

The Fourth Sunday of Lent



oaks parish

A HOLY COMMON PLACE

OUR MISSION

To follow Jesus in making disciples for the flourishing of Portland, the Pacific Northwest, and the world.

OUR CORE VALUES



GOSPEL OF GRACE



FORMATIVE RHYTHMS



FAITHFUL PRESENCE



EXTENDED FAMILY

QUOTES FOR REFLECTION

TIM KELLER, *PRODIGAL PROPHET*

It is hard for us to even imagine today the ministry that happened in Nineveh. Usually those who are most concerned about working for social justice do not also stand up and speak clearly about the God of the Bible's judgment on those who do not do his will. On the other hand, those who publicly preach repentance most forcefully are not usually known for demanding justice for the oppressed. Nevertheless, this text encourages us to do both. In this instance, God seeks social reform through his prophet, a change in the Ninevites' exploitative and violent behavior. Yet he also directs that the city should be told about a God of wrath who will punish sin.

BRYAN D. ESTELLE, *SALVATION THROUGH JUDGEMENT AND MERCY: THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO JONAH*

Consider what Scripture says about God's view of Israel's role among the nations: Observe them [the commandments] carefully, for this will show your wisdom and understanding to the nations, who will hear about all these decrees and say, "Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people." What other nation is so great as to have their gods near them the way the LORD our God is near us whenever we pray to him? And what other nation is so great as to have such righteous decrees and laws as this body of laws I am setting before you today? (Deut. 4:6-8)

CALL TO WORSHIP

from Psalm 34

O praise the Lord with me,
and let us magnify his Name together.

**I sought the Lord, and he heard me;
he delivered me out of all my fears.**

They looked unto him, and were made glad,
and their faces were not ashamed.

**Look, the poor man cries, and the Lord hears him,
and saves him out of all his troubles.**

The angel of the Lord camps round about those who fear him,
and delivers them in time of need.

**O taste and see how gracious the Lord is;
blessed is the one who trusts in him.**

O fear the Lord, you that are his saints;
for those who fear him lack nothing.

Let us pray

SONGS OF PRAISE

REMEMBER US IN MERCY

We have heard of your great works,
We have seen the mark you made,
And we call to you,
Remember us in mercy.
We will climb our highest towers,
And look out over our walls,
We will wait for you,
To find us in your mercy.

God of our fathers you delivered, you deliver.
You stood before eternal hills, and they were scattered.
You are the everlasting one,
You remember us in mercy.

We have stained our house with blood,
We have done such evil things.
And we call you you,
Remember us in mercy.
We have plundered our own homes,
We have no one else but you.
We will wait for you,
To find us in your mercy.

Charlie Shaw, ©2018, Imago Dei Music.

SHEPHERD OF MY SOUL

Lord of the mountains and sea,
You are treading a path set for me.
God of the seasons and sky,
You have always been holding my life.

Lord, You are the shepherd of my soul.
So I lay down my plans, I give up my rights,
And let You take control of this surrendered life.

So I put my trust in the one,
Who created the stars and the sun.
Oh, you are eternally kind.
Always faithful, and endlessly wise.

You comfort You sustain,
In shaking You remain,
Unmoved and unafraid,
Forever and always.
You lead me by still waters,
Lead me through the valleys,
Lead me in Your wisdom,
Shepherd of my soul.

Through valleys of shadow and death I am not afraid.
By my Father's breath every star in the sky was made.
And who can I fear when You're standing right here by my side.
Always leading, protecting and guarding my left and my right.

@Set Sail Music (Admin by Rivers & Robots)

SCRIPTURE READING

Jonah 3

Then the word of the Lord came to Jonah the second time, saying, 2 “Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and call out against it the message that I tell you.” 3 So Jonah arose and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly great city, three days’ journey in breadth. 4 Jonah began to go into the city, going a day’s journey. And he called out, “Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!” 5 And the people of Nineveh believed God. They called for a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them to the least of them.

6 The word reached the king of Nineveh, and he arose from his throne, removed his robe, covered himself with sackcloth, and sat in ashes. 7 And he issued a proclamation and published through Nineveh, “By the decree of the king and his nobles: Let neither man nor beast, herd nor flock, taste anything. Let them not feed or drink water, 8 but let man and beast be covered with sackcloth, and let them call out mightily to God. Let everyone turn from his evil way and from the violence that is in his hands. 9 Who knows? God may turn and relent and turn from his fierce anger, so that we may not perish.” 10 When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil way, God relented of the disaster that he had said he would do to them, and he did not do it.

Reader:

This is the Word of the Lord

People:

Thanks be to God!

SERMON

Bryan Buck: Jonah's Obedience

Sermon Series: Jonah

NOTES

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

1. Consider a time when God called you to something and you were resistant. What did you learn about God through this experience?
2. In the American church, why do we often find a commitment to either preach the Word fearlessly or care for the vulnerable, but not both?
3. What would it look like for Oaks Parish to proclaim God's judgement *and* pursue his justice in our city?

CONFESSION OF SIN

Almighty and most merciful Father,
we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep.
We have followed too much the devices and desires
of our own hearts.
We have offended against your holy laws.
We have left undone those things which we ought to have done,
and we have done those things which we ought not
to have done;
and apart from your grace, there is no health in us.
O Lord, have mercy upon us.
Spare all those who confess their faults.
Restore all those who are penitent, according to your promises
declared to all people in Christ Jesus our Lord.
And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake,
that we may now live a godly, righteous, and sober life,
to the glory of your holy Name.
Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

from Psalm 34:17-19

The righteous cry, and the Lord hears them
and delivers them out of all their troubles.
The Lord is near to those who are brokenhearted
and will save those who are crushed in spirit.
Great are the troubles of the righteous,
but the Lord delivers him out of them all.

OFFERING PRAYER

King Jesus, you gave your life in order that we might have life and
have it abundantly. In light of your love, we offer our lives in
worship. You alone are the true and everlasting treasure of our
heart and so we offer these tithes and offerings, trusting you with
our lives. Please bless these gifts to make your love known in
Portland, the Pacific Northwest, and the world. Blessed be your
glorious name forever; may the whole earth be filled with your
glory!

PASSING OF THE PEACE

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.

Thou on my head, in early youth didst smile;
And, though rebellious, and perverse meanwhile,
Thou hast not left me, though I oft left Thee,
On to the close Lord, abide with me.

I need Thy presence, every passing hour.
What but Thy grace, can foil the tempter's power?
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, tears lose their 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.
Heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;
In life, in death, Lord, abide with me.

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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

ALL:

Christ has died,
Christ has risen,
Christ will come again.

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.

Thomas Ken (1674)

oaks parish

STAFF CONTACTS

Bryan Buck, Lead Pastor (bryan@oaksparish.org)

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OAKS PARISH: GET CONNECTED

WELCOME

Welcome to Oaks Parish.

It is our aim that during this season of heightened awareness and caution regarding COVID19 that we persist in carrying out our mission and core values to the best of our ability while doing what we can to follow CDC guidelines and keep everyone safe. Our worship service is available online as well as in person, and if you are worshiping with us in person and have yet to RSVP, we would ask that you sign your name to the list in the lobby in the case that contact tracing is necessary.

INTRODUCING EMILY BAMFORD!

We are pleased to announce that Emily Bamford will be joining the OP staff team as our new Operations Support Coordinator. In this role, Emily will provide administrative support to our staff, leadership, and congregation. You can reach Emily at her new OP address (emily@oaksparish.org).

GOOD FRIDAY & EASTER SERVICE

Join us for our Good Friday and Easter services as we reflect on and celebrate the redemption Christ. Our Good Friday service will take place in the sanctuary and online, Friday 4/2 (7:30-8:30 PM). Our Easter celebration will take place at our normal service time, Sunday 4/4 (10 AM) and include worship in the sanctuary, family corners, and online.

WOMEN'S DISCIPLESHIP 3/17

Ladies, join us Wednesday night 3/17, 7:00-8:30 PM for Women's Discipleship Gathering. Starting this week, we will use Lectio Divina to process scripture from the daily lectionary. Lectio Divina is a contemplative prayer practice that guides encountering God in four steps: reading scripture, meditation, prayer, and contemplation. Bring your Bible, journal, and a pen. If you'd like to join via Zoom, please email Amanda Buck (amanda@oaksparish.org).

SUNDAY SOCIAL HOUR 3/21

Stay after church Sunday, March 21 for Sunday Social Hour! A new monthly initiative, Sunday Social Hour will include coffee and donuts served outside, giving everyone a chance to talk and linger in a safe way. If you're new to Oaks Parish, we hope this will give you a way to connect with others in our community. For questions related to this new initiative, please contact Luke Creswell (luke.creswell@gmail.com).

PHOTO DAY 3/21

Oaks Parish will be launching a new website soon that will feature genuine photos from our community. On Sunday, March 21 a professional photographer will be with us to capture our Sunday morning experience. Like a ninja, the photographer will work in the background getting shots of worship, volunteers, casual conversations, and family corners. If you do not want your picture on the website, please email Hallie Creswell and photos that include you will be excluded from the website (hallie.creswell@gmail.com).