

Eastertide



oaks parish

Our Mission

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

Our Core Values

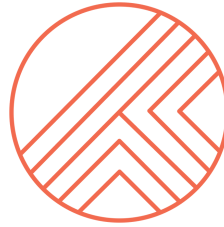
Gospel of Grace



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.

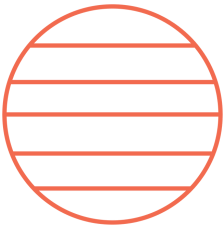
Faithful Presence



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.

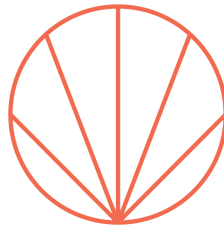
Formative Rhythms



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

N.T. Wright, Acts for Everyone

'Salvation' in the ancient world didn't mean 'going to heaven when you die', and that is by no means how the New Testament writers use it. Jesus himself frequently speaks of someone being 'saved' when he means 'healed' (e.g. Luke 8.48: 'your faith has saved you', in other words, 'has made you well'). So 'saved' meant, simply, 'rescued', 'delivered' – from whatever problem, be it sickness, financial disaster, personal catastrophe, or anything else, might be threatening.

St. John of the Cross, The Ascent to Mt. Carmel

Our deduction is that since faith is a dark night, it illumines the soul that is in darkness.

Those who want to reach union with God should advance neither by understanding, nor by the support of their own experience, nor by feeling or imagination, but by belief in God's being.

Tom Holland, Dominion

The legacy of Christianity is a legacy of transformation, of a willingness to challenge the status quo and to seek a better way. Christians have always been driven by a sense of mission, a conviction that they are called to change the world for the better. This has led them to challenge oppressive regimes, to fight for justice and equality, and to champion the cause of the marginalized and the oppressed.

The legacy of Christianity is a legacy of hope in the face of despair, of redemption in the face of sin. It is a message that speaks to the deepest longings of the human heart: the desire for meaning, for purpose, for connection, for transcendence. It is a message that has inspired some of the greatest works of art, literature, and music in human history.

The legacy of Christianity is a living legacy.

Call to Worship

from Psalm 117

Praise the Lord, all you nations!

Extol him, all you peoples!

For great is his steadfast love toward us.

The faithfulness of the Lord endures forever.

Praise the Lord!

Songs of Praise

Great is Thy Faithfulness

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father,
there is no shadow of turning with Thee.
Thou changest not, Thy compassions they fail not;
as Thou has been Thou forever wilt be.

Great is Thy faithfulness!

Great is Thy faithfulness!

Morning by morning new mercies I see.

All I have needed Thy hand hath provided.

Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord unto me.

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above,
join with all nature in manifold witness
to Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thy own dear presence to cheer and to guide.
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow.
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside.

Words & Music by Thomas Obediah Chisholm
and William Marion Runyan

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Christ is the Life of the World

In Christ we offer all that he has offered,
the perfect offering.

Christ is the life of the world.

Christ is the life of the world.

So we remember all that he remembered,
the whole of life returned.

Christ is the life of the world.

Christ is the life of the world.

Let us lift up, lift our hearts;

let us lift up, lift our hearts.

It is good to lift our hearts to the Lord.

Sent forth in beauty reconciling all things,
radiant in holiness.

Christ is the life of the world.

Christ is the life of the world.

Christ is the life of the world.

New Testament Reading

Acts 16:1-15a NRSV

1 Paul went on also to Derbe and to Lystra, where there was a disciple named Timothy, the son of a Jewish woman who was a believer; but his father was a Greek. 2 He was well spoken of by the believers in Lystra and Iconium. 3 Paul wanted Timothy to accompany him; and he took him and had him circumcised because of the Jews who were in those places, for they all knew that his father was a Greek. 4 As they went from town to town, they delivered to them for observance the decisions that had been reached by the apostles and elders who were in Jerusalem. 5 So the churches were strengthened in the faith and increased in numbers daily.

6 They went through the region of Phrygia and Galatia, having been forbidden by the Holy Spirit to speak the word in Asia. 7 When they had come opposite Mysia, they attempted to go into Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus did not allow them; 8 so, passing by Mysia, they went down to Troas. 9 During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." 10 When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.

11 We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, 12 and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. 13 On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. 14 A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. 15 When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home." And she prevailed upon us.

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 16:16-34 NRSV

16 One day, as we were going to the place of prayer, we met a slave-girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners a great deal of money by fortune-telling. 17 While she followed Paul and us, she would cry out, “These men are slaves of the Most High God, who proclaim to you a way of salvation.” 18 She kept doing this for many days. But Paul, very much annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, “I order you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her.” And it came out that very hour. 19 But when her owners saw that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace before the authorities. 20 When they had brought them before the magistrates, they said, “These men are disturbing our city; they are Jews 21 and are advocating customs that are not lawful for us as Romans to adopt or observe.” 22 The crowd joined in attacking them, and the magistrates had them stripped of their clothing and ordered them to be beaten with rods. 23 After they had given them a severe flogging, they threw them into prison and ordered the jailer to keep them securely. 24 Following these instructions, he put them in the innermost cell and fastened their feet in the stocks. 25 About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. 26 Suddenly there was an earthquake, so violent that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone’s chains were unfastened. 27 When the jailer woke up and saw the prison doors wide open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, since he supposed that the prisoners had escaped. 28 But Paul shouted in a loud voice, “Do not harm yourself, for we are all here.” 29 The jailer called for lights, and rushing in, he fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. 30 Then he brought them outside and said, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?” 31 They answered, “Believe on the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.” 32 They spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. 33 At the same hour of the night he took them and washed their wounds; then he and his entire family were baptized without delay. 34 He brought them up into the house and set food before them; and he and his entire household rejoiced that he had become a believer in God.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Bryan Buck: The Gospel in Four People

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

Notes

Application Questions

1. In Acts 16, God's Holy Spirit takes center stage in the advancement of the gospel. Where do you sense the Holy Spirit leading you right now?
2. Of the four people highlighted in Acts 16, who do you identify with most and why?
3. How does faith become inspirational as you consider your own despair, sin, and longing?

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.

Here is Love

Here is love, vast as the ocean,
loving kindness as the flood.
When the Prince of Life, our ransom
shed for us his precious blood.
Who his love will not remember?
Who can cease to sing his praise?
He will never be forgotten
throughout heav'ns eternal days.

On the mount of crucifixion,
fountains opened deep and wide.
Through the floodgates of God's mercy
flowed a vast and gracious tide.
Grace and love like mighty rivers
poured incessant from above;
heaven's peace and perfect justice
kissed a guilty world in love.

Let me all thy love accepting
love thee, ever all my days.
Let me seek thy kingdom only
and my life be to thy praise.
Thou alone shall be my glory,
nothing in the world I see.
Thou has cleansed and sanctified me;
thou thyself hast set me free.

Words & Music by William Rees, William Williams (19th c.);
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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.

New Wine

In the crushing, in the pressing, you are making new wine.
In the soil I now surrender; you are breaking new ground.

So I yield to you and to your careful hand;
when I trust you I don't need to understand.

Make me your vessel, make me an offering,
make me whatever you want me to be.
I came here with nothing but all you have given me;
Jesus bring new wine out of me.

In the crushing, in the pressing, you are making new wine.
In the soil I now surrender; you are breaking new ground.
You are breaking new ground.

Make me your vessel, make me an offering,
make me whatever you want me to be.
I came here with nothing but all you have given me;
Jesus bring new wine out of me.
Jesus bring new wine out of me.

'Cause where there is new wine there is new power,
there is new freedom and the kingdom is here.
I lay down my old flames to carry your new fire today.

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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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Alex Wenig	alex@oaksparish.org	Director of Music
Community Life Team	communitylife@oaksparish.org	

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 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.

Sunday Morning Volunteers

Additional support is needed on our volunteer teams this summer in setup, OP Kids, and tech. Email martha@oaksparish.org with your interest.

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.