

Epiphany



oaks parish

Our Mission

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

Our Core Values

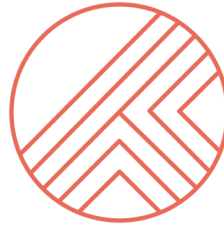
Gospel of Grace



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.

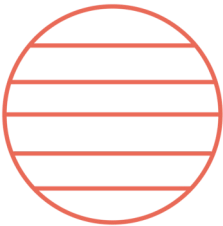
Faithful Presence



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.

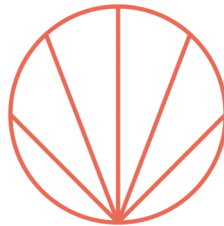
Formative Rhythms



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

Tim Keller, Counterfeit Gods

Money cannot save you from tragedy, or give you control in a chaotic world. Only God can do that. What break the power of money over us is not just redoubled effort to follow the example of Christ. Rather, it is deepening your understanding of the salvation of Christ, what you have in him, and then living out the changes that that understanding makes in your heart-the seat of your mind, will, and emotions.

Kim King, When Women Give

We were made to give. Scripture tells us that God made men and women in his image (Genesis 1:26-27), so we were made to love. We were made to enjoy what our Creator enjoys. We were also made to act with authority and responsibility toward all God has created on earth and entrusted to us. We share this responsibility with each other and with God.

Basil of Caesarea, In Time of Great Famine and Drought, 4th century

Preserve gratitude like a precious deposit within your soul, and from it you will receive a double portion of delight.

Richard Foster, Celebration of Discipline

If what we have we receive as a gift, and if what we have is to be cared for by God, and if what we have is available to others, then we will possess freedom from anxiety. This is the inward reality of simplicity.

However, if what we have we believe we have gotten, and if what we have we believe we must hold onto, and if what we have is not available to others, then we will live in anxiety.

John Cortines & Gregory Baumer, True Riches

What is deeply within my heart, underneath my financial behaviors? If our hearts are full of gratitude for who God is and what he has given us, then we're poised to experience the joy of God with our money. If our hearts are full of pride at what we can experience or accomplish, we're on a road that tragically leads away from the true riches of life with God.

Call to Worship

Psalm 71:1-8

In you, O Lord, I take refuge;
let me never be put to shame.

**In your righteousness deliver and rescue me;
incline your ear to me and save me.**

Be to me a rock of refuge,
a strong fortress, to save me,
for you are my rock and my fortress.

**Rescue me, O my God, from the hand of the wicked,
from the grasp of the unjust and cruel.**

For you, O Lord, are my hope,
my trust, O Lord, from my youth.

**My mouth is filled with your praise,
and with your glory all day long.**

Songs of Praise

Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery

Words and Music by Matt Boswell, Matt Papa, and Michael Bleecker
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Jesus I Come

Words & Music by William True Sleeper (1887), arranged by Greg Thompson
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Old Testament Reading

Genesis 3:1-24 NRSV

1 Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God say, ‘You shall not eat from any tree in the garden?’” 2 The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; 3 but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.’” 4 But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not die; 5 for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” 6 So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. 7 Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

8 They heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. 9 But the Lord God called to the man, and said to him, “Where are you?” 10 He said, “I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.” 11 He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?” 12 The man said, “The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate.” 13 Then the Lord God said to the woman, “What is this that you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent tricked me, and I ate.”

14 The Lord God said to the serpent, “Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. 15 I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel.”

16 To the woman he said, “I will greatly increase your pangs in childbearing; in pain you shall bring forth children, yet your desire shall be for your husband, and he shall rule over you.”

17 And to the man he said, “Because you have listened to the voice of your

wife, and have eaten of the tree about which I commanded you, ‘You shall not eat of it,’ cursed is the ground because of you; in toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life; 18 thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field. 19 By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread until you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; you are dust, and to dust you shall return.”

20 The man named his wife Eve, because she was the mother of all living. 21 And the Lord God made garments of skins for the man and for his wife, and clothed them. 22 Then the Lord God said, “See, the man has become like one of us, knowing good and evil; and now, he might reach out his hand and take also from the tree of life, and eat, and live forever”— 23 therefore the Lord God sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from which he was taken. 24 He drove out the man; and at the east of the garden of Eden he placed the cherubim, and a sword flaming and turning to guard the way to the tree of life.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Prayers of the People

The Lord’s Prayer

Offering Prayer

Passing of the Peace

New Testament Reading

Luke 19:1-10 NRSV

1 He entered Jericho and was passing through it. 2 A man was there named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was rich. 3 He was trying to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was short in stature. 4 So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see him, because he was going to pass that way. 5 When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, “Zacchaeus, hurry and come down; for I must stay at your house today.” 6 So he hurried down and was happy to welcome him. 7 All who saw it began to grumble and said, “He has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner.” 8 Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, “Look, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor; and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much.” 9 Then Jesus said to him, “Today salvation has come to this house, because he too is a son of Abraham. 10 For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost.”

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Bryan Buck: Why Be Generous?
Cheerful Giving

Notes

Application Questions

1. Made in God's image, we are created for generosity. What impact does this have for you personally?
2. Among the barriers to generosity noted in the sermon, what's most challenging for you?
3. The gospel moves us from pride to gratitude. How can that change your relationship with money?

Be Thou My Vision

Words & Music Traditional Irish, tr. Mary E. Byrne; vestified Eleanor H. Hull

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Confession of Sin

Holy Father, we find it difficult to submit our lives to you, yet you call us to surrender our time, talent, and treasure for the purposes of your Kingdom. Forgive our greed and deliver us from all temptations of money. Forgive our wastefulness and show us how to be wise with all of your good gifts. Forgive our desire to expand our own kingdoms and deliver us into your Kingdom that finds joy and freedom in laying down our lives. In your Son's name we pray, amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Micah 7:18-19 NRSV

Who is a God like you, pardoning iniquity and passing over the transgression of the remnant of his possession? He does not retain his anger forever because he delights in showing steadfast love. He will again have compassion upon us; he will tread our iniquities under foot. You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea.

Confession of Faith

The Apostle's Creed

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.

The Beauty of the Heart of Christ

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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!

Morning Prayer

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

OP Podcast Q&A

Submit your questions from the Cheerful Giving series to the podcast via DM on Instagram (@oaksparish) or email martha@oaksparish.org. Our special guests will respond during upcoming podcast episodes!

Newcomers Gathering 1/28

New(er) to Oaks Parish? We'd love to share more with you about our story, values, and mission. Join us for Newcomers Gathering after the service today!

Alphabet Potluck 2/4

You're invited to an Alphabet Potluck on Sunday, February 4th, after the service in the Parish Hall. Bring a dish to share that starts with the first letter of your last name. The Church will provide Chicken!

Congregational Meeting 2/11

Members and regular attenders, please mark your calendar for our winter congregational meeting on Sunday, February 11th, after the service. Important updates from our ministry teams will be provided.

Ash Wednesday 2/14

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the Lenten season and serves to remind us of our need for reconciliation. Join us for an Ash Wednesday service of prayer and confession on February 14 at 6:30pm.