

Easter



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

ARTISTS STATEMENT

Perhaps the most vivid imagery from Jonah is not his being swallowed, but rather his experience of being in the depths of the sea in chapter 2. “For you cast me into the deep, into the heart of the seas, and the flood surrounded me; all your waves and your billows passed over me...weeds were wrapped around my head...I went down to the land whose bars closed upon me...”

Given how strong those words are and how the book contains parallels, I wondered if there was a contrast. I found that the plant with luxurious leaves growing up over Jonah’s head instead of wrapping around him was the opposite. *God’s mercy, growing, covering, protecting, sustaining.*

Those familiar with the Learning Circle will recall that there are moments in our lives in which we encounter God and have a choice to make. Will we, like Jonah, ignore or run away from God or will we move through the circle of repentance and belief?

The question for me is: will I trust the Lord’s provision for us? Will I sit in the depth of sin with flood waters surrounding or complete the “learning circle” and move in a new trajectory? Will I repent, accept his mercy and look up with a voice of thanksgiving (Jonah 2:9)?

As Robert Alter says, *“It is beautifully appropriate that the story ends with the beasts, and with a question. It is in no way clear how Jonah will respond to this question. Will God’s challenge lead him to a transformative insight about God’s dominion over all things and all peoples, or will it prove to be a challenge that is quite beyond the myopia of his ingrained prejudices?”*

The floral design I created today is meant to be a visual representation of these thoughts and leaves us with the question: Will you accept God’s grace?

-Sasha

Grateful acknowledgement to the following people for their involvement: Jessica Jang, Thomas & Emily Bamford, Varina Shaughnessy, Bob Cox, Ben Cox.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed!

Alleluia. Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us;
therefore let us keep the feast,

**Not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil,
but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. Alleluia.**

Christ being raised from the dead will never die again;
death no longer has dominion over him.

**The death that he died, he died to sin, once for all;
but the life he lives, he lives to God.**

So also consider yourselves dead to sin,
and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord. Alleluia.

**Christ has been raised from the dead,
the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.**

For since by a man came death,
by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead.

**For as in Adam all die,
so also in Christ shall all be made alive. Alleluia.**

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed!

SONGS OF PRAISE

WAY MAKER

You are here, moving in our midst.
I worship You, I worship You.
You are here, working in this place.
I worship You, I worship You

You are, Way Maker,
Miracle Worker, Promise Keeper,
Light in the darkness,
my God, that is who You are.

You are here, touching ev'ry heart.
I worship You, I worship You.
You are here, healing ev'ry heart.
I worship You, I worship You.

You are here, turning lives around.
I worship You, I worship You.
You are here, mending ev'ry heart.
I worship You, yeah, I worship You, Lord.

You are Way Maker,
Miracle Worker, Promise Keeper,
Light in the darkness,
my God, that is who You are.

You wipe away all tears,
You mend the broken heart,
You're the answer to it all, Jesus.
You wipe away all tears,
You mend the broken heart,
You're the answer to it all, to it all, Jesus.

You are Way Maker,
Miracle Worker, Promise Keeper,
Light in the darkness,
my God, that is who You are.

You are here, touching every life.
I worship You, I worship You.
You are here, meeting every need.
I worship You, yeah, I worship You.

Words & Music by

Osinachi Kalu Okoro Egbu

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THE GOODNESS OF JESUS

Come you weary heart now to Jesus;
Come you anxious soul now and see.
There is perfect love and comfort in your tears;
Rest here in his wondrous peace.
Oh the goodness, the goodness of Jesus,
Satisfied, he is all that I need.
May it be, come what may, that I rest all my days
In the goodness of Jesus.

Come find what this world cannot offer;
Come and find your joy here complete.
Taste the living water, never thirst again;
Rest here in his wondrous peace.
Oh the goodness, the goodness of Jesus,
Satisfied, he is all that I need.
May it be, come what may, that I rest all my days
In the goodness of Jesus.

Come and find your hope now in Jesus;
He is all he said he would be.
Grace is overflowing from the Savior's heart;
Rest here in his wondrous peace.
Oh the goodness, the goodness of Jesus,
Satisfied he is all that I need.
May it be, come what may, that I rest all my days
In the goodness of Jesus.

Oh the goodness, the goodness of Jesus,
Satisfied, he is all that I need.
May it be, come what may, that I rest all my days
In the goodness of Jesus.
May it be, come what may, that I rest all my days
In the goodness of Jesus.

Words & Music by Fiona Aghajanian, Harrison Druery,
Michael Farren, Jaywan Maxwell, Jonny Robinson,
Rich Thompson

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SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 12:38-41

38 Then some of the scribes and Pharisees answered him, saying, "Teacher, we wish to see a sign from you." 39 But he answered them, "An evil and adulterous generation seeks for a sign, but no sign will be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah. 40 For just as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth. 41 The men of Nineveh will rise up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it, for they repented at the preaching of Jonah, and behold, something greater than Jonah is here.

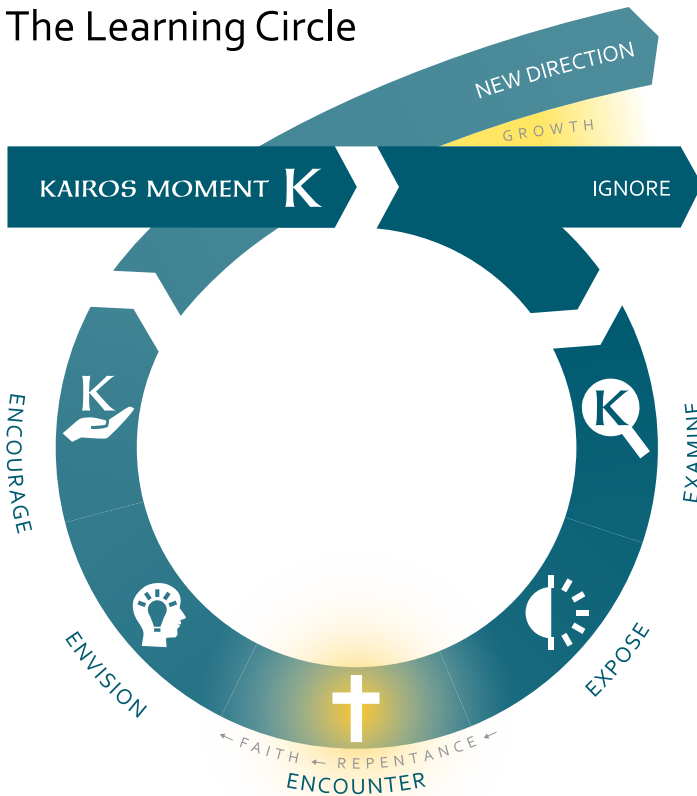
Reader:

This is the Word of the Lord

People:

Thanks be to God!

The Learning Circle



SERMON

Bryan Buck: Something Greater than Jonah

Sermon Series: Jonah

NOTES

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

1. What special place have you visited over and over again? How can this experience help you understand why Jesus is returning to the story of Jonah?
2. How do you sense God calling you to pull off the road and reflect right now?
3. As you change your mind (repent), accept his mercy, and look up with a voice of thanksgiving (Jonah 2:9), what does the new path look like as you follow Jesus?

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

Romans 8:10-11

If Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.

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

JESUS PAID IT ALL

I hear the Savior say,
“Thy strength indeed is small;
Child of weakness, watch and pray,
find in me thine all in all.”

Jesus paid it all,
all to him I owe;
Sin had left a crimson stain,
he washed it white as snow.

Lord, now indeed I find
thy power, and thine alone,
Can change the leper’s spots
and melt the heart of stone.

And when before the throne,
I stand in him complete,
Jesus died my soul to save,
my lips shall still repeat.

Oh praise the one who paid my debt,
And raised this life up from the dead.
Oh praise the one who paid my debt,
And raised this life up from the dead.

Words & Music by Alex Nifong, Elvina M. Hall,
and John Thomas Grape

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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.
Hallelujah

Words by Thomas Ken & Music by Louis Bourgeois
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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

Welcome to Oaks Parish. It is our aim that during this season of heightened awareness and caution regarding COVID-19 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.

FORGOT TO RSVP?

Please help us adhere to the Multnomah County guidelines for safe gathering. Sign in on the sheet at the entrance or scan this QR code!



MEMBERSHIP GATHERING - 4/18

Join us for our Membership Gathering after church on 4/18 from 11:30-1:30pm. Lunch will be provided. We will discuss what it means to be a member at Oaks Parish and the next steps toward membership. Visit oaksparish.org/calendar/membership to RSVP.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING - 5/16

Mark your calendars for a Congregational Meeting on Sunday, May 16, after church. More details to come!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR TRANSITION PROJECTS

Volunteers are needed for multiple dates to minister to our unhoused neighbors. Please see the weekly email for more details or email our Director of Missions, Beckie Kruse, at beckie@oaksparish.org.