

Ordinary Time



oaks parish

Our Mission

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

Our Core Values

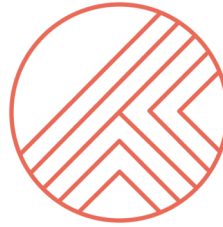
Gospel of Grace



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.

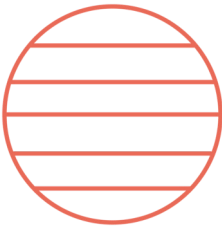
Faithful Presence



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.

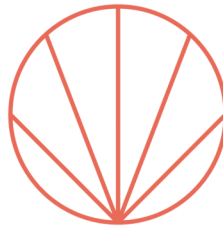
Formative Rhythms



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

Michael Reeves, *Delighting in the Trinity: An Introduction to the Christian Faith*

Single God, Nonsmoker, Seeks Attractive Creation with Good Sense of Humor . . . Imagine for a moment that you are God. I'm sure you've done it before. Now think: Would you in your divine wisdom and power ever want to create a universe and, if so, why? Because you feel lonely and want some friends? Because you like being pampered and want some servants? It is one of the profoundest questions to ask: If there is a God, why is there anything else? Why the universe? Why us? Why might God decide to have a creation?

The Rule of St. Augustine

Whenever you go out, walk together, and when you reach your destination, stay together.

C.S. Lewis, *Four Loves*

In each of my friends there is something that only some other friend can fully bring out. By myself I am not large enough to call the whole man into activity; I want other lights than my own to show all his facets. Now that Charles is dead, I shall never again see Ronald's reaction to a specifically Caroline joke. Far from having more of Ronald, having him 'to myself' now that Charles is away, I have less of Ronald. Hence true Friendship is the least jealous of loves. Two friends delight to be joined by a third, and three by a fourth, if only the newcomer is qualified to become a real friend. They can then say, as the blessed souls say in Dante, 'Here comes one who will augment our loves.' For in this love 'to divide is not to take away'. Of course the scarcity of kindred souls—not to mention practical considerations about the size of rooms and the audibility of voices—set limits to the enlargement of the circle; but within those limits we possess each friend not less but more as the number of those with whom we share him increases. In this, Friendship exhibits a glorious 'nearness by resemblance' to Heaven itself where the very multitude of the blessed (which no man can number) increases the fruition which each has of God. For every soul, seeing Him in her own way, doubtless communicates that unique vision to all the rest. That, says an old author, is why the Seraphim in Isaiah's vision are crying 'Holy, Holy, Holy' to one another (Isa. 6:3). The more we thus share the Heavenly Bread between us, the more we shall all have.

Call to Worship

from Psalm 150 NRSV

Praise the Lord!

Praise God in his sanctuary;
praise him in his mighty firmament!

**Praise him for his mighty deeds;
praise him according to his surpassing greatness!**

Praise him with trumpet sound;
praise him with lute and harp!

**Praise him with tambourine and dance;
praise him with strings and pipe!**

Praise him with clanging cymbals;
praise him with loud clashing cymbals!

Let everything that breathes praise the Lord!

Songs of Praise

The Sun Will Rise

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Here is Love

Words and Music by William Rees, William Williams (19th c.); Arr. by Matt Redman

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Old Testament Reading

Malachi 3:1-7 NRSV

1 See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. 2 But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner’s fire and like washers’ soap; 3 he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. 4 Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord, as in the days of old and as in former years. 5 Then I will draw near to you for judgment; I will be swift to bear witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired workers in their wages, the widow, and the orphan, against those who thrust aside the alien and do not fear me, says the Lord of hosts. 6 For I the Lord do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, have not perished. 7 Ever since the days of your ancestors you have turned aside from my statutes and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you, says the Lord of hosts.

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.

Ordination of Elders

Commissioning of Deacons & Staff

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.

Passing of the Peace

New Testament Reading

1 John 4:7-21 NRSV

7 Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. 8 Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. 9 God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. 10 In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. 11 Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. 12 No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

13 By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. 14 And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. 15 God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. 16 So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. 17 Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. 18 There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. 19 We love because he first loved us. 20 Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. 21 The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Bryan Buck: Extended Family

Rooted

Notes

Application Questions

1. What is your next step with discipleship in Jesus?
2. To what community has God called you to be on mission?
3. How will you prioritize “life together” here at Oaks Parish?

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.

Let Us Break Bread Together

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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

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.

Comfort, Comfort Now My People

Words & Music by Page CXVI

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Benediction

Doxology

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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

- 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!

Oaks Parish Podcast

Catch up on the latest sermons by searching for "Oaks Parish" on Apple Podcasts or Spotify.

Morning Prayer

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

Social Hour

Join us for coffee, donuts, and conversation today after the service in the fellowship hall.

Encounter Worship Night

Join with neighboring churches in lifting our voices in worship and prayer at the next Encounter Worship Night on Wednesday, October 11th at 7pm at All City (2700 SE 67th Ave).

Family Promise Volunteers Needed!

Oaks Parish is partnering with Family Promise Metro East to serve our houseless neighbors by providing meals and support for participating families. Our next week of service is October 15-22 and volunteers are needed for the following shifts:

- 5:30-7pm - Dinner (providing the dinner, serving, and eating with the family)
- 6:30-8:30pm - Dinner Clean-Up & Evening Activities (plan an activity or just hang out with the family, if they're interested)
- 8:30pm- 7:30am - Overnight Night & Breakfast (stay overnight at the host site; coffee and breakfast items already provided at the host site)

Sign up to volunteer at oaksparish.org/family-promise.