

Lent



oaks parish

Our Mission

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

Our Core Values

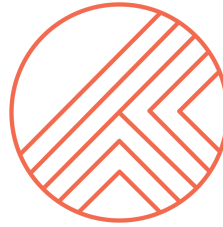
Gospel of Grace



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.

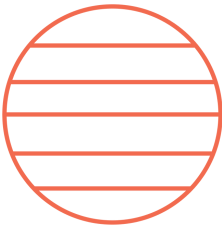
Faithful Presence



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.

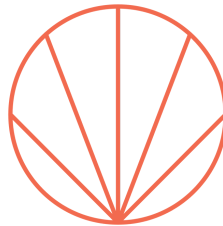
Formative Rhythms



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

Reinhold Niebuhr, *The Nature and Destiny of Man, Volume 1: Human Nature*

Religion is not the place where the problem of man's egotism is automatically solved. Rather ... the ultimate battle [takes place] between human pride and God's grace.

1 Peter 2:23–25

When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

Peter Enns, *Exodus*

By partaking in Communion, we are participating in the effects of God's redemptive work that he began to execute in Israel's day and that came to completion on Easter Sunday. It seems, then, that we, like the Israelites, in celebrating the Lord's Supper, are not merely remembering what God has done. By partaking of the body and blood of Christ, we are, in some mysterious sense, participating in his death and resurrection.

Gary Burge, "Are Evangelicals Missing God at Church?" *Christianity Today*, 10.06.97

Evangelicals need to reclaim their Old Testament heritage. We need to unburden ourselves of those reflexes forged during the Reformation and Enlightenment that shunned the pageantry and visual media of medieval Catholicism. But as we head down this road, we must hear a warning that speaks to us out of the centuries. Spiritual transcendence does not occur simply through aesthetic techniques. Bells and glass and pageantry will not in themselves bring the spiritual reality we seek. Mysticism is not a magic act. It is an outgrowth of a genuine and vibrant relation with God. Gourmet recipes should always be served on expensive china; but exquisite china in itself can never supply a meal.

Call to Worship

from Psalm 42

As a deer longs for flowing streams,
so my soul longs for you, O God.
My soul thirsts for God,
for the living God.

**When shall I come and behold
the face of God?**

These things I remember,
as I pour out my soul:
how I went with the throng,
and led them in procession to the house of God,
with glad shouts and songs of thanksgiving,
a multitude keeping festival.

**Why are you cast down, O my soul,
and why are you disquieted within me?**

Hope in God; for I shall again praise him,
my help and my God.

**By day the Lord commands his steadfast love,
and at night his song is with me,
a prayer to the God of my life.**

Why are you cast down, O my soul,
and why are you disquieted within me?

**Hope in God; for I shall again praise him,
my help and my God.**

Songs of Praise

There is a Fountain

There is a fountain filled with blood
drawn from Immanuel's veins.
And sinners plunged beneath that flood
lose all their guilty stains.
Lose all their guilty stains, lose all their guilty stains.
And sinners plunged beneath that flood, lose all their guilty stains.

The dying thief rejoiced to see
that fountain in his day.
And there have I, though vile as he,
washed all my sins away.
Washed all my sins away, washed all my sins away.
And there have I, though vile as he, washed all my sins away.

Dear dying Lamb, thy precious blood
shall never lose its power.
Till all the ransomed church of God
be saved, to sin no more.
Be saved to sin no more, be saved to sin no more.
Till all the ransomed church of God be saved, to sin no more.

E'er since, by faith, I saw the stream
thy flowing wounds supply.
Redeeming love has been my theme,
and shall be till I die.
And shall be till I die, and shall be till I die.
Redeeming love has been my theme, and shall be till I die.

When this poor lisping stamm'ring tongue
lies silent in the grave.
Then in a nobler sweeter song
I'll sing Thy pow'r to save.
I'll sing Thy pow'r to save, I'll sing Thy pow'r to save.
Then in a nobler, sweeter song, I'll sing Thy pow'r to save.

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

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 God's unchanging love.

Here I raise mine Ebenezer;
hither by thy help I've 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.

Oh, to grace how great a debtor;
daily I'm constrained to be.
Let thy goodness, 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, Oh, take and seal it,
seal it for thy courts above.

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Gospel Reading

Luke 9:28-36 NRSV

28 Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. 29 And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. 30 Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. 31 They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. 32 Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. 33 Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, “Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah”—not knowing what he said. 34 While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. 35 Then from the cloud came a voice that said, “This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!” 36 When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

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.

Stories of Grace

Family Promise - Matt DiBiasio

Passing of the Peace

Old Testament Reading

Exodus 12:1-20 NRSV

1 The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: 2 This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. 3 Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. 4 If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbor in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. 5 Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. 6 You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. 7 They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. 8 They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. 9 Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. 10 You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. 11 This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the passover of the Lord. 12 For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the Lord. 13 The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.

14 This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the Lord; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance. 15 Seven days you shall eat unleavened bread; on the first day you shall remove leaven from your houses, for whoever eats leavened bread from the first day until the seventh day shall be cut off from Israel. 16 On the first day you shall

hold a solemn assembly, and on the seventh day a solemn assembly; no work shall be done on those days; only what everyone must eat, that alone may be prepared by you. 17 You shall observe the festival of unleavened bread, for on this very day I brought your companies out of the land of Egypt: you shall observe this day throughout your generations as a perpetual ordinance. 18 In the first month, from the evening of the fourteenth day until the evening of the twenty-first day, you shall eat unleavened bread. 19 For seven days no leaven shall be found in your houses; for whoever eats what is leavened shall be cut off from the congregation of Israel, whether an alien or a native of the land. 20 You shall eat nothing leavened; in all your settlements you shall eat unleavened bread.

Sermon

Bryan Buck: Receiving Grace
Postures of Discipleship

Notes

Application Questions

1. How does looking at Exodus 12 from a communal versus individualistic vantage point shape your understanding of the passage?
2. How does the Passover meal help us make sense of the grace received through the Lord's Supper?
3. What role will community play in the challenge(s) that you face?

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.

Nothing But the Blood

What can wash away my sin?
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.
What can make me whole again?
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Oh precious is the flow, that makes me white as snow.
No other fount I know, nothing but the blood of Jesus.

For my pardon, this I see;
nothing but the blood of Jesus.
For my cleansing this my plea;
nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Nothing can for sin atone;
nothing but the blood of Jesus.
Naught of good that I have done;
nothing but the blood of Jesus.

This is all my hope and peace;
nothing but the blood of Jesus.
This is all my righteousness;
nothing but the blood of Jesus.

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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.

Wisdom & Grace (Psalm 90)

Teach us to number our days
That we may apply our hearts to Your ways
O! Teach us to number our days
with wisdom and grace, wisdom and grace.
Wisdom and grace, wisdom and grace.

You've been our home and our dwelling
our place in all generations.
Before the earth or the mountains were formed,
Lord, You were God.

Now the span of our lives,
It is made of sorrow and labor
As the days pass away like the grass
How soon we are gone.

Let the work of our hands bring you praise,
set Your favor upon us.
O establish the work of our hands,
May Your kingdom come!

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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

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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.

Social Hour

Join us on Sunday, March 12 for coffee, donuts, and fellowship after the service.

Newcomers Gathering

New(er) to Oaks Parish? We'd love to have lunch with you! After the service on March 19th, we'll provide lunch and share more about our mission, vision, and community. We can't wait to get to know you better too! Please RSVP at oaksparish.org/visitor.