

Pentecost



oaks parish

Our Mission

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

Our Core Values

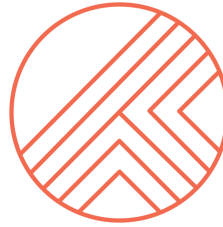
Gospel of Grace



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.

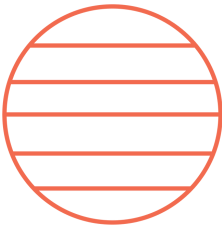
Faithful Presence



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.

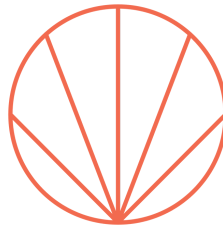
Formative Rhythms



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

Carl Sagan, *The Pale Blue Dot*

Consider again that dot. That's here. That's home. That's us....The Earth is a very small stage in a vast cosmic arena.... To my mind, there is perhaps no better demonstration of the folly of human conceits than this distant image of our tiny world. To me, it underscores our responsibility to deal more kindly and compassionately with one another and to preserve and cherish that pale blue dot, the only home we've ever known.

N.T. Wright, *Acts for Everyone*

One of the many lessons Acts teaches quietly, as it goes along, is that you tend to get the guidance you need when you need it, not before, and not in too much detail. Enough to know that the Lord Jesus has many people in this city, and that he wants you, Paul, to stay here and work with them.

Wendell Berry, "A Native Hill", *What Are People For?*

It is possible, as I have learned again and again, to be in one's place, in such company, wild or domestic, and with such pleasure, that one cannot think of another place that one would prefer to be—or of another place at all. One does not miss or regret the past, or fear or long for the future. Being there is simply all, and is enough. Such times give one the chief standard and the chief reason for one's work.

Willie James Jennings, *Acts: A Theological Commentary*

He shakes the dust from his clothes. He pronounces judgment on his Jewish opposition. He claims he has done all he can, and he announces his attention has shifted to the Gentiles (v. 6). He gives up. His energy collapses, and this is completely understandable and paradigmatic. Jesus himself drew near this collapse, echoing God's ancient frustration with a sojourning people created by God's own mighty hand and outstretched arm. Love will sometimes threaten to abandon, but it never does. Paul is caught in the threat of an action that God will not follow. God does not follow abandonment, because God has brought abandonment into the divine life. The abandoned now have a home in God if they want it.

Call to Worship

from Psalm 104

Bless the Lord, my soul!

Lord God, how great you are.

The earth is full of your riches.

**You send forth your spirit, O Lord,
and renew the face of the earth.**

I will sing to the Lord all my life,
make music to my God while I live.

**May my thoughts be pleasing to him.
I find my joy in the Lord.**

Songs of Praise

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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Spirit of the Living God

Spirit of the living God fall fresh on me.
Spirit of the living God fall fresh on me.
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.
Spirit of the living God fall fresh on me.

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New Testament Reading

Acts 18:1-17 NRSV

1 After this Paul left Athens and went to Corinth. 2 There he found a Jew named Aquila, a native of Pontus, who had recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla, because Claudius had ordered all Jews to leave Rome. Paul went to see them, 3 and, because he was of the same trade, he stayed with them, and they worked together—by trade they were tentmakers. 4 Every sabbath he would argue in the synagogue and would try to convince Jews and Greeks.

5 When Silas and Timothy arrived from Macedonia, Paul was occupied with proclaiming the word, testifying to the Jews that the Messiah was Jesus. 6 When they opposed and reviled him, in protest he shook the dust from his clothes and said to them, “Your blood be on your own heads! I am innocent. From now on I will go to the Gentiles.” 7 Then he left the synagogue and went to the house of a man named Titius Justus, a worshiper of God; his house was next door to the synagogue. 8 Crispus, the official of the synagogue, became a believer in the Lord, together with all his household; and many of the Corinthians who heard Paul became believers and were baptized. 9 One night the Lord said to Paul in a vision, “Do not be afraid, but speak and do not be silent; 10 for I am with you, and no one will lay a hand on you to harm you, for there are many in this city who are my people.” 11 He stayed there a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them. 12 But when Gallio was proconsul of Achaia, the Jews made a united attack on Paul and brought him before the tribunal. 13 They said, “This man is persuading people to worship God in ways that are contrary to the law.” 14 Just as Paul was about to speak, Gallio said to the Jews, “If it were a matter of crime or serious villainy, I would be justified in accepting the complaint of you Jews; 15 but since it is a matter of questions about words and names and your own law, see to it yourselves; I do not wish to be a judge of these matters.” 16 And he dismissed them from the tribunal. 17 Then all of them seized Sosthenes, the official of the synagogue, and beat him in front of the tribunal. But Gallio paid no attention to any of these things.

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

Holy Father, giver of all good gifts, open our hearts and open our hands to give generously and with great joy. Use our humble offerings for the work of your kingdom to be done on earth as it is in heaven. Amen.

Passing of the Peace

New Testament Reading

Acts 18:18-28 NRSV

18 After staying there for a considerable time, Paul said farewell to the believers and sailed for Syria, accompanied by Priscilla and Aquila. At Cenchreae he had his hair cut, for he was under a vow. 19 When they reached Ephesus, he left them there, but first he himself went into the synagogue and had a discussion with the Jews. 20 When they asked him to stay longer, he declined; 21 but on taking leave of them, he said, "I will return to you, if God wills." Then he set sail from Ephesus.

22 When he had landed at Caesarea, he went up to Jerusalem and greeted the church, and then went down to Antioch. 23 After spending some time there he departed and went from place to place through the region of Galatia and Phrygia, strengthening all the disciples.

24 Now there came to Ephesus a Jew named Apollos, a native of Alexandria. He was an eloquent man, well-versed in the scriptures. 25 He had been instructed in the Way of the Lord; and he spoke with burning enthusiasm and taught accurately the things concerning Jesus, though he knew only the baptism of John. 26 He began to speak boldly in the synagogue; but when Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they took him aside and explained the Way of God to him more accurately. 27 And when he wished to cross over to Achaia, the believers encouraged him and wrote to the disciples to welcome him. On his arrival he greatly helped those who through grace had become believers, 28 for he powerfully refuted the Jews in public, showing by the scriptures that the Messiah is Jesus.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Bryan Buck: Stay Here

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

Notes

Application Questions

1. Does being present with Jesus in any way conflict with ambition?
2. As you read the narrative, what do you find most valuable about Paul's year and a half in Corinth?
3. How might God be calling you to 'stay here', whatever that might mean?

Confession of Sin

O Lord, you have mercy upon all - take away from me my sins, and mercifully kindle in me the fire of your Holy Spirit. Take away from me the heart of stone, and give me a heart of flesh, a heart to love and adore you, a heart to delight in you, to follow and to enjoy you, for Christ's sake. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Psalm 32:5 NRSV

Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not hide my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord," and you forgave the guilt of my sin.

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.

Wisdom and 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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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.

Almighty God

Almighty God to you all hearts are open,
search and know our thoughts and anxious fears.
Wash us in the fountain of your mercy.
Come with your light;
we cannot hide from you.

Almighty God to you all hearts are open,
with gratitude we raise our song to you.
Come and fill the praises of your people.
In grace and truth,
you make us new again.

Hallelujah
Hallelujah
Hallelujah

Almighty God to you all hearts are open,
we long for more than what this world provides.
No shallow spring will ever satisfy us,
but your river deep
floods over everything.

Almighty God to you all hearts are open,
you take away our sickness and our sin.
O Lamb of God we gather at your table.
In bread and wine,
you have supplied our needs.

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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: 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.

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.

Summer Reading Groups

Connect with others this summer while diving into a good book! Starting mid-June we're offering three summer reading groups that will cultivate enriching discussions with others over a shared interest. Learn more at oaksparish.org/summerreading.