE

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

April 23, 2023

Confirmation Sunday

Confirmation Class of 2023

Layla Alexander	Mason Anderson	Parker Burst	
Caroline Cooper	Lucy Cowden	Eva Grace	Gwyn Harrison
Mary Lawton Jones	Wynn Keith	Lukas Leuckfeld	
Chase Malemezian	Josie Meglio	Will Merrill	Vivian Mus
Sarah Scheid	Andrew Wagner	Evan Webb	



New Testament Lesson

Acts 2:42-47

(8:30) Dr. Morgan
(11:00) Vivian Mus
Confirmand

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

*Hymn

Come, Let Us Use the Grace Divine

UMH 606

Confirmation Video

Offertory Prayer

Dr. McBrayer

**Bless these gifts, O Lord. Help us to trust you to provide for our needs
so that we may feel free to share with others. Amen.**

Offertory Anthem

I Want Jesus to Walk With Me
Afternoon Choir

A Parker

*I want Jesus to walk with me. All along my pilgrim journey, Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.
When I'm in trouble, Lord, walk with me. When my head is bowed in sorrow, Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.
In my trials, Lord, walk with me. When my heart is almost breaking, Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.*

*Doxology

Lasst Uns Erfreuen

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power up lifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

*Gospel Lesson

John 10:1-10

Dr. Beth LaRocca-Pitts

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

**Overcoming:
Fear**

Dr. LaRocca-Pitts

Baptisms and Confirmation

(see insert)

*Hymn

Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters
(Those who wish to join the church are invited to come forward.)

UMH 605

*Benediction

Dr. LaRocca-Pitts

*Postlude

Toccata on *Give to the Winds Thy Fears*

G Martin

MUSIC NOTES BY JOHN COWDEN

This morning our sermon series on overcoming brings us to one of the true drivers of our action: fear. Coincidentally, it is also Confirmation Sunday, a time for our confirmands to take a bold step into the unknown. It's interesting to me that the music for these two ideas (overcoming fear and confirmation) is entirely compatible. Listen for the ways our hymns and anthems call us to commit our lives to Christ over the fear of what may lie ahead of us.

*Congregation stand as able.

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

Children's Worship bags available at the front of the sanctuary to the right.

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

CONFIRMATION

Introduction

Brothers and sisters in Christ:

Through the Sacrament of Baptism we are initiated into Christ's holy church.

We are incorporated into God's mighty acts of salvation
and given new birth through water and the Spirit.

All this is God's gift, offered to us without price.

Through confirmation, and through the reaffirmation of our faith, we renew the covenant declared at our baptism, acknowledge what God is doing for us, and affirm our commitment to Christ's holy church.

Renunciation of Sin and Profession of Faith

On behalf of the whole church, I ask you:

Do you renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness, reject the evil powers of this world,
and repent of your sin?

Confirmands respond: **I do**

Do you accept the freedom and power God gives you to resist evil, injustice, and oppression
in whatever forms they present themselves?

Confirmands respond: **I do**

Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Savior, put your whole trust in his grace, and promise to serve him
as your Lord, in union with the church which Christ has opened to people of all ages,
nations and ages?

Confirmands respond: **I do**

According to the grace given to you, will you remain faithful members of Christ's holy church
and serve as Christ's representatives in the world?

Confirmands respond: **I will**

Do you receive and affirm the teachings of our faith as contained in the Old and New Testaments?

Confirmands respond: **I do.**

Presentation of candidates by Friend in Faith

Baptism of Eva Grace and Chase Malemezian

Confirmation Prayer

May the Lord defend you with his heavenly grace and by his spirit confirm you in the faith and fellowship of all true disciples. Amen.

Reception into Oak Grove UMC

As members of this congregation, will you faithfully participate in its ministries by your prayers, your presence, your gifts, your service, and your witness?

I will

Members of the household of God, I commend these persons to your love and care.
Do all in your power to increase their faith, and confirm their hope, and perfect them in love.

We give thanks for all that God has already given you and we welcome you in Christian love. As members together with you in the body of Christ and in this congregation of the United Methodist Church, we renew our covenant faithfully to participate in the ministries of the church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness, that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.

The God of all grace, who has called us to eternal glory in Christ, establish you and strengthen you by the power of the Holy Spirit, that you may live in grace and peace.

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 – *Director of Youth Ministries* ext. 202
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

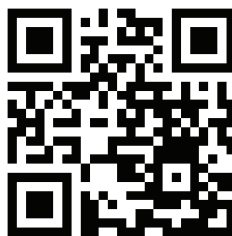
Our Schools

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