

Ordinary Time



*oaks parish*

## Our Mission

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

## Our Core Values

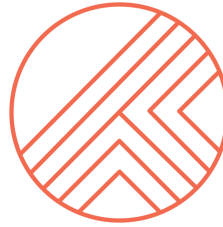
### Gospel of Grace



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.

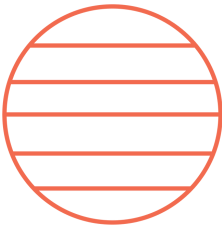
### Faithful Presence



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.

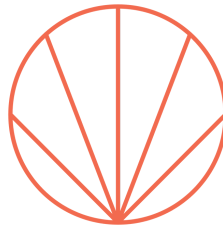
### Formative Rhythms



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

### **Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., “Drum Major Instinct”, 02.04.68**

Yes, Jesus, I want to be on your right or your left side, (Yes) not for any selfish reason. I want to be on your right or your left side, not in terms of some political kingdom or ambition. But I just want to be there in love and in justice and in truth and in commitment to others, so that we can make of this old world a new world.

### **N.T. Wright, Acts for Everyone**

The gospel is all about God putting the world right – his doing so in Jesus, his doing so at the end, and his doing so for individuals in between, as both a sign and a means of what is to come. Luke wants his readers to see the life of the church itself in that same way. We shouldn't expect a comfortable ride. We shouldn't imagine that people will leave us alone, will not challenge us as to what we are doing, as to how our faith belongs in the public world. If we are the people in and through whom God is putting into effect the setting-right that happened in Jesus, and anticipating the setting-right that will happen at the end, we should expect to see that uncomfortable but necessary setting-right going on all over the place, sometimes in martyrdom and sometimes in vindication and acquittal, as the church makes its way in the world.

### **Willie James Jennings, Acts: A Theological Commentary**

There are two different forms of intellectual life, one that functions as if Jesus' cross, resurrection, and the coming of the Spirit does not matter and the other fully captured by these world-shattering and life-creating realities.

## Call to Worship

### *Psalm 138 NRSV*

I give you thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart;  
I sing your praise.

**We bow down toward your holy temple  
and give thanks to your name for your  
steadfast love and your faithfulness.**

On the day I called, you answered me;  
you increased my strength of soul.

**All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O Lord,  
for they have heard the words of your mouth.**

They shall sing of the ways of the Lord,  
for great is the glory of the Lord.

**For though the Lord is high, he regards the lowly.**

Though I walk in the midst of trouble,  
you preserve me; you stretch out your hand,  
and your right hand delivers me.

**The Lord will fulfill his purpose for me;  
your steadfast love, O Lord, endures forever.**

## Songs of Praise

### Our Great God

Eternal God, unchanging, mysterious, and unknown,  
Your boundless love,  
unfailing grace and mercy shown.  
Bright seraphim in ceaseless flight  
around Your glorious throne,  
they raise their voices day and night  
in praise to You alone.

Hallelujah, glory be to our great God!  
Hallelujah, glory be to our great God!

Lord, we are weak and frail,  
helpless in the storm.  
Surround us with Your angels,  
hold us in Your arms.  
Our cold and ruthless enemy,  
his pleasure is our harm.  
Rise up, O Lord, and he will flee  
before our sov'reign God.

Let ev'ry creature in the sea,  
and ev'ry flying bird;  
let ev'ry mountain,  
ev'ry field and valley of the earth.  
Let all the moons and all the stars  
in all the universe,  
sing praises to the living God  
who rules them by His Word.

Words and Music Fernando Ortega & Mac Powell  
© 2002 New Spring; DeJamesolo Music; Curb Word Music  
CCLI License # 11355776

## Living Hope

How great the chasm that lay between us.  
How high the mountain I could not climb.  
In desperation, I turned to heaven  
and spoke Your name into the night.  
Then through the darkness, Your loving kindness  
tore through the shadows of my soul.  
The work is finished; the end is written.  
Jesus Christ, my living hope.

Who could imagine so great a mercy?  
What heart could fathom such boundless grace?  
The God of ages stepped down from glory  
to wear my sin and bear my shame.  
The cross has spoken, I am forgiven;  
the King of kings calls me His own.  
Beautiful Savior, I'm Yours forever;  
Jesus Christ, my living hope.

Hallelujah, praise the One who set me free!  
Hallelujah, death has lost its grip on me!  
You have broken every chain,  
there's salvation in your name.  
Jesus Christ, my living hope!

Then came the morning that sealed the promise.  
Your buried body began to breathe.  
Out of the silence, the Roaring Lion  
declared the grave has no claim on me.  
Jesus, yours is the victory!

Words & Music Brian Johnson and Phil Wickham

© 2021 Bethel Music Publishing

CCLI License # 11355776

## Old Testament Reading

### 1 Kings 3:3-14 NRSV

3 Solomon loved the Lord, walking in the statutes of his father David; only, he sacrificed and offered incense at the high places. 4 The king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, for that was the principal high place; Solomon used to offer a thousand burnt offerings on that altar. 5 At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, "Ask what I should give you." 6 And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. 7 And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. 8 And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. 9 Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?"

10 It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. 11 God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, 12 I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you. 13 I give you also what you have not asked, both riches and honor all your life; no other king shall compare with you. 14 If you will walk in my ways, keeping my statutes and my commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your life."

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

Gracious Father, you have blessed us with gifts beyond measure.  
Teach us to be generous with everything we have. What you've given  
us, we surrender to you. We long to see your kingdom come on earth  
as it is in heaven. Amen.

### Passing of the Peace



## New Testament Reading

### Acts 24:1-27 NRSV

1 Five days later the high priest Ananias came down with some elders and an attorney, a certain Tertullus, and they reported their case against Paul to the governor. 2 When Paul had been summoned, Tertullus began to accuse him, saying: “Your Excellency, because of you we have long enjoyed peace, and reforms have been made for this people because of your foresight. 3 We welcome this in every way and everywhere with utmost gratitude. 4 But, to detain you no further, I beg you to hear us briefly with your customary graciousness. 5 We have, in fact, found this man a pestilent fellow, an agitator among all the Jews throughout the world, and a ringleader of the sect of the Nazarenes. 6 He even tried to profane the temple, and so we seized him. 8 By examining him yourself you will be able to learn from him concerning everything of which we accuse him.” 9 The Jews also joined in the charge by asserting that all this was true.

10 When the governor motioned to him to speak, Paul replied: “I cheerfully make my defense, knowing that for many years you have been a judge over this nation. 11 As you can find out, it is not more than twelve days since I went up to worship in Jerusalem. 12 They did not find me disputing with anyone in the temple or stirring up a crowd either in the synagogues or throughout the city. 13 Neither can they prove to you the charge that they now bring against me. 14 But this I admit to you, that according to the Way, which they call a sect, I worship the God of our ancestors, believing everything laid down according to the law or written in the prophets. 15 I have a hope in God—a hope that they themselves also accept—that there will be a resurrection of both the righteous and the unrighteous. 16 Therefore I do my best always to have a clear conscience toward God and all people. 17 Now after some years I came to bring alms to my nation and to offer sacrifices. 18 While I was doing this, they found me in the temple, completing the rite of purification, without any crowd or disturbance. 19 But there were some Jews from Asia—they ought to

be here before you to make an accusation, if they have anything against me. 20 Or let these men here tell what crime they had found when I stood before the council, 21 unless it was this one sentence that I called out while standing before them, ‘It is about the resurrection of the dead that I am on trial before you today.’ ” 22 But Felix, who was rather well informed about the Way, adjourned the hearing with the comment, “When Lysias the tribune comes down, I will decide your case.” 23 Then he ordered the centurion to keep him in custody, but to let him have some liberty and not to prevent any of his friends from taking care of his needs. 24 Some days later when Felix came with his wife Drusilla, who was Jewish, he sent for Paul and heard him speak concerning faith in Christ Jesus. 25 And as he discussed justice, self-control, and the coming judgment, Felix became frightened and said, “Go away for the present; when I have an opportunity, I will send for you.” 26 At the same time he hoped that money would be given him by Paul, and for that reason he used to send for him very often and converse with him. 27 After two years had passed, Felix was succeeded by Porcius Festus; and since he wanted to grant the Jews a favor, Felix left Paul in prison.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Sermon

Bryan Buck: Living Inside a Hope

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

---

## Notes

### Application Questions

1. How have you found yourself in an “old world” situation recently?
2. Paul lives inside the hope of the gospel even as he lives inside a prison. What effect does that have in his life?
3. What do you imagine could happen if you lived inside the hope of the gospel this week?

## Confession of Sin

Holy Father, forgive us. Our shortcomings accuse us, and we kneel before you, asking you to heal and renew us by your mercy and grace. We confess our worship of idols in the place of you. We confess our self-righteousness and our self-serving actions. We confess our lack of trust in your power. Holy Father, forgive us. We long to dwell in your abiding love. Amen.

## Assurance of Pardon

### Psalm 130:7-8 NRSV

Hope in the Lord! For with the Lord there is steadfast love, and with him is plentiful redemption. And he will redeem Israel from all his iniquities.

## 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.

## Jesus, All For Jesus

Jesus, all for Jesus!

All I am and have, and ever hope to be.

Jesus, all for Jesus!

All I am and have, and ever hope to be.

For it's only in Your will that I am free.

For it's only in Your will that I am free.

All of my ambitions, hopes, and plans,

I surrender these into Your hands.

All of my ambitions, hopes, and plans,

I surrender these into Your hands.

Words and Music Jennifer Atkinson & Robin Mark

© 1991 Authentic Publishing

CCLI License # 11355776

## 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.

## Song of Reflection

### Sower's Song

Words & Music by Andrew Peterson & Ben Shive

© 2015 Jakedog Music; Junkbox Music

CCLI License # 11355776

## 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.

Words by Thomas Ken & Music by Louis Bourgeois © Public Domain

# 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*

Bryan Buck	<a href="mailto:bryan@oaksparish.org">bryan@oaksparish.org</a>	Lead Pastor
Amanda Buck	<a href="mailto:amanda@oaksparish.org">amanda@oaksparish.org</a>	Director of Women's Formation
Marylu Gray	<a href="mailto:kids@oaksparish.org">kids@oaksparish.org</a>	Director of OP Kids
Martha Van Houten	<a href="mailto:martha@oaksparish.org">martha@oaksparish.org</a>	Director of Parish Formation
Alex Wenig	<a href="mailto:alex@oaksparish.org">alex@oaksparish.org</a>	Director of Music
Community Life Team	<a href="mailto:communitylife@oaksparish.org">communitylife@oaksparish.org</a>	

# 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/#weekly](http://oaksparish.org/#weekly)



## Listen to the OP Podcast

Catch up on all the latest Oaks Parish sermons on our podcast! Search "Oaks Parish" on Apple Podcasts and Spotify.

## 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).

## Theology on Tap

Join the discussion about current cultural issues from a theological framework, 7pm tonight at Belmont Station. Tonight's topic of discussion is gender identity. You can learn more at [oaksparish.org/summerreading](http://oaksparish.org/summerreading).

## Newcomers Gathering

New to Oaks Parish? We'd love to share with you about our mission, vision, and community. Join us for lunch TODAY after the service. We look forward to getting to know you better!

## Golf at Eastmoreland

Oaks Parish golfers are invited to Eastmoreland on August 10th! Tee times start at 5:30pm. Please RSVP to [communitylife@oaksparish.org](mailto:communitylife@oaksparish.org) by August 2nd to reserve your tee time.