

Eastertide



oaks parish

Our Mission

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

Our Core Values

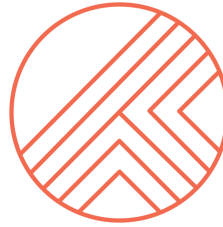
Gospel of Grace



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.

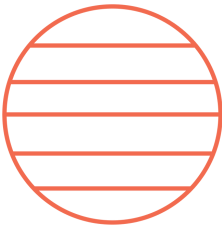
Faithful Presence



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.

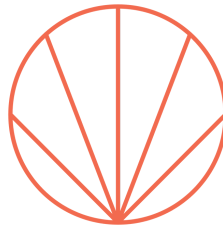
Formative Rhythms



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, Simply Christian

Living with ‘the authority of scripture,’ then, means living in the world of the story which scripture tells. All this means that we are called to be people who learn to hear God’s voice speaking today within the ancient text, and who become vessels of that living word in the world around us.

Jaroslav Pelikan, Acts

The example of these ‘more noble-minded’ Jews at the synagogue in Beroea, ‘who every day...studied the scriptures to check whether it was true,’ would appear to be not only commended here on its own account, but also recommended as a model for Christian believers to follow.

Karl Barth, “The Strange New World within the Bible,” in The Word of God and the Word of Man

We have found in the Bible a new world, God, God’s sovereignty, God’s glory, God’s incomprehensible love. Not the history of man but the history of God! Not the virtues of men but the virtues of him who hath called us out of darkness into his marvelous light! Not human standpoints but the standpoint of God.

Call to Worship

from Psalm 118

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his steadfast love endures forever!

**Let those who fear the Lord say,
“His steadfast love endures forever.”**

Open to me the gates of righteousness,
that I may enter through them
and give thanks to the Lord.

**This is the gate of the Lord;
the righteous shall enter through it.**

You are my God, and I will give thanks to you;
you are my God; I will extol you.

**O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever.**

Songs of Praise

Invocation of the Light

Glory to God who has shown us the light.
Glory to God who has shown us the light.
Lead us from darkness to light,
lead us from sorrow to joy,
lead us from death into life, lead us.

Words Traditional Benedictine;
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Every Ditch, Every Valley

A voice says “Cry out, all men are like grass
and their time of glory soon shall pass,
but the Word of God, it will never die.
Surely it will stand for eternity.”

Every ditch and valley shall be raised up.
Every hill and mountain be made low.
Every rugged place will be made flat.
Everybody shall see the glory of the Lord.

You who bring good news raise your voice and shout!
Do not be afraid to speak the name of God.
The hard days are gone, the debt has been paid,
and the time has come to walk the righteous way.

Every ditch and valley shall be raised up.
Every hill and mountain be made low.
Every rugged place will be made flat.
Everybody shall see the glory of the Lord.
Everybody shall see the glory of the LORD

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God With Us

You've come to bring peace,
to be love, to be nearer to us.
You've come to breathe life,
to be light, to shine brighter in us.
O Emmanuel, God with us.

Our deliverer, you are Savior;
in your presence we find our strength.
Over everything, our redemption -
God with us; you are God with us.

You've come to be hope
to this world, for your honor and name.
You've come to take sin,
to bear shame, and to conquer the grave.
O Emmanuel, God with us.

You are here, you are holy;
we are standing in your glory.

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New Testament Reading

Luke 8:4-15 NRSV

4 When a great crowd gathered and people from town after town came to him, he said in a parable: 5 “A sower went out to sow his seed; and as he sowed, some fell on the path and was trampled on, and the birds of the air ate it up. 6 Some fell on the rock; and as it grew up, it withered for lack of moisture. 7 Some fell among thorns, and the thorns grew with it and choked it. 8 Some fell into good soil, and when it grew, it produced a hundredfold.” As he said this, he called out, “Let anyone with ears to hear listen!”

9 Then his disciples asked him what this parable meant. 10 He said, “To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of God; but to others I speak in parables, so that ‘looking they may not perceive, and listening they may not understand.’

11 “Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. 12 The ones on the path are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved. 13 The ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy. But these have no root; they believe only for a while and in a time of testing fall away. 14 As for what fell among the thorns, these are the ones who hear; but as they go on their way, they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature. 15 But as for that in the good soil, these are the ones who, when they hear the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bear fruit with patient endurance.

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.

Reception of New Members

1. Do you acknowledge yourselves to be sinners in the sight of God, justly deserving his displeasure, and without hope save in his sovereign mercy?
2. Do you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as the Son of God, and Savior of sinners, and do you receive and rest upon him alone for salvation as he is offered in the Gospel?
3. Do you now resolve and promise, in humble reliance upon the grace of the Holy Spirit, that you will endeavor to live as becomes the followers of Christ?
4. Do you promise to support the Church in its worship and work to the best of your ability?
5. Do you submit yourselves to the government and discipline of the Church, and promise to study its purity and peace?

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 17:1-15 NRSV

1 After Paul and Silas had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a synagogue of the Jews. 2 And Paul went in, as was his custom, and on three sabbath days argued with them from the scriptures, 3 explaining and proving that it was necessary for the Messiah to suffer and to rise from the dead, and saying, “This is the Messiah, Jesus whom I am proclaiming to you.” 4 Some of them were persuaded and joined Paul and Silas, as did a great many of the devout Greeks and not a few of the leading women. 5 But the Jews became jealous, and with the help of some ruffians in the marketplaces they formed a mob and set the city in an uproar. While they were searching for Paul and Silas to bring them out to the assembly, they attacked Jason’s house. 6 When they could not find them, they dragged Jason and some believers before the city authorities, shouting, “These people who have been turning the world upside down have come here also, 7 and Jason has entertained them as guests. They are all acting contrary to the decrees of the emperor, saying that there is another king named Jesus.” 8 The people and the city officials were disturbed when they heard this, 9 and after they had taken bail from Jason and the others, they let them go.

10 That very night the believers sent Paul and Silas off to Beroea; and when they arrived, they went to the Jewish synagogue. 11 These Jews were more receptive than those in Thessalonica, for they welcomed the message very eagerly and examined the scriptures every day to see whether these things were so. 12 Many of them therefore believed, including not a few Greek women and men of high standing. 13 But when the Jews of Thessalonica learned that the word of God had been proclaimed by Paul in Beroea as well, they came there too, to stir up and incite the crowds. 14 Then the believers immediately sent Paul away to the coast, but Silas and Timothy remained behind. 15 Those who conducted Paul brought him as far as Athens; and after receiving instructions to have Silas and Timothy join him as soon as possible, they left him.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Ed Gall: A Tale of Two Cities

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

Notes

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.

Oh the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus

Oh the deep, deep love of Jesus - vast, unmeasured, boundless, free.
Rolling as a mighty ocean in its fullness over me.

Underneath me, all around me, is the current of his love.
Leading onward, leading homeward to thy glorious rest above.

Oh the deep, deep love of Jesus 'tis a heaven of heavens to me.
And it lifts me up to glory, for it lifts me up to thee.

Oh the deep, deep love of Jesus, spread his praise from shore to shore.
How he loveth, ever loveth, changeth never, nevermore.

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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 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.

Spring Congregational Meeting

Members and regular attenders, please stay after the service today for our spring congregational meeting. We will provide updates on the life of our church and share about ministry developments for the summer.

Summer Potluck

You're invited to our first summer potluck after the worship service on Sunday, June 4th in the fellowship hall! Smoked brisket and pulled pork will be provided. Please bring a summer BBQ side dish to share. If you're willing to help clean up after the potluck, please email communitylife@oaksparish.org.

Encounter: A Night of Worship

Join the community of Oaks Parish, Warner Pacific University, and other churches nearby as we host a night of worship on Wednesday, June 14th at 7pm. Together we'll lift our voices in song and prayer for the neighborhood, the city, and beyond.