



OAK GROVE

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

February 25, 2024

Acolyte Sunday



Acolyte Sunday 2024

The Acolyte Ministry continues to be a vital part of the Oak Grove worship services. This ministry allows our youth to serve side by side with church members and encourages intergenerational relationships. Oak Grove offers so many opportunities for our youth to be involved. The Acolyte Ministry is one of those ministries that is successful in including all youth interested in serving.

We are thankful for each acolyte and their family as the commitment to this ministry is a family affair.

Lucy Cowden, Ashley DeLange, ***Daniel Hong**, ***Laney Jackson**, Grant Jackson, Ramsey Jackson, Mariann Kersh, Sadie McMillen, ***Davis Merrill**, Will Merrill, Vivian Mus, ***Mitchell Payne**, Addison Shafer, Mary Lynne Traynelis, Andrew Wagner, and Matthew Wagner.

**Denotes Graduating Senior*



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

February 25, 2024

Acolyte Sunday

Gathering Music

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

R Hughes

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Melissa Kime-Hall

Introit

Holy God, We Praise Thy Name

I Franz

*Holy God, we praise thy name; Lord of all, we bow before thee; all on earth thy scepter claim; all in heaven above adore thee.
Infinite thy vast domain; everlasting is thy reign.*

*Call to Worship

(8:30) Matthew Wagner, *Acolyte*

Even now, says the Lord, Return to me with all your heart.

(11:00) Daniel Hong, *Acolyte*

Tear your hearts and not your clothing.

Return to the Lord your God,

for God is gracious and merciful.

*Hymn

The Church's One Foundation

UMH 546

(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.)

*Affirmation of Faith

from 1 Timothy (UMH 889)

(8:30) Dr. Amy Morgan
(11:00) Laney Jackson, *Acolyte*

There is one God and there is one mediator, Christ Jesus, who came as a ransom for all, to whom we testify.

The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance: That Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners, and was manifested in the flesh, vindicated in the Spirit, seen by angels, proclaimed among the nations, believed in throughout the world, taken up in glory. Great indeed is the mystery of the gospel. Amen.

A Morning Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

(8:30) Rev. Melissa Kime-Hall
(11:00) Davis Merrill, *Acolyte*

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)

Come, Thou Fount
Chancel Choir

E Nelson

Come, thou Fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace; streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise. Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above; praise the mount, I'm fixed upon it, mount of thy redeeming love. Here I raise my Ebenezer; hither by thy help I'm come; and I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home. Jesus sought me when a stranger wandering from the fold of God; he, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood. O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be! Let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee. Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love; here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for thy courts above.

Old Testament Lesson

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

(8:30) Andrew Wagner, *Acolyte*
(11:00) Mitchell Payne, *Acolyte*

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

*Hymn

Where Charity and Love Prevail

UMH 549

Acolyte Recognition

Angela McDaniel

Offertory Prayer

Ms. McDaniel

Our God, there is nothing we can give you to equal the sacrifice of your only Son our Lord. Therefore receive whatever we may give out of our poverty of spirit, to the glory and honor of His name. Amen.

Offertory Anthem

Somebody's Knockin' at Your Door
Wesley Ringers

AL Page

*Doxology

Hamburg

**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. Amen.**

New Testament Lesson

Romans 4:13-25

Dr. Beth LaRocca-Pitts

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

**Now is the Time
...to Include All People**

Dr. LaRocca-Pitts

*Hymn

In Christ There Is No East or West
(Those who wish to join the church are invited to come forward.)

UMH 548

*Benediction

Dr. LaRocca-Pitts

*Postlude

Postlude in A Minor

B Marcello

MUSIC NOTES BY JOHN COWDEN

This morning we continue our series "Now Is the Time..." with "Now is the time...to include all people." Listen for the way the introit and hymns echo the theme of broad inclusion.

The anthem is a little less obvious. It speaks of God's call to us, our willingness to be bound to God, and our tendency to alienate ourselves from God. It's a deeply personal statement. And yet this morning we recognize that if Jesus sought *me* when a stranger, Jesus seeks *everyone* when a stranger. And so we should seek the same Spirit of inclusion.

*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.

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 Connection and Digital Ministry* 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
CJ 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 pm 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.

VISIT the Oak Grove website: ogumc.org and pull down "FORMS".
Fill out your information. 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)

