

Ordinary Time



oaks parish

Our Mission

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

Our Core Values

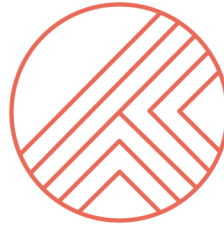
Gospel of Grace



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.

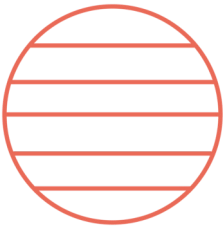
Faithful Presence



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.

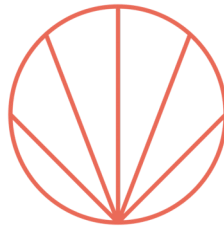
Formative Rhythms



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

Dane C. Ortland, *Deeper*

Those who collapse into him in repentance and faith are united to him-joined to him-one with him. This, and not the doctrine of justification or reconciliation or adoption or any other important biblical teaching-is the controlling center, according to the New Testament, of what it means to be a Christ. The New Testament refers to our being united to Christ over two hundred times. That averages out to about one reference per page in many Bible layouts.

Jeremiah Burroughs, *The Saint's Treasury*

From Christ as from a fountain sanctification flows into the souls of the saints: their sanctification comes not so much from their struggling, and endeavors, and vows, and resolutions, as it comes flowing to them from their union with him.

James Stewart, *A Man in Christ*

Christ is the redeemed man's new environment. He has been lifted out of the cramping restrictions of his earthly lot into a totally different sphere, the sphere of Christ. He has been transplanted into a new soil and a new climate, and both soil and climate are Christ. His spirit is breathing a nobler element. He is moving on a loftier plane.

Isaiah 61:3 (NRSV)

They will be called oaks of righteousness,
the planting of the Lord, to display his glory.

Call to Worship

Psalm 144 NRSV

Blessed be the Lord,
our rock and our fortress.

**Our stronghold and our deliverer,
our shield, in whom we take refuge.**

O Lord, what are humans that you regard them,
or mortals that you think of them?

**They are like a breath;
their days are like a passing shadow.**

Bow your heavens, O Lord, and come down.
Stretch out your hand from on high;
set us free and rescue us.

We will sing a new song to you, O God!

Songs of Praise

Come Ye Sinners

Come ye sinners, poor and needy,
weak and wounded, sick and sore;
Jesus ready stands to save you,
full of pity, love, and power.

Come ye thirsty, come, and welcome,
God's free bounty glorify;
true belief and true repentance,
every grace that brings you life.

Come ye weary, heavy laden,
lost and ruined by the fall;
if you tarry 'til you're better,
you will never come at all.

I will arise and go to Jesus;
He will embrace me in His arms.
In the arms of my dear Savior,
o, there are ten thousand charms.

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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.

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Old Testament Reading

Jeremiah 15:15-21 NRSV

15. O Lord, you know; remember me and visit me,
and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors.

In your forbearance do not take me away;
know that on your account I suffer insult.

16 Your words were found, and I ate them,
and your words became to me a joy

and the delight of my heart;

for I am called by your name,

O Lord, God of hosts.

17 I did not sit in the company of merrymakers,
nor did I rejoice; under the weight of your hand I sat alone,
for you had filled me with indignation.

18 Why is my pain unceasing, my wound incurable,
refusing to be healed?

Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook,
like waters that fail.

19 Therefore thus says the Lord:

If you turn back, I will take you back,
and you shall stand before me.

If you utter what is precious,
and not what is worthless,
you shall serve as my mouth.

It is they who will turn to you,
not you who will turn to them.

20 And I will make you to this people
a fortified wall of bronze;

they will fight against you,
but they shall not prevail over you,
for I am with you

to save you and deliver you, says the Lord.

21 I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked,
and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

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

Heavenly Father,
When we look around, we see your immense blessing in our lives and we see great need. Because we believe that everything we have belongs to you, we trust you to provide for the needs of our community, our city, and the whole world. Lead us to use the resources you've blessed us with wisely and generously. With these offerings today, we worship you and give our whole selves to be used for the glory of your Kingdom. Amen.

Story of Grace: Discipleship Groups

Passing of the Peace

New Testament Reading

John 15:1-17 NRSV

1 “I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. 2 He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. 3 You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. 4 Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. 5 I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. 6 Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. 7 If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. 8 My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples. 9 As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. 10 If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. 11 I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

12 “This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. 13 No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. 14 You are my friends if you do what I command you. 15 I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. 16 You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. 17 I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Bryan Buck: To Abide in Christ Jesus for the Renewal of All Things
Rooted

Notes

Application Questions

1. Jesus describes our the actions of our Heavenly Father as the “vinegrower.” In what ways does this shape your view of God?
2. Why does union with Christ lead to obedience? How have you seen this true in your own life?
3. Identify one haunting fear in your life this week. How does union with Christ drive out that fear?

Confession of Sin

Gracious God, we confess that we have tried to plant our roots in all the wrong places. We have failed to pursue your justice, to seek you in the rhythms of our lives, to attune our hearts to your gospel of grace, and to love our neighbors. By your grace, root our identities, our callings, our lives in you and your kingdom. Forgive us for the sins of our thoughts, our words, and our deeds, and lead us into your abundant life. In Your Son's name we pray, amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Ephesians 1:3, 7-8 NRSV

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ...In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace that he lavished on us.

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.

Who You Say I Am

Who am I that the highest King
would welcome me.

I was lost but He brought me in.

Oh, His love for me.

Oh, His love for me.

Who the Son sets free,
oh is free indeed.

I'm a child of God,

yes I am.

Free at last He has ransomed me;

His grace runs deep.

While I was a slave to sin,

Jesus died for me.

Yes, He died for me.

Who the Son sets free, oh is free indeed.

I'm a child of God, yes I am.

In my Father's house, there's a place for me.

I'm a child of God, yes I am.

I am chosen, not forsaken.

I am who You say I am.

You are for me, not against me.

I am who You say I am.

In my Father's house.

there's a place for me.

I'm a child of God,

yes I am.

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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.

Song of Reflection

Abide With Me

Abide with me, fast falls the eventide.
The darkness deepens, Lord with me abide.
When other helpers fail and comforts flee.
Help of the helpless, abide with me.

I need Thy presence ev'ry passing hour.
What but Thy grace can foil the tempter's pow'r.
Who like Thyself my guide and stay can be.
Through cloud and sunshine, abide with me.

I fear no foe with Thee at hand to bless.
Ills have no weight and tears no bitterness.
Where is thy sting death? Where grave thy victory?
I triumph still, abide with me.

Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes.
Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies.
Heav'n's morning breaks and earth's vain shadows flee.
In life, in death Lord, abide with me.

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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

Thanks for joining us today - we would love to connect with you! Jot down your name and email address on the postcard found in your worship guide and drop it in an offering basket before you leave so we can get to know you.

How to Use Postcards

The OP postcard found in your worship guide can be used to:

- Let us know you're visiting
- Sign up for the weekly email
- Share a prayer request
- RSVP for an event
- Connect with pastoral staff

Drop your postcard in an offering basket before you leave today!

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 online every Wednesday at 6:30am to pray together for our community and beyond at oaksparish.org/morningprayer.

Sign Up for Discipleship Group

Our discipleship groups launch in September! Men's and women's discipleship groups are where community is strengthened and time is spent intentionally abiding with Christ. Sign up today at oaksparish.org/discipleship!

Membership Gathering

If you've attended Newcomers Gathering and are looking to learn more about membership at Oaks Parish, join us for Membership Gathering on September 10th after the service! We'll discuss the significance of membership at Oaks Parish, and answer all of your questions. Lunch will be provided, so please email martha@oaksparish.org to RSVP.

Fall Congregational Meeting

Members and regular attenders, please mark your calendars for our fall congregational meeting on Sunday, October 1st after the service. At the meeting we will provide updates on the life of our church and share about the ministry year ahead.