

Eastertide



*oaks parish*

## Our Mission

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

## Our Core Values

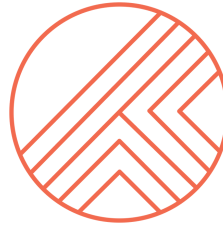
### Gospel of Grace



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.

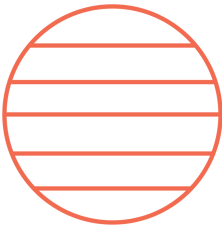
### Faithful Presence



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.

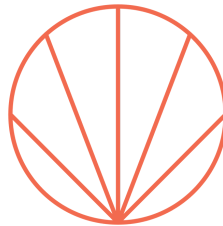
### Formative Rhythms



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

**Mary Oliver, Luna**

How quietly,  
and not with any assignment from us,  
or even a small hint  
of understanding,  
everything that needs to be done  
is done.

**Ben Witherington III, Acts: A Socio-Rhetorical Commentary**

Christianity arose during a time when there was already enormous religious curiosity on the part of Romans and other pagans about Eastern religions and divinities ranging from Isis to Jesus. It sought to take advantage of this curiosity, and it offered to pagans a religion that did not require certain rituals (such as circumcision or the keeping of food laws) that would have immediately alienated them in obvious observable ways from their fellow Gentiles. It did not require temples, costly animal sacrifices, priests — the very essence of much of ancient religion. It could meet in homes, and its rituals were flexible. It is not surprising that in the course of the next two centuries it came to be seen by pagans as a much more appealing religious option than Judaism, ordinary magic, or various other forms of traditional and popular religion that existed in the Empire.

**Rodney Stark, Cities of God**

The fact that the early Christians did find converts in the synagogues suggests that even there they found Diasporan Jews who were not firmly committed to Judaism, being of at least mixed mind about religious matters. As for the Jews outside the synagogues, among them religious apathy and confusion were rife...But if they no longer were very Jewish, neither were they Greek. Instead, they were trapped in marginality, their Hellenism compromising their Judaism, and the latter preventing their full embrace of the former. Caught between two worlds, they found it degrading to live among Greeks and yet to remain “enclosed in a spiritual Ghetto and be reckoned among the ‘barbarians.’” Many longed for “a compromise, a synthesis, which would permit a Jew to remain a Jew” and still be able to claim full entry into “the elect society of the Greeks.” For all these reasons it is not at all clear who benefited most from Paul’s victory vis-à-vis the admission of Gentiles without the requirement that they become Jews. For many Hellenized Jews, a monotheism with deep Jewish roots, but without the Law, would have been extremely attractive.

## Call to Worship

*from Psalm 113*

Praise the Lord!

Praise, O servants of the Lord;  
praise the name of the Lord.

**Blessed be the name of the Lord  
from this time on and forevermore.**

From the rising of the sun to its setting,  
the name of the Lord is to be praised.

**The Lord is high above all nations  
and his glory above the heavens.**

Who is like the Lord our God,  
who is seated on high?

**He raises the poor from the dust  
and lifts the needy from the ash heap.  
Praise the Lord!**

## Songs of Praise

### All Creatures of Our God and King

All creatures of our God and King,  
Lift up your voice and with us sing,  
Oh praise Him, Alleluia!  
Thou burning sun with golden beam,  
Thou silver moon with softer gleam,  
Oh praise him, Oh praise him,  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Thou rushing wind that art so strong,  
Ye clouds that sail in heav'n along,  
Oh praise Him, Alleluia!  
Thou rising moon in praise rejoice,  
Ye lights of evening, find a voice,  
Oh praise Him, Oh praise Him,  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Let all things their Creator bless,  
And worship Him in humbleness,  
Oh praise Him, Alleluia!  
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,  
And praise the Spirit, Three in One,  
Oh praise Him, Oh praise Him  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Words & Music by St. Francis of Assisi (1225);  
tr. William Francis Draper  
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## Jesus I Come

Out of my bondage, sorrow and night,  
Jesus, I come; Jesus I come  
Into Thy freedom, gladness and light,  
Jesus, I come to Thee  
Out of my sickness into Thy health,  
Out of my wanting and into Thy wealth,  
Out of my sin and into Thyself, Jesus, I come to Thee

Out of my shameful failure and loss,  
Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come  
Into the glorious gain of Thy cross,  
Jesus, I come to Thee  
Out of earth's sorrows into Thy balm,  
Out of life's storms and into Thy calm,  
Out of distress into jubilant psalm, Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of unrest and arrogant pride,  
Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come  
Into Thy blessed will to abide,  
Jesus, I come to Thee  
Out of myself to dwell in Thy love,  
Out of despair into raptures above,  
Upward forever on wings like a dove, Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of the fear and dread of the tomb,  
Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come  
Into the joy and light of Thy home,  
Jesus, I come to Thee  
Out of the depths of ruin untold,  
Into the peace of Thy sheltering fold,  
Ever Thy glorious face to behold, Jesus, I come to Thee.

## New Testament Reading

### Acts 13:1-12 NRSV

1 Now in the church at Antioch there were prophets and teachers: Barnabas, Simeon who was called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen a member of the court of Herod the ruler, and Saul. 2 While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, “Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.” 3 Then after fasting and praying they laid their hands on them and sent them off.

4 So, being sent out by the Holy Spirit, they went down to Seleucia; and from there they sailed to Cyprus. 5 When they arrived at Salamis, they proclaimed the word of God in the synagogues of the Jews. And they had John also to assist them. 6 When they had gone through the whole island as far as Paphos, they met a certain magician, a Jewish false prophet, named Bar-Jesus. 7 He was with the proconsul, Sergius Paulus, an intelligent man, who summoned Barnabas and Saul and wanted to hear the word of God. 8 But the magician Elymas (for that is the translation of his name) opposed them and tried to turn the proconsul away from the faith. 9 But Saul, also known as Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit, looked intently at him 10 and said, “You son of the devil, you enemy of all righteousness, full of all deceit and villainy, will you not stop making crooked the straight paths of the Lord? 11 And now listen—the hand of the Lord is against you, and you will be blind for a while, unable to see the sun.” Immediately mist and darkness came over him, and he went about groping for someone to lead him by the hand. 12 When the proconsul saw what had happened, he believed, for he was astonished at the teaching about the Lord.

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

God of great gifts:

This morning we give you praise,  
we give you glory, we give you thanks!

With resurrection humming in our hearts,  
our minds are tuned to your song of peace!

We joyfully present these gifts to you,  
a tangible chorus of thanksgiving,  
a harmony of hope for your kingdom come! Amen.

### Passing of the Peace



## New Testament Reading

### Acts 13:13-16, 42-52 NRSV

13 Then Paul and his companions set sail from Paphos and came to Perga in Pamphylia. John, however, left them and returned to Jerusalem; 14 but they went on from Perga and came to Antioch in Pisidia. And on the sabbath day they went into the synagogue and sat down. 15 After the reading of the law and the prophets, the officials of the synagogue sent them a message, saying, “Brothers, if you have any word of exhortation for the people, give it.” 16 So Paul stood up and with a gesture began to speak: “You Israelites, and others who fear God, listen.

42 As Paul and Barnabas were going out, the people urged them to speak about these things again the next sabbath. 43 When the meeting of the synagogue broke up, many Jews and devout converts to Judaism followed Paul and Barnabas, who spoke to them and urged them to continue in the grace of God. 44 The next sabbath almost the whole city gathered to hear the word of the Lord. 45 But when the Jews saw the crowds, they were filled with jealousy; and blaspheming, they contradicted what was spoken by Paul. 46 Then both Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly, saying, “It was necessary that the word of God should be spoken first to you. Since you reject it and judge yourselves to be unworthy of eternal life, we are now turning to the Gentiles. 47 For so the Lord has commanded us, saying, ‘I have set you to be a light for the Gentiles, so that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth.’”

48 When the Gentiles heard this, they were glad and praised the word of the Lord; and as many as had been destined for eternal life became believers. 49 Thus the word of the Lord spread throughout the region. 50 But the Jews incited the devout women of high standing and the leading men of the city, and stirred up persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and drove them out of their region. 51 So they shook the dust off their feet in protest against them, and went to Iconium. 52 And the disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Sermon

Bryan Buck: The Compelling Nature of the Gospel

The Acts of the Apostles: Witness to the Ends of the Earth

## Notes

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### Application Questions

1. How does the spiritual climate of Portland compare to that of the Roman Empire in the first century?
2. Is your personal story marked by legalism or syncretism? How does the gospel offer you true salvation?
3. Why is the gospel worth sharing and who in your life could be changed by its power this week?

## Confession of Sin

Loving God, we confess that at times we do not share in the joy of the resurrection but are caught in the worries of the world. We confess that we do not always live in the spirit of new life but remain discontent, grumbling, and anxious. Forgive us for not sharing in the Good News. Forgive us when we find it more comfortable to worry and complain than to risk the joy and encouragement of new life in Christ. Call us back to Your ways, O God, to seek hope and reconciliation, restoration and peace. In the name of the risen Christ, we pray. Amen.

## Assurance of Pardon

### 1 John 2:1-2 NRSV

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous, and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

## 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.

## Mercy's Reign

Light, you are light, Jesus one and only.

Good, you are good, so full of truth and grace.

Bright, you are bright, no dark can dim your glory.

Kind, you are kind, your yoke means mercy's reign.

You make light in shine in our dark  
and in our hearts – o beautiful!

You still pursue us through our loss  
and bear our cross – o merciful!

One, you are one, three from the beginning.

Friend, you are friend, to reveal your heart of hearts.

Bold, you are bold, you bear away our sinning.

Love, you are love, and this world is your art.

You hide your face from the wise  
yet show the child – o wonderful!

You call me close and take my pride  
and say “this died” – O Lord my God!

Words & Music by Paul Ramey and Alex Davis

Arranged by Tim Glavor © 2011 Imago Dei Music

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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.

## Come and Rest

Have you been trying to move a mountain

and the mountain it will not move?

Have you been struggling

to remember somebody is looking out for you?

Come and rest, come and rest,

come and rest in the love of God.

Do you need a mother?

Do you need a father?

Oh, everybody needs a friend.

And are you looking for the way home,

do you wanna feel that peace again?

There's a time for all your working.

There's a time to put your hand to the plow.

Can you hear it, Jesus is singing,

come and lay your burdens down!

Come and lay your burdens down,

come and lay your burdens down!

Words & Music by Dwan Hill, Jessica Ray Langdon, and Natalie Taylor Leonhardt

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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.

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*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](http://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](http://oaksparish.org) or using the QR code below.



## Download the OP App

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

## Morning Prayer

Join us every Wednesday online at 6:30am to pray together for our community and beyond at [oaksparish.org/morningprayer](http://oaksparish.org/morningprayer).

## New Membership Gathering

If you've attended Newcomers Gathering and are ready to put down roots as a member at Oaks Parish, join us for New Membership Gathering today after the service. We'll provide lunch, discuss the significance of membership at Oaks Parish, and answer any questions. Email [martha@oaksparish.org](mailto:martha@oaksparish.org) to RSVP.

## Spring Congregational Meeting

Members and regular attenders, please mark your calendars for Sunday, May 21st for our spring congregational meeting after the service. At the meeting we will provide updates on the life of our church and share about ministry developments for the summer.