

Lent



oaks parish

Our Mission

To abide in Christ Jesus for the renewal of all things.

Our Core Values

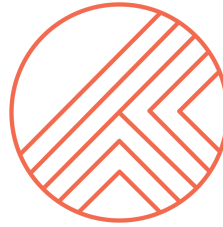
Gospel of Grace



The gospel of grace is the foundation of everything we are and do at Oaks Parish.

At Oaks Parish, we experience holistic flourishing through the person and work of Christ. The death and resurrection of Christ has redeemed us individually, and collectively as a church; we try to mirror that grace in all we do.

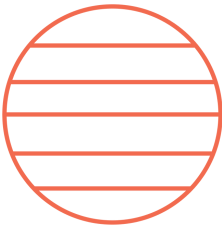
Faithful Presence



We are committed to Portland and aspire to be a church woven into the fabric

of the city. Oaks Parish is a uniquely welcoming and inclusive place. We greet our neighbors, friends, families, and co-workers with infectious hospitality, faithfully showing the love of Jesus in Portland.

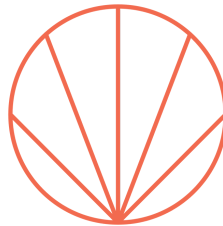
Formative Rhythms



The rhythms of our life shape our character, and at Oaks Parish we anchor our

practices in Scripture and the historical church. Our liturgical and expressive practice of gathered worship on Sunday pervades and shapes our rhythms of prayer, study of Scripture, and gatherings throughout the week. This process of intentional formation, or discipleship, shapes us to be more like Jesus.

Extended Family



Oaks Parish is intensely relational. We strive to live together as a diverse,

multi-generational extended family—not just on Sunday, but throughout the week. We share our stories and how God is redeeming them even as we work, play, and serve together. We want everyone to experience being known and loved in Christ.

Quotes for Reflection

Richard Lovelace, Dynamics of Spiritual Life

We start each day with our personal security resting not on the accepting love of God and the sacrifice of Christ but on our present feelings or recent achievements in the Christian life. Since these arguments will not quiet the human conscience, we are inevitably moved either to discouragement and apathy or to a self-righteousness which falsifies the record to achieve a sense of peace. But the faith that is able to warm itself at the fire of God's love, instead of having to steal love and self-acceptance from other sources, is actually the root of peace.

Brevard S. Childs, The Book of Exodus

'Now you will witness what I am going to do to Pharaoh which will force him to release the people.' Pharaoh had responded to Moses' request with the mailed fist. Yahweh will now demonstrate what real power is like.

Peter Enns, Exodus

God tells Moses that he is to command Pharaoh, "Let my son [Israel] go, so he may worship me"...In other words, Pharaoh and Yahweh are both competing, so to speak, with each other: Whom will Israel "serve"?

Timothy Keller, Counterfeit Gods

If we look to some created thing to give us the meaning, hope, and happiness that only God himself can give, it will eventually fail to deliver and break our hearts. What many people call "psychological problems" are simple issues of idolatry. Perfectionism, workaholism, chronic indecisiveness, the need to control the lives of others—all of these stem from making good things into idols that then drive us into the ground as we try to appease them. Idols dominate our lives.

Call to Worship

from Psalm 90

I was glad when they said to me

Let us go to the house of the Lord.

Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.
Before the mountains were brought forth
or ever you had formed the earth and the world,

From everlasting to everlasting you are God.

You turn us back to dust and say,
"Turn back, you mortals."

**For a thousand years in your sight
are like yesterday when it is past
or like a watch in the night.**

•
Teach us to count our days
that we may gain a wise heart.

**Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love,
so that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.**

Songs of Praise

Come Ye Sinners

Come ye sinners, poor and needy,
weak and wounded, sick and sore;
Jesus ready stands to save you,
full of pity, love, and power.

I will arise and go to Jesus,
he will embrace me in his arms;
and in the arms of my dear Savior,
o, there are ten thousand charms.

Come ye thirsty, come, and welcome,
God's free bounty glorify;
true belief and true repentance,
every grace that brings you life.

Come ye weary, heavy laden,
lost and ruined by the fall;
if you tarry 'til you're better,
you will never come at all.

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When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

When I survey the wondrous cross
on which the Prince of glory died;
My richest gain I count but loss,
and pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it Lord that I should boast
save in the death of Christ my God.
All the vain things that charm me most
I sacrifice them to his blood.

See from his head, his hands, his feet,
sorrow and love flow mingled down.
Did ever such love and sorrow meet
or thorns compose so rich a crown.

Were the whole realm of nature mine
that were a present far too small.
Love so amazing, so divine,
demands my soul my life my all.

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Gospel Reading

Luke 4:1-13 NRSV

1 Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, 2 where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. 3 The devil said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread.” 4 Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘One does not live by bread alone.’”

5 Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. 6 And the devil said to him, “To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. 7 If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.” 8 Jesus answered him, “It is written,

‘Worship the Lord your God,
and serve only him.’”

9 Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, 10 for it is written,

‘He will command his angels concerning you,
to protect you,’

11 and

‘On their hands they will bear you up,
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’”

12 Jesus answered him, “It is said, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’” 13 When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

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.

Offering Prayer

Lord Jesus, because of your cross we know
that in losing our lives, we find them in you.
In this season of Lent, show us how to give
abundantly, joyfully, and faithfully.
With open hands and generous hearts,
we lay our gifts before you. Amen.

Passing of the Peace

Old Testament Reading

Exodus 5 NRSV

1 Afterward Moses and Aaron went to Pharaoh and said, “Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, ‘Let my people go, so that they may celebrate a festival to me in the wilderness.’” 2 But Pharaoh said, “Who is the Lord, that I should heed him and let Israel go? I do not know the Lord, and I will not let Israel go.” 3 Then they said, “The God of the Hebrews has revealed himself to us; let us go a three days’ journey into the wilderness to sacrifice to the Lord our God, or he will fall upon us with pestilence or sword.” 4 But the king of Egypt said to them, “Moses and Aaron, why are you taking the people away from their work? Get to your labors!” 5 Pharaoh continued, “Now they are more numerous than the people of the land and yet you want them to stop working!” 6 That same day Pharaoh commanded the taskmasters of the people, as well as their supervisors, 7 “You shall no longer give the people straw to make bricks, as before; let them go and gather straw for themselves. 8 But you shall require of them the same quantity of bricks as they have made previously; do not diminish it, for they are lazy; that is why they cry, ‘Let us go and offer sacrifice to our God.’ 9 Let heavier work be laid on them; then they will labor at it and pay no attention to deceptive words.”

10 So the taskmasters and the supervisors of the people went out and said to the people, “Thus says Pharaoh, ‘I will not give you straw. 11 Go and get straw yourselves, wherever you can find it; but your work will not be lessened in the least.’” 12 So the people scattered throughout the land of Egypt, to gather stubble for straw. 13 The taskmasters were urgent, saying, “Complete your work, the same daily assignment as when you were given straw.” 14 And the supervisors of the Israelites, whom Pharaoh’s taskmasters had set over them, were beaten, and were asked, “Why did you not finish the required quantity of bricks yesterday and today, as you did before?”

15 Then the Israelite supervisors came to Pharaoh and cried, “Why

do you treat your servants like this? 16 No straw is given to your servants, yet they say to us, 'Make bricks!' Look how your servants are beaten! You are unjust to your own people." 17 He said, "You are lazy, lazy; that is why you say, 'Let us go and sacrifice to the Lord.' 18 Go now, and work; for no straw shall be given you, but you shall still deliver the same number of bricks." 19 The Israelite supervisors saw that they were in trouble when they were told, "You shall not lessen your daily number of bricks." 20 As they left Pharaoh, they came upon Moses and Aaron who were waiting to meet them. 21 They said to them, "The Lord look upon you and judge! You have brought us into bad odor with Pharaoh and his officials, and have put a sword in their hand to kill us."

22 Then Moses turned again to the Lord and said, "O Lord, why have you mistreated this people? Why did you ever send me? 23 Since I first came to Pharaoh to speak in your name, he has mistreated this people, and you have done nothing at all to deliver your people."

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Bryan Buck: Repentance & Faith
Postures of Discipleship

Notes

Application Questions

1. What voice in your life shouts, “get to your labors!”? What does obedience to the command do for you?
2. How does gospel-centered faith set you free from this voice?
3. In what specific way are you forgetting God’s faithful love right now? How can Lent serve as a season of repentance and faith in this struggle?

Confession of Sin

Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry,
too real to hide, and too deep to undo.

Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer
bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment.

Set us free from a past that we cannot change;

open us to a future in which we can be changed;

and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image;
through Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

John 3:16-17 NRSV

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone
who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed,
God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in
order that the world might be saved through him.

Confession of Faith

We believe in God, the father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

We believe in Jesus Christ, his only son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended to heaven

and is seated at the right hand of God the father almighty.

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy catholic church,

the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body,

and the life everlasting. Amen.

Psalm 126

Our mouths, they were filled, filled with laughter.
Our tongues they were loosed, loosed with joy,
restore us, O Lord, restore us, O Lord.

Although we are weeping, Lord, help us keep sowing,
the seeds of your kingdom, for the day you will reap them.
Your sheaves we will carry, Lord, please do not tarry,
all those who sow weeping, will go out with songs of joy.

The nations will say, “He has done great things!”
The nations will sing songs of joy,
restore us, O Lord, restore us, O Lord.

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Sursum Corda

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

Communion

Christ has died,
Christ has risen,
Christ will come again.

We do not dismiss in any set order, come forward when you feel ready.
Form two lines down the center aisle, return to your seats by the side aisles.
Take the elements and consume them at your seat at your discretion.
Bread is locally sourced and gluten free.
Choose between red wine and white grape juice.

Send Out Your Light (Psalm 43)

Vindicate me, O God, and defend my cause
against the deceitful man, O deliver us.
For you are the God in whom I take refuge.
Why have you rejected me?
I walk around confused.

Send out your light and your truth,
let them lead me.
Bring me to your holy hill.
to your dwelling.
Then I will go to the altar of God,
to God, my exceeding joy.
Then I will praise him with my guitar,
oh my joy, my joy,
oh my joy, my joy.

Why are you cast down low, O my soul?
Why are you cast down low and in turmoil?
Hope in God for I shall again praise him,
hope in God for he is my salvation!

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Benediction

Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

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Prayers for Those Not Communing

Prayer for Those Searching for the Truth

Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open me to the reality of who you are. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life you promise. Amen.

Prayer of Belief

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever dared confess, but through you I am more loved than I ever dared hope. Thank you for paying my debt on the cross, taking what I deserved in order to offer me complete forgiveness. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as my Savior and Lord. Amen.

Prayer for Those Struggling with Sin

Lord Jesus, enable me to see in you the fulfillment of all my true needs, and may I turn from every false satisfaction to feed on you, the true and living bread. Enable me to see that your Gospel is bigger than my sin, and that your work breaks the power of sin as well as freeing me from its penalty. Enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely and run with perseverance the race set before me, looking to you, the pioneer and author of my faith. Amen.

oaks parish

Bryan Buck	bryan@oaksparish.org	Lead Pastor
Amanda Buck	amanda@oaksparish.org	Director of Women's Formation
Marylu Gray	kids@oaksparish.org	Director of OP Kids
Martha Van Houten Community Life Team	martha@oaksparish.org communitylife@oaksparish.org	Director of Parish Formation

Oaks Parish: Get Connected

Welcome to Oaks Parish

To make our community more accessible, our worship service is available online and in person.

New Visitor Form

Thanks for joining us today - we would love to connect with you! Visit oaksparish.org/visitor and someone from our team will be in touch soon!

Sign up for the Weekly Email

Get detailed announcements right to your inbox by signing up for our weekly email at oaksparish.org.

Download the OP App

Text OaksParish App to (833) 245-5311 or search for Oaks Parish in your app store!

The Daily Lectionary

The daily lectionary is a tool for personal devotion with Scripture readings and prayers. As we utilize the daily lectionary in our Lenten sermon series and other resources, you can follow along during your personal devotional time at the QR code below.



Morning Prayer

Join us online every Wednesday from 6:30-7am for morning prayer! This is a time to pray together as a church and practice spending time with God on our own. Join us at oaksparish.org/morningprayer.

A Lenten Prayer Journey

Dive deeper into the season of Lent with this weekly companion guide, designed to center your heart on Scripture and prayer. Download at oaksparish.org/lent.

Lent Family Resources

Visit oaksparish.org/lent for simple and practical ways to practice Lent with children of all ages.

Evening at Ski Bowl

Join us for fun in the snow on Friday, February 24th from 3-10pm. Meet on the mountain or leave work early and catch a ride with the carpool. Email the Community Life team with questions.

Volunteer for Easter Meals

Last year's Easter dinners were a great time of community and fellowship! If you're interested in hosting an Easter meal this year or helping the hosts clean up, email communitylife@oaksparish.org.