

Oak Knoll's Mission: Growing the Fruits of God's Kingdom Galatians 5:22-23

Second Sunday after Epiphany

January 19, 2025 9:30 a.m.

Welcome to worship at Oak Knoll!

† Congregation please stand as able

Before the service begins, we invite you to use this time of silence for individual prayer and reflection.

By attending in-person worship you are consenting to being part of the livestream broadcast.

At Oak Knoll we welcome and encourage children in worship. We have a prayground up front and welcome children and parents to use this space to participate in worship together. We also have a play area in Fellowship Hall where you can hear the service if your child needs a break from the sanctuary worship space.

GATHERING MUSIC

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us, arr. John Carter

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

CALL TO WORSHIP

For the Healing of the Nations, Clay Haapala-soloist

For the healing of the nations, Lord, we pray with one accord; for a just and equal sharing of the things that earth affords. To a life of love and action help us rise and pledge our word.

Lead us now, Lord, into freedom, from despair your world release; that redeemed from war and hatred, all may come and go in peace. Show us how through care and goodness fear will die and hope increase.

All that kills abundant living, let it from the earth be banned; pride of status, race or schooling, dogmas that obscure your plan. In our common quest for justice may we hallow life's brief span.

You, creator God, have written Your great name on humankind; for our growing in your likeness bring the life of Christ to mind: that by our response and service earth its destiny may find.

† CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Arr Blessed be the holy Trinity, Arr one God, our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life.

Amen

P Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

- P Merciful God,
- you speak blessing and compassion into the world. Forgive us for the ways we act with judgment, cruelty, or indifference. We ignore the needs of our neighbors; we resist your call to oppose injustice; we give in to scarcity and fear; we assume the worst about one another. Cleanse us from our faults and release us from their grasp. Show us your lovingkindness. Restore our hearts and repair your world, that we may live in Christ's ways. Amen.
- P God proclaims theses words of assurance: "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine." In
 ← Christ, you are forgiven. In the Spirit, you are made free. Refreshed by the waters of mercy, live anew as beloved children of God.
- @ Amen.

† OPENING HYMN

All Are Welcome

Red Hymnal 641, stanzas 1, 3, 5



Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
Music: TWO OAKS, Marty Haugen
Text and music © 1994 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.
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† GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the Communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.And also with you.

† KYRIE (from ELW Setting Four, pages 147-150)

Kyrie (from the Greek for "Lord have mercy") was originally a shout of praise directed towards God. It is meant to be a joyful cry of "The Lord is merciful!" rather than a plea for mercy.

Cantor:

In peace, let us pray to the Lord





Cantor:

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.





Cantor:

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

ALL:



Cantor:

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

ALL:



Cantor: Help, save, comfort and defend us, gracious Lord.

ALL:



† HYMN OF PRAISE This is the Feast



† PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P The Lord be with you.

 And also with you.
- P Let us pray together.
- God of the nations, show us how to love people, of all colors and kinds: those with technology and without; those who make due with very little, and who use many resources; those with formal education, and without; those who call upon your name, and who do not; so that all your children may be glorified in the name of Jesus Christ out salvation. Amen.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Pastor Jay Rudi

Sunday School Time: After the Children's sermon. all children (ages 3-5th grade) are invited to join leaders in the Sunday school room for a special kids' lesson. Children are also more than welcome to remain in worship with their families. Sunday school children will return to service following the offering.

PREACHING TEXT Luke 4:14-30

¹⁴Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. ¹⁵He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

¹⁶When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, ¹⁷and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

¹⁸"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,

because he has anointed me

to bring good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives

and recovery of sight to the blind,

to let the oppressed go free,

Scripture continued on page 7

¹⁹to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

²⁰And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. ²¹Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." ²²All spoke well of him and were amazed at

the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, "Is not this Joseph's son?" ²³He said to them, "Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, 'Doctor, cure yourself!' And you will say, 'Do here also in your hometown the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum." ²⁴And he said, "Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet's hometown. ²⁵But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, and there was a severe famine over all the land; ²⁶yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon. ²⁷There were also many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian." ²⁸When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage. ²⁹They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff. ³⁰But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

P The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

SERMON Pastor Jay Rudi



Text: William Whitla, b. 1934

Music: THAXTED, Gustav Holst, 1874–1934 Text © 1989 William Whitla.

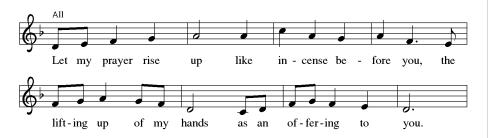
† THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

P United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence. After each petition:

P We pray to you,

C



From "Holden Evening Prayer" by Marty Haugen)

† SHARING OF THE PEACE

P The Peace of the Lord be with you all. And also with you.



In the first letter of Peter, the church is described as the priesthood of all believers. The work of the priesthood is to mediate between God and people. Prayer is part of that work; in our prayer we invite God to work in the world and in the lives of people.

Sharing of the Peace is a visible. concrete way we reach out to the members of God's family around us. We show our willingness to be agents of God's love and peace in the world in which we live. The opening words are from Galatians 3:28.

OFFERING

Thank you for supporting our ministry together.

Hymn for Jesus Manifesto, arr. Andrew Pratt, Clay Haapala-soloist

In Nazareth it happened, folk heard with bated breath, the good news Jesus offered of life instead of death. This was the manifesto: a charter for the poor, a welcome for the stranger who'd waited at the door.

Within a cell the captive would hear the freedom call, and those who feel injustice know healing is for all. Oppression would be banished. Yet hypocrites recoiled, drove Jesus from their presence, but he would not be foiled.

Proclaim God's year of favor, What was foretold is done. Anointed by the Spirit, His ministry begun. And in this time and context will we still have to wait, or dare we risk and follow, before it is too late?

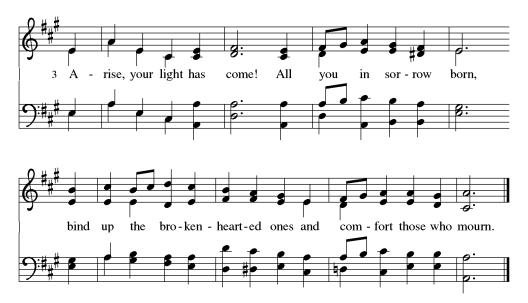
Please take time this week to give online, mail in, or give by text at 855.389.3312. Complete directions are on the Church website under the 'give' tab.

Sometimes the Offering is viewed as a break in the service, a chance for the congregation to do some "fundraising". Actually, the offering is an act of worship. As we give our offering, we symbolically give ourselves to God. Our money is our servanthood in spendable pieces.

† OFFERTORY RESPONSE

Arise, Your Light Has Come!

Red Hymnal 314, stanza 3



Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947 Music: FESTAL SONG, William H. Walter, 1825–1893 Text © 1992 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

† OFFERTORY PRAYER

- P Let us pray together.
- **ఆ** God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and forever. Amen.

GOD COMES TO US IN THE MEAL

+ HOLY COMMUNION

- P The Lord be with you.
- And also with you.
- P Lift up your hearts.
- We lift them to the Lord.
- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- It is right to give God thanks and praise.

† WORDS OF INSTITUTION

† THE LORD'S PRAYER

- P Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:
- 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 and ever. Amen.

The culmination of the worship service is the celebration of the Sacrament of Holy Communion, also called the Eucharist. Eucharist is a Greek word which means "thanksgiving".

Words of Institution are the words Jesus spoke at the Last Supper when he "instituted" the sacrament. The Apostle Paul wrote these words in I Corinthians 11:23-25

The Lord's Prayer can be found in Matthew 6:9-13 and Luke 11:2-4..

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

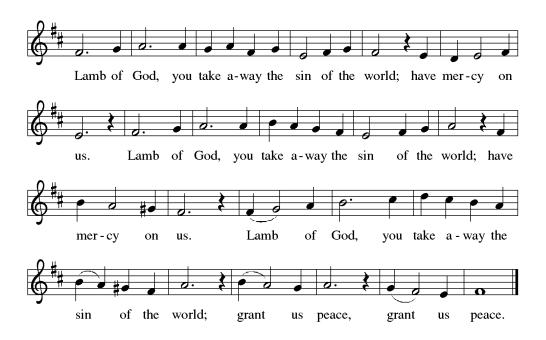
P The joy of the Lord is our strength. Come, eat this meal of gladness.

Jesus invites all to come forward to receive his gift of forgiveness and grace.

Today we will be celebrate continuous communion. The pastors will give you the consecrated communion elements. After drinking the wine/juice you can place the small cup in the basket.

If you need gluten-friendly communion wafers or grape juice, please indicate to the server by raising your index finger. They will extend the plate to you--the gluten friendly wafers are located in the center dish--and you are invited to take one yourself.

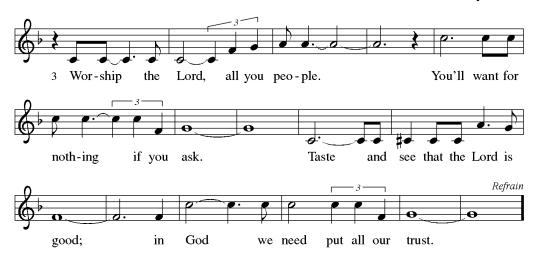
DISTRIBUTION Please join in singing Lamb of God and distribution hymns:



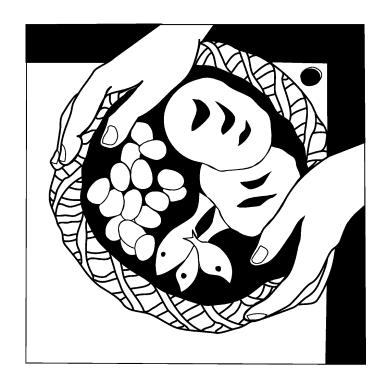
Taste and See Red Hymnal 493

stanza 3 continued on next page





Text: James E. Moore Jr., b. 1951, based on Ps. 34 Music: TASTE AND SEE, James E. Moore Jr. Text and music © 1983 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.





Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953 Music: TEMPLE OF PEACE, William P. Rowan, b. 1951 Text © 2002 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Music © 2000 William P. Rowan, admin. GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com, 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Praise the One who Breaks the Darkness

Red Hymnal 843



Text: Rusty Edwards, b. 1955 Music: NETTLETON, J. Wyeth, Repository of Sacred Music, Part II, 1813 Text © 1987 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188, All rights reserved. Used by permission.

† POST-COMMUNION BLESSING & PRAYER

Nourishing God, at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray. Amen

We invite anyone, especially the children to come forward to receive an instrument to play during our sending hymn.

GOD SENDS US OUT TO SERVE

† BENEDICTION

P The Spirit of the triune God

→ bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion, and send you in love.
G Amen.

† SENDING HYMN Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

Red Hymnal 674



- 1 Let us tal ents and tongues em ploy, reach-ing out with a shout of joy:
- 2 Christ is a ble to make us one, at the ta ble he sets the tone,
- 3 Je sus calls us in, sends us out bear-ing fruit in a world of doubt,



bread is bro-ken, the wine is poured, teach-ing peo-ple to live to bless, gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Im-man-u-el) ev-'ry-where!



Je-sus lives a-gain, earth can breathe a-gain, pass the Word a-round: loaves a - bound!

Text: Fred Kaan, b. 1929
Music: LINSTEAD, Jamaican folk tune; adapt. Doreen Potter, 1925–1980
Text and music © 1975 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, II. 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

† DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Live in hope.
Thanks be to God.

Please return the instruments to the containers in the rear as you exit the sanctuary.

POSTLUDE

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

Sandwich Ministry TODAY after Worship

All are welcome to help make sandwiches in Fellowship Hall after worship today. The sandwiches will be distributed to those in need. No experience necessary!

Budget & Church Finance Meeting TODAY, Sunday 1/19 at 10:45am after worship Please join Church Treasurer Ben Larson and Facility and Finance Manager Brooke Ruhlin for an overview of the 2024 finances and a preview of the 2025 budget. Annual reports, with the financials and budget, will be available that day. The meeting will take place in the Teacher Resource Room, adjacent to the Preschool Motor Room.

Beacon Event: Housing Documentary Series

Beacon Interfaith Housing and member congregations will be hosting a special four-part documentary series, Shame of Chicago, Shame of the Nation. This series dives into predatory home contract sales in Chicago after World War II and reveals how the city established the nation's most extensive system of racially segregated housing. The impact of this system has been felt by generations of Black families and continues to contribute to the racial wealth gap we see today. After the screening, we'll have an insightful moderated discussion.

Join us for showings from 6:30-8pm on **January 23rd**, **30th**, **and February 4th** at various locations. <u>Learn more and register online today!</u>

Annual Meeting

The Church Council of Oak Knoll Lutheran Church has set the date and time of the Annual Meeting of the Congregation for **Sunday**, **January 26th** after worship.

Annual Reports

The 2024 annual reports are available in the Narthex. Please take only one per household. Thank you.



Youth Night - January 26 @ 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm Pizza & Painting

Join us for a pizza dinner and evening of painting. Please bring a side or dessert to share. Confirmation and high school students are invited Sign up now.

Senior Activity - Thursday, February 6th

On Thursday, February 6th from 10am-12pm, seniors are invited to enjoy coffee and treats followed by a "The Book of Love" presentation by Mike Henry on the greatest love songs of the 40s, 50s and 60s. Please RSVP to the Church Office at 952)546-5433 or sign up at the Welcome Desk.

The registration cost of \$5 may be paid online at oklutheran.org/give-online or in person at the event.

Taproom Social

On **Friday, February 7, from 4 - 7pm**, you are invited to Steel Toe Brewing Company for a time of socializing with other Oak Knoll folk. Steel Toe is located at 4848 West 35th Street in St. Louis Park. All are welcome to come and fellowship together! For those new to Oak Knoll, this is a quarterly event that has been going on since 2018.

We need Volunteers to help with Ushering on Sunday mornings!

We are looking for 2-3 volunteers who would be interested in being coordinators for 1 month at a time scheduling ushers for that month. Duties would include:

- Verifying there is an usher and/or a lead usher at each Sunday service for that month.
- Contacting volunteers to help out on Sunday mornings for that month, this would include Wednesday nights during Lent and Advent and special services.
- Working with staff to ensure we have adequate coverage.

Instructions are available if interested. Please contact either Pastor Jay or the church office at 952.546.5433 if you are interested. We would appreciate your participation!

Curious Readers Email Book Study

The Curious Readers study group will begin a new book the week of January 20. We will be reading *Holy Envy* by Barbara Bradford Taylor. This book is based on her experiences teaching a class on world religions, where she and her students consider how other religious traditions encounter the transcendent – and then try to connect that to their own faith.

This group reads a book together, generally reading one chapter each week and then interacting over email to answer questions offered and to discuss the chapter. This format is meant to give the participants lots of flexibility and time to respond, while building community. We welcome new readers.

If you are interested, please contact Pastor Michele at pastor.michele@oklutheran.org.

Sign up now for serving and sponsorship for 2025!

Our signup slots for opportunities to serve and sponsorship opportunities are now open through 2025! Please visit oklutheran.org/serve or oklutheran.org/sponsor to sign up for these opportunities and help us kick off the new year!

• Upcoming available coffee dates: January 19th, 26th, February 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, March 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd and 30th.



Pew Sisters

Pew Sisters will be taking the month of January off. We will begin our Monday weekly meetings (from 9:30-11 am) on February 3. We will be reading Rabbi Harold Kushner's book, *Nine Essential Things I've Learned in Life*. In this book Kushner helps us to reimagine how God is at work in scripture and in our lives.

We invite any women of the congregation (no need to be a member) to join us. We begin each week with time to hear each other's stories and build community and then head into study.

Let the Church Office (<u>churchoffice@oklutheran.org</u>) know if you are interested in joining us for this study. Books are available on Amazon or other booksellers.

SafeTALK Suicide Prevention Training

Saturday, Feb. 8 - 9 a.m.-1 p.m. | Bethlehem, Minneapolis-Vicar Jennifer is planning on attending and would love others to join her! Please contact Jennifer at Jennifer.schneider@oklutheran.org if you have an interest in attending.

Learn how to support someone's desire for safety by recognizing the warning signs of suicide, identifying people who are at risk, and applying the TALK steps (Tell, Ask, Listen and KeepSafe) to connect a person to suicide first aid resources. Listed on the national best practice registry, safeTALK allows time for both practice and discussion. safeTALK is based on research that shows people experiencing thoughts of suicide often send out subtle invitations to help them stay safe. This free four-hour class is for members of the community over the age of 16 who want to learn and practice the basic best practices in suicide prevention. The class is hosted by Mental Health Connect, a collaborative of Twin Cities faith communities that work together to help destigmatize mental illness and assist all in finding the help they need. Register here.

Amazing Grace Lutheran Church is our Ministry Partner for January: Amazing Grace Lutheran Church is a mission congregation of the ELCA and is led by Pastor Nhiabee Vang. Their mission is to reach the approximately 60,000 Hmong who live in Minnesota and help them grow in Christian faith. They worship at 1pm Sundays at St. Philip's Lutheran Church in Fridley.



Through their ministry they identify, train and encourage Hmong men, women, and youth to serve God, and to partner with Hmong Christians from other denominations in serving the Hmong community. Visit their <u>Facebook page</u> to learn more.

Star Words - Epiphany Check-In

This past Sunday, we celebrated Epiphany, commemorating the Magi's journey, guided by a star, to see the baby king Jesus in Bethlehem. The season of Epiphany continues for the next eight weeks. It is a season of lights that celebrates how God revealed Godself through Jesus Christ.



Just like friends, epiphanies come in many shapes and sizes. Like friends, you never know when or where you might experience an epiphany, perhaps one that will even change your life! Like friendships, some epiphanies unfurl over time while others immediately appear. Being open to both possibilities invites illumination into our lives and enrichment of our experiences with each other.

Small wooden stars were distributed to everyone last week that had a "star word" written on it. (If you didn't get one, there are more available on the high-top table outside the sanctuary.) For the next eight weeks, you are invited to ponder your star word. Thinking about that word, how in the past week have you seen God in unexpected ways and places? How have you been challenged or in what way has contemplating that word been life-giving? Maybe that hasn't happened for you yet. Don't worry!

Please share an insight with us! We want to know how this prayer practice has helped you to see God revealed in your life and in the world? Colorful star-shaped sticky notes are available on a table outside the sanctuary for you to write a short message of revelation or insight you have gained in the past week. We will continue this practice of noticing God through our star words in these weeks to come, to inspire and encourage ourselves and each other to see Christ in the world.

Again, star words are not magic. It is simply a way to have a little fun at the turn of the year and take on a devotional practice to center our life on Christ. It's possible to forget about your word and not do anything with it. But it's also possible to explore it a little deeper and see where God leads!

Today, Sunday, January 19, 2024	1	-
Worship	9:30 AM	his
Sunday School		5
Coffee & Fellowship	10:30 AM	/ee
Budget & Finance Meeting	10;45 AM	×
Sandwich Ministry	10:45 AM	2
2nd Grade Bible class - Rose Room	10:45 AM	O _a
Monday, January 20		
Tuesday, January 21		2
Wednesday, January 22		his Week at Oak Knoll Lutherar
Quilters	9:00 AM	
Staff Meeting	11:00 AM	
Youth Family Dinner & Confirmation	6:00 PM	Ta
Choir Rehearsal	7:00 PM	3
Thursday, January 23		
Friday, January 24		
Bulletin Folders	9:45 AM	
Saturday, January 25		
Sunday, January 26		
Worship	9:30 AM	
Sunday School		
Coffee & Fellowship	10:30 AM	
Annual Meeting in Fellowship Hall	10:45 AM	
Youth Event	6:30 PM	

Oak Knoll Online Giving

You can go directly to Oak Knoll's Online Giving page through http://oklutheran.org/give. and click on the 'Give' button on the top right of the page.



Oak Knoll Lutheran Church

600 Hopkins Crossroad Minnetonka, MN 55305-1486 (952) 546-5433 churchoffice@oklutheran.org www.oklutheran.org

PASTORAL STAFF

Jay Rudi, Senior Pastor Michele Abbott, Pastor Jennifer Schneider, Vicar

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Brooke Ruhlin, *Finance & Facility Manager* Karla Stokke, *Office Administrator* Meg Gumbiner, *Communications Coordinator*

PROGRAM STAFF

Matt Cerar, *Music Director* Christina Black, *Director of Children*, Youth & Family Stephen Murray, *Streaming Director*

PRESCHOOL Kathryn Glorvick, Director

HOSPITALITY COORDINATORS Ezra Black, Sadie Longo, Carter Moore, River Vickerman

MINISTERS All members & guests of Oak Knoll

Cantor: Clay Haapala Reader: Denise Appleby Prayer Leader: Sue Larson

Communion Servers: Bella Madel, Emily Heyne

Usher: Sandy Haapala

Counters: Fred Moore, Sue Larson

Coffee & Treat Sponsors: Your name could be here (3 slots available at \$50 each or \$150 total)

Communion Set up: Adam & Coleen Juntunen

Sponsor a Youth Event



Each month confirmation and high school youth gather to share a meal and a fun activity. It's a great opportunity for youth to see each other and connect with their church friends—an important aspect of faith development. Consider sponsoring one of these events to help pay for food and drinks. Donate today.