

Eastertide



oaks parish

Our Mission

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

Our Core Values

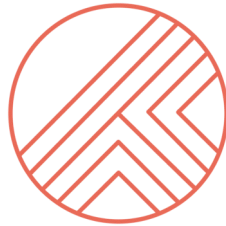
Gospel of Grace



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.

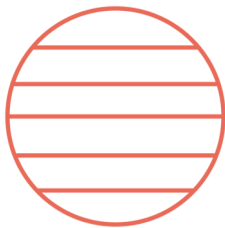
Faithful Presence



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.

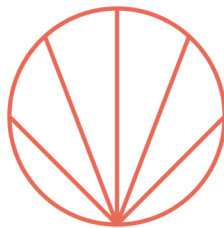
Formative Rhythms



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

N.T. Wright, The Challenge of Easter

The church, the followers of Jesus Christ, live in the bright interval between Easter and the final great consummation. Let's make no mistake either way. The reason the early Christians were so joyful was because they knew themselves to be living not so much in the last days (that that was true too) as in the first days - the opening days of God's new creation. What Jesus did was not a mere example of something else, not a mere manifestation of some larger truth; it was itself the climatic event and fact of cosmic history.

Thomas Merton, New Seeds of Contemplation

Ultimately the only way that I can be myself is to become identified with Him in Whom is hidden the reason and fulfillment of my existence. Therefore there is only one problem on which all my existence, my peace and my happiness depend: to discover myself in discovering God. If I find Him I will find myself and if I find my true self I will find Him.

Tim Keller, Every Good Endeavor

Christians should be aware of this revolutionary understanding of the purpose of their work in the world. We are not to choose jobs and conduct our work to fulfill ourselves and accrue power, for being called by God to do something is empowering enough. We are to see work as a way of service to God and our neighbor, and so we should both choose and conduct our work in accordance with that purpose. The question regarding our choice of work is no longer "What will make me the most money and give me the most status?" The question must now be "How, with my existing abilities and opportunities, can I be of greatest service to other people, knowing what I do of God's will and of human need?"

Song of Praise

Come to Jesus

Come in celebration and come in grief;
come in full assurance, come in unbelief.
Come you lawbreakers, players, and fools;
come you righteous and keepers of rules.

Come you children, and come you old;
come you Master's sheep, outside the fold.
Come you churched - cultured and clean;
come to Jesus, repent, and believe.

Come to Jesus, come everyone.
Come to Jesus, all daughters and sons.
With His blood, He bought your freedom.
Come to Jesus, lay down your guns.

Come you reckless, and come you safe;
come you early ones, and come you late.
Come you homeless , come social elites;
come you winners, losers, and cheats.

Come you empty, tired, and sore;
come you full, frustrated, and bored.
Come you privileged ones, and come oppressed;
come to Jesus, find peace, and rest.

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Responsive Reading

from the Pascha Nostrum

Since Christ, our Passover, is slain,
a sacrifice for all,
let all with thankful hearts agree
to keep the Festival:

**Not with the leaven, as of old,
of sin and malice fed,
but with unfeigned sincerity
and Truth's unleavened Bread.**

Christ, being raised by Power divine,
and rescued from the grave,
shall die no more;

**Death shall on Him
no more dominion have:**

For that He died, 'twas for our sins
He once vouchsafed to die;
but that He lives, He lives to God,
for all eternity:

**To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
the God whom we adore,
be glory; as it was, is now,
and shall be evermore.**

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 pow’r 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.

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Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 26:1-9, 19 NRSV

26 On that day this song will be sung in the land of Judah:

We have a strong city; he sets up victory like walls and bulwarks.

2 Open the gates,

so that the righteous nation that keeps faith may enter in.

3 Those of steadfast mind you keep in peace—

in peace because they trust in you.

4 Trust in the Lord forever,

for in the Lord God

you have an everlasting rock.

5 For he has brought low

the inhabitants of the height;

the lofty city he lays low.

He lays it low to the ground, casts it to the dust.

6 The foot tramples it,

the feet of the poor, the steps of the needy.

7 The way of the righteous is level;

O Just One, you make smooth the path of the righteous.

8 In the path of your judgments,

O Lord, we wait for you;

your name and your renown are the soul's desire.

9 My soul yearns for you in the night,

my spirit within me earnestly seeks you.

For when your judgments are in the earth,

the inhabitants of the world learn righteousness.

19 Your dead shall live, their corpses shall rise.

O dwellers in the dust, awake and sing for joy!

For your dew is a radiant dew,

and the earth will give birth to those long dead.

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

God of great gifts:
This morning we give you praise,
we give you glory, we give you thanks!
With resurrection humming in our hearts,
our minds are tuned to your song of peace!
We joyfully present these gifts to you,
a tangible chorus of thanksgiving,
a harmony of hope for your kingdom come! Amen.

Prayer for the Discipleship of Our Children

Almighty God, heavenly Father, you have blessed our church with the joy and care of children: Give us calm strength and patient wisdom as we bring them up, that we may teach them to love whatever is just and true and good, following the example of our Savior Jesus Christ.
Amen.

(from the Book of Common Prayer)

Passing of the Peace

New Testament Readings

1 Corinthians 5:7-8 NRSV

7 Clean out the old yeast so that you may be a new batch, as you really are unleavened. For our paschal lamb, Christ, has been sacrificed. 8 Therefore, let us celebrate the festival, not with the old yeast, the yeast of malice and evil, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

Romans 6:9-11 NRSV

9 We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. 10 The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. 11 So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

1 Corinthians 15:20-22 NRSV

20 But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. 21 For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being; 22 for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Bryan Buck: Pascha Nostrum

Holiness

Notes

Application Questions

1. What has Easter meant to you in the past and how might that change after today?
2. What is one area in your life where you need to consider yourself dead to sin and what would it look like to be alive in Christ?
3. What flag can you plant in the soil of your vocation that signals there's a different way to be human, a gospel way?

We Will Feast in the House of Zion

We will feast in the house of Zion;
we will sing with our hearts restored.
“He has done great things,” we will say together.
We will feast, and weep no more

We will not be burned by the fire;
He is the Lord our God.
We are not consumed by the flood-
upheld, protected, gathered up.

In the dark of night before the dawn,
my soul be not afraid;
for the promised morning, oh how long?
O God of Jacob, be my strength!

Every vow we’ve broken and betrayed;
You are the faithful one.
And from the garden to the grave,
bind us together, bring shalom.

Words & Music by Sandra McCracken

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Confession of Sin

Loving God, we confess that at times we do not share in the joy of the resurrection but are caught in the worries of the world. We confess that we do not always live in the spirit of new life but remain discontent, grumbling, and anxious. Forgive us for not sharing in the Good News. Forgive us when we find it more comfortable to worry and complain than to risk the joy and encouragement of new life in Christ. Call us back to Your ways, O God, to seek hope and reconciliation, restoration and peace. In the name of the risen Christ, we pray. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

1 John 2:1-2 NRSV

1 My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; 2 and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

Confession of Faith

The Apostle's Creed

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.

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 is 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.

The Beauty of the Heart of Christ

May my life carry the heart of Christ,
Lord, in all I say and all that I do.
Selfless love, lowly in sacrifice,
laying down my pride, nothing to prove.

Now that I have seen, now that I have tasted
of Your mercy and Your love divine.
May my life be full, full of one thing only,
just the beauty of the heart of Christ.
Just the beauty of the heart of Christ.

For the least of these, even my enemies,
who am I to dare, dare to withhold.
What I've received, forgiveness and grace so free.
let Your fire in me never grow cold.

Oh, what a privilege,
oh, what an honor it is;
no greater joy than this
to carry Your heart, carry Your heart.

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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

The OP Podcast is taking a short break and will be back with all new episodes the week of April 21st! You will continue to find sermon replays available every week on Apple Podcasts and Spotify (search "Oaks Parish").

Morning Prayer

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

Membership Gathering 4/7

If you're looking to make Oaks Parish your home, stay for lunch on Sunday, April 7th to learn more about membership. Please RSVP to martha@oaksparish.org.

Covenant Family Class 4/28

Do you have questions about how to help your child follow Jesus, how they receive baptism and communion, or how our vision for children's ministry supports the development of faith? If so, join us for our Covenant Family Class directly after service on Sunday, April 28th. This will be a time of shared learning, so please bring your questions and your answers! Lunch and childcare are provided so please RSVP by Thursday, April 25th to martha@oaksparish.org.