

Eastertide



oaks parish

Our Mission

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

Our Core Values

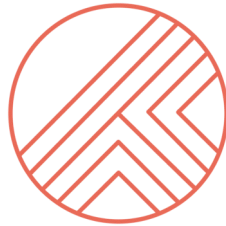
Gospel of Grace



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.

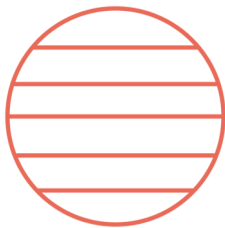
Faithful Presence



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.

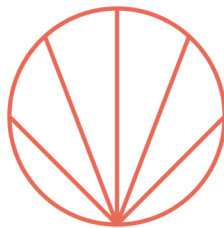
Formative Rhythms



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

C.S. Lewis, Collected Letters

You surely don't mean feeling that we are not worthy to be forgiven? For of course we aren't. Forgiveness by its nature is for the unworthy. You mean feeling that we are not forgiven. I have known that. I 'believed' theoretically in the divine forgiveness for years before it really came home to me. It is a wonderful moment when it does.

Dane Ortlund, Deeper

At conversation we walk out of the courtroom, but throughout our lives of discipleship we suffer from gospel amnesia and keep walking back in.

Tim Chester, 1 Samuel for You

Israel's new start with a new king has foundered because the underlying unbelief and disobedience of humanity in Adam has not changed. We need a king who will not only rescue us from our enemies, but also from ourselves. We need a king who can take on sin and liberate us from our slavery to our sinful desires. We need a king who obeys God in all circumstances, even when put under the pressure of unfavourable circumstances. Saul is not that man. So his kingdom will not endure.

Richard D. Phillips, The Reformed Expository Commentary

There is no situation and no problem in which Christians cannot be blessed by God's mighty help, if only we will turn to the Lord in sincere faith, humble ourselves before him as our Lord and God, and renew our commitment to walk in his Word. This is the all-purpose solution to every problem, and it works because God is so gracious and ready to receive his erring children as to put his blessing upon our heads. Repentance, faith, and new obedience are the way forward for every Christian from wherever we are, good or bad, right at this moment.

Song of Praise

All Creatures of Our God and King

All creatures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us sing.

Oh praise Him, Alleluia!

Thou burning sun with golden beam, thou silver moon with softer gleam.

Oh praise Him! Oh praise Him! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Thou rushing wind that art so strong; ye clouds that sail in heav'n along!

Oh praise Him, Alleluia!

Thou rising moon in praise rejoice; ye lights of evening, find a voice.

Oh praise Him! Oh praise Him! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Let all things their Creator bless, and worship Him in humbleness.

Oh praise Him, Alleluia!

Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,

and praise the Spirit, Three in One.

Oh praise Him! Oh praise Him! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

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Responsive Psalm

Psalm 28

Unto you will I cry, O LORD my rock;
do not be deaf to my prayer!

Hear the voice of my humble petitions when I cry unto you!

Praised be the LORD, for he has heard the voice of my humble petitions.

**The LORD is my strength and my shield;
my heart has trusted in him, and I am helped;**

Therefore my heart dances for joy,
and in my song will I praise him.

The LORD is my strength,
and he is the sure defense of his Anointed.

**O save your people, and give your blessing to your inheritance;
feed them, and lift them up for ever.**

Fresh Wind

Spirit sound, rushing wind,
fire of God, fall within.
Holy Ghost, breathe on us we pray.

As we repent, turn from sin,
revival embers smouldering.
Breath of God, fan us into flame.

We need a fresh wind, the fragrance of heaven.
Pour your spirit out; pour your spirit out.

For hearts that burn with holy fear,
purified in faith and deed.
Refiner's fire, strengthen what remains.

So we the church who bear your light,
lamp aflame, city bright.
King and kingdom, "Come!" is what we pray.

We need a fresh wind, the fragrance of heaven.
Pour your spirit out; pour your spirit out.
A holy anointing, the power of your presence.
Pour your spirit out; pour your spirit out.

Let all the redeemed prophesy and sing;
we can hear the wind blowing, blowing.
Move upon our praise, sons and daughters sing;
we can hear the wind blowing, blowing.

Words and Music by Ben Fielding, Brooke Ligertwood, David Ware, and Matt Crocker
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New Testament Reading

Luke 7:36-50 NRSV

36 One of the Pharisees asked Jesus to eat with him, and he went into the Pharisee's house and took his place at the table. 37 And a woman in the city, who was a sinner, having learned that he was eating in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster jar of ointment. 38 She stood behind him at his feet, weeping, and began to bathe his feet with her tears and to dry them with her hair. Then she continued kissing his feet and anointing them with the ointment.

39 Now when the Pharisee who had invited him saw it, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would have known who and what kind of woman this is who is touching him—that she is a sinner." 40 Jesus spoke up and said to him, "Simon, I have something to say to you." "Teacher," he replied, "Speak." 41 "A certain creditor had two debtors; one owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. 42 When they could not pay, he canceled the debts for both of them. Now which of them will love him more?" 43 Simon answered, "I suppose the one for whom he canceled the greater debt." And Jesus said to him, "You have judged rightly."

44 Then turning toward the woman, he said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave me no water for my feet, but she has bathed my feet with her tears and dried them with her hair. 45 You gave me no kiss, but from the time I came in she has not stopped kissing my feet. 46 You did not anoint my head with oil, but she has anointed my feet with ointment. 47 Therefore, I tell you, her sins, which were many, have been forgiven; hence she has shown great love. But the one to whom little is forgiven, loves little." 48 Then he said to her, "Your sins are forgiven." 49 But those who were at the table with him began to say among themselves, "Who is this who even forgives sins?" 50 And he said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace."

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.

Reception of New Members

1. Do you acknowledge yourselves to be sinners in the sight of God, justly deserving His displeasure, and without hope save in His sovereign mercy?
2. Do you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as the Son of God, and Savior of sinners, and do you receive and rest upon Him alone for salvation as He is offered in the Gospel?
3. Do you now resolve and promise, in humble reliance upon the grace of the Holy Spirit, that you will endeavor to live as becomes the followers of Christ?
4. Do you promise to support the Church in its worship and work to the best of your ability?
5. Do you submit yourselves to the government and discipline of the Church, and promise to study its purity and peace?

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

Old Testament Reading

1 Samuel 12:1-25 NRSV

1 Samuel said to all Israel, “I have listened to you in all that you have said to me, and have set a king over you. 2 See, it is the king who leads you now; I am old and gray, but my sons are with you. I have led you from my youth until this day. 3 Here I am; testify against me before the Lord and before his anointed. Whose ox have I taken? Or whose donkey have I taken? Or whom have I defrauded? Whom have I oppressed? Or from whose hand have I taken a bribe to blind my eyes with it? Testify against me and I will restore it to you.” 4 They said, “You have not defrauded us or oppressed us or taken anything from the hand of anyone.” 5 He said to them, “The Lord is witness against you, and his anointed is witness this day, that you have not found anything in my hand.” And they said, “He is witness.”

6 Samuel said to the people, “The Lord is witness, who appointed Moses and Aaron and brought your ancestors up out of the land of Egypt. 7 Now therefore take your stand, so that I may enter into judgment with you before the Lord, and I will declare to you all the saving deeds of the Lord that he performed for you and for your ancestors. 8 When Jacob went into Egypt and the Egyptians oppressed them, then your ancestors cried to the Lord and the Lord sent Moses and Aaron, who brought forth your ancestors out of Egypt, and settled them in this place. 9 But they forgot the Lord their God; and he sold them into the hand of Sisera, commander of the army of King Jabin of Hazor, and into the hand of the Philistines, and into the hand of the king of Moab; and they fought against them. 10 Then they cried to the Lord, and said, ‘We have sinned, because we have forsaken the Lord, and have

served the Baals and the Astartes; but now rescue us out of the hand of our enemies, and we will serve you.' 11 And the Lord sent Jerubbaal and Barak, and Jephthah, and Samson, and rescued you out of the hand of your enemies on every side; and you lived in safety. 12 But when you saw that King Nahash of the Ammonites came against you, you said to me, 'No, but a king shall reign over us,' though the Lord your God was your king. 13 See, here is the king whom you have chosen, for whom you have asked; see, the Lord has set a king over you. 14 If you will fear the Lord and serve him and heed his voice and not rebel against the commandment of the Lord, and if both you and the king who reigns over you will follow the Lord your God, it will be well; 15 but if you will not heed the voice of the Lord, but rebel against the commandment of the Lord, then the hand of the Lord will be against you and your king.

16 Now therefore take your stand and see this great thing that the Lord will do before your eyes. 17 Is it not the wheat harvest today? I will call upon the Lord, that he may send thunder and rain; and you shall know and see that the wickedness that you have done in the sight of the Lord is great in demanding a king for yourselves." 18 So Samuel called upon the Lord, and the Lord sent thunder and rain that day; and all the people greatly feared the Lord and Samuel.

19 All the people said to Samuel, "Pray to the Lord your God for your servants, so that we may not die; for we have added to all our sins the evil of demanding a king for ourselves." 20 And Samuel said to the people, "Do not be afraid; you have done all this evil, yet do not turn aside from following the Lord, but serve the Lord with all your heart; 21 and do not turn aside after useless things that cannot profit or save, for they are useless. 22 For the Lord will not cast away his people, for his great name's sake, because it has pleased the Lord to make you a people for himself. 23 Moreover as for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the Lord by ceasing to pray for you; and I will instruct you in the good and the right way. 24 Only fear the Lord, and serve him faithfully with all your heart; for consider what great things he has done for you. 25 But if you still do wickedly, you shall be swept away, both you and your king."

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Bryan Buck: A Renewing Faith
The Coming of a Kingdom

Notes

Application Questions

1. Consider a recent failure. What does it tell you about your relationship with God?
2. How does the gospel uniquely enable confession that leads to freedom?
3. Samuel's description of life-giving faith can be summarized as awareness, reliance, and remembrance. Which of these three elements stands out for you as a means of growing in the gospel this week?

Mary's Song (Magnificat)

My soul magnifies the Lord;
my spirit rejoices in God!
My Savior has seen His servant in need,
and behold the great things He has done.

He scatters the proud and rich;
He lifts up the humble and weak.
The kings of the earth, He casts from their thrones
and the hungry He welcomes to feast.

Oh, behold, my Savior has come,
and my soul will tell of His praise!
For He Who is strong has come to the weak
and, at last, He will reign as our King of Peace.

From now to the end of time
the nations will know me as blest,
for God has made new His promise of love
and mercy through Abraham's seed.

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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.

Come and Rest

Have you been trying to move a mountain
and the mountain it will not move?
Have you been struggling
to remember somebody is looking out for you?

Come and rest,
come and rest,
come and rest
in the love of God.

Do you need a mother? Do you need a father?
Oh, everybody needs a friend.
And are you looking for the way home?
Do you wanna feel that peace again?

There's a time for all your working;
there's a time to put your hand to the plow.
Can you hear it? Jesus is singing!
Come and lay your burdens down!
Come and lay your burdens down!
Come and lay your burdens down!

Words and Music by Dwan Hill, Jessica Ray Langdon, and Natalie Taylor Leonhardt
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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 in mid-May. 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.

Congregational Meeting & Family Favorites Potluck

Members and regular attendees, mark your calendar for our spring congregational meeting on May 19th, after the service. At the meeting, we will provide updates on the life of our church and. We'll also enjoy a "Family Favorites" potluck together. The church will provide Popeye's Fried Chicken and we invite you to bring a side dish to share that resembles your oldest family favorites.

Family Promise Auction Items

Family Promise will hold its 2nd Annual Auction in June to raise funds for providing shelter to houseless families. You're invited to support the auction by donating items, such as: handmade objects (art, woodwork, crafts), lessons (singing, cooking, golfing), professional services (carpentry, landscaping), memberships (OMSI, art museum), or trips (coast resort, mountain cabin). Sign up to donate by May 19th at tinyurl.com/FPME2024.