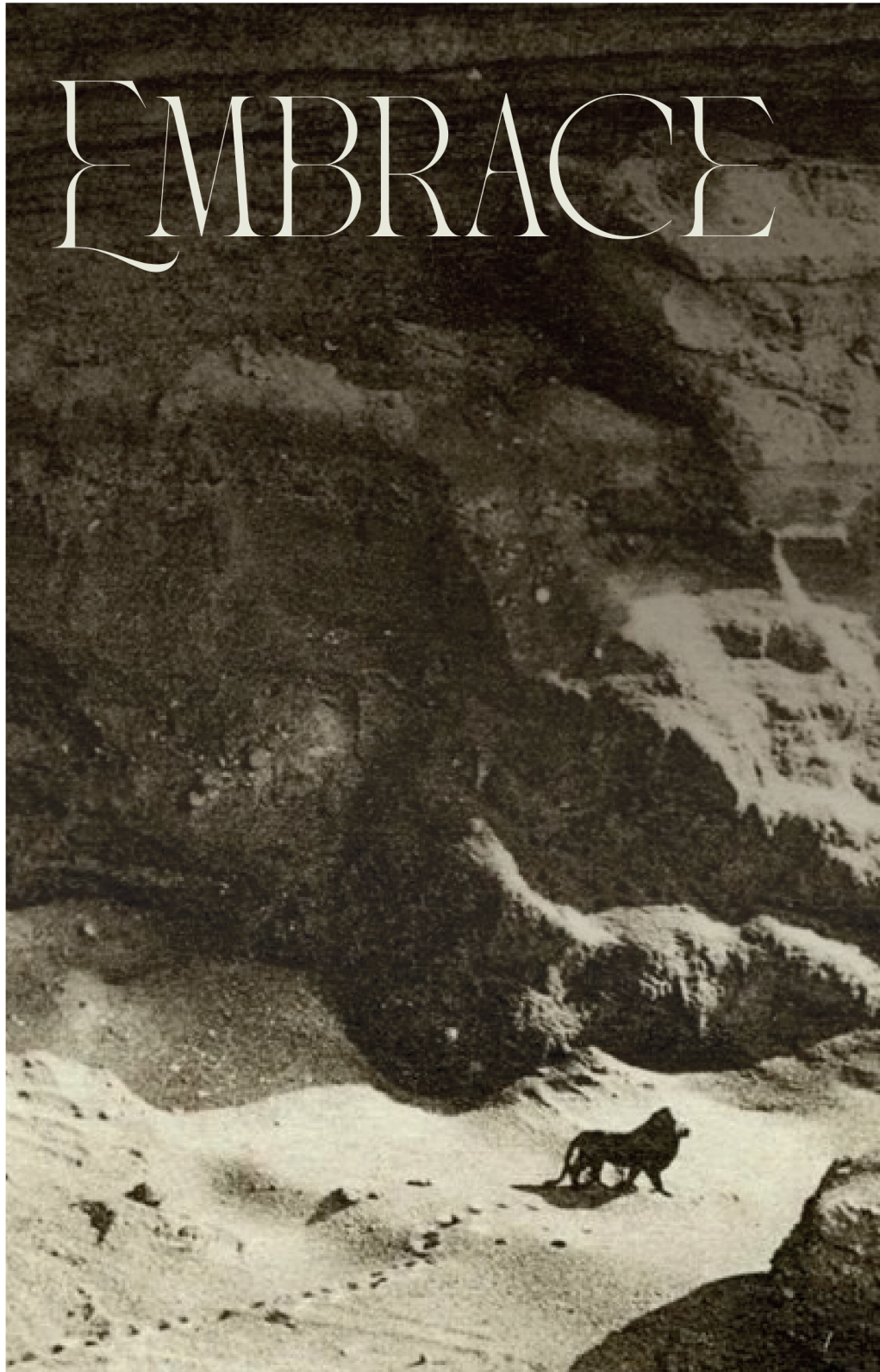


# EMBRACE



## Our Mission

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

## Our Core Values

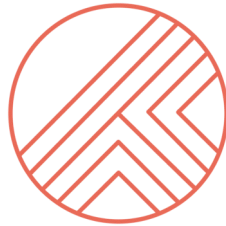
### Gospel of Grace



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.

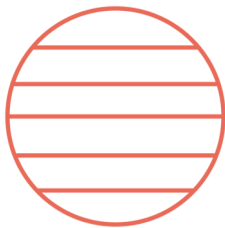
### Faithful Presence



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.

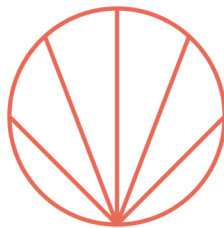
### Formative Rhythms



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

### **Julian of Norwich, The Complete Julian of Norwich**

When we are fallen because of frailty or blindness, then our gracious Lord inspires us, stirs us and calls us, and then he wills that we see our wretchedness and humbly let it be acknowledged. But He does not wish us to remain thus. Nor does He will that we busy ourselves greatly about accusing ourselves, nor does He will that we be full of misery about ourselves; for He wills that we quickly attend to Him; for He stands all alone and waits for us constantly, sorrowing and mourning until we come, and hastens to take us to himself, for we are His joy and delight and He is our cure and our life.

### **Dane Ortlund, Deeper**

The wraparound category of your life is not your performance but God's love. The defining hallmark of your life is not your cleanness but his embrace. The deepest destiny of your life is to descend ever deeper, with quiet yet ever-increasing intensity, into the endless love of God. We grow spiritually by getting a head start on that project, right here in this fallen earthly life.

### **John Owen, Communion with the Triune God**

So much as we see of the love of God, so much shall we delight in him, and no more. Every other discovery of God, without this, will but make the soul fly from him; but if the heart be once much taken up with this the eminency of the Father's love, it cannot choose but be overpowered, conquered, and endeared unto him...If the love of a father will not make a child delight in him, what will?

## Song of Praise

### Our Great God

Eternal God, unchanging,  
mysterious and unknown,  
Your boundless love, unfailing,  
grace and mercy shown.  
Bright seraphim in ceaseless flight  
around Your glorious throne;  
they raise their voices day and night  
in praise to You alone.

Hallelujah! Glory be to our great God!  
Hallelujah! Glory be to our great God!

Lord, we are weak and frail,  
helpless in the storm;  
surround us with Your angels,  
hold us in Your arms.  
Our cold and ruthless enemy,  
his pleasure is our harm.  
Rise up, O Lord, and he will flee  
before our sov'reign God.

Let ev'ry creature in the sea  
and ev'ry flying bird,  
let ev'ry mountain, ev'ry field  
and valley of the earth.  
Let all the moons and all the stars  
in all the universe,  
sing praises to the living God  
who rules them by His Word.

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## The Acclamation

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

**His mercy endures forever.**

## Kyrie, Eleison

Lord have mercy

**Lord have mercy**

Christ have mercy

**Christ have mercy**

Lord have mercy

**Lord have mercy**

*Note: The use of the Greek phrase Kyrie Eleison dates back to the New Testament as people asked Jesus for healing. The Kyrie began to appear in church liturgies in the 4th century. While Western churches tend to view it through a penitential lens, asking mercy for our sins, the early church utilized this prayer instead to highlight the beauty and depth of God's mercy as he heals our hurts and provides for our daily needs. It brings us face to face with our compassionate God who hears our prayers.*

## Responsive Psalm

*Psalm 119:9-16*

With my whole heart I seek you;

do not let me stray from your commandments.

**I treasure your word in my heart,**

**so that I may not sin against you.**

Blessed are you, O Lord; teach me your statutes.

With my lips I declare all the ordinances of your mouth.

**I delight in the way of your decrees**

**as much as in all riches.**

I will meditate on your precepts

and fix my eyes on your ways.

**I will delight in your statutes;**

**I will not forget your word.**

## Come Ye Sinners

Come ye sinners, poor and needy,  
weak and wounded, sick and sore;  
Jesus ready stands to save you,  
full of pity, love, and power.

Come ye thirsty, come, and welcome,  
God's free bounty glorify;  
true belief and true repentance,  
every grace that brings you life.

Come ye weary, heavy laden,  
lost and ruined by the fall;  
if you tarry 'til you're better,  
you will never come at all.

I will arise and go to Jesus,  
He will embrace me in his arms.  
In the arms of my dear Savior,  
O, there are ten thousand charms.

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## Old Testament Reading

### Jeremiah 31:31-36 NRSV

31 The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. 32 It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. 33 But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. 34 No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the Lord,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more. 35 Thus says the Lord, who gives the sun for light by day and the fixed order of the moon and the stars for light by night, who stirs up the sea so that its waves roar—the Lord of hosts is his name: 36 If this fixed order were ever to cease from my presence, says the Lord, then also the offspring of Israel would cease to be a nation before me forever.

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.

# Sacrament of Baptism & Reception into Membership

## Liam Tobin

1. Do you acknowledge yourself to be a sinner 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 yourself to the government and discipline of the Church, and promise to study its purity and peace?

## Offering Prayer

Generous God, in losing our lives we find them in you. In sharing our money and time, we receive the blessings of your Kingdom. Use these gifts toward your holy work of peace, justice, and love in the world. 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 Reading

### Ephesians 3:14-21 NRSV

14 For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, 15 from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. 16 I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, 17 and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. 18 I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, 19 and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

20 Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, 21 to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Sermon

Bryan Buck: Embrace: The Depths of Holiness  
Holiness

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## Notes

### Application Questions

1. What causes you to doubt God's love?
2. Slowly review Paul's prayer. How does it inform our understanding of the gospel of grace?
3. How do you need to comprehend God's love this coming week?  
Express that to God in prayer.

# Christ is the Life of the World

In Christ we offer  
all that he has offered;  
the perfect offering.

Christ is the life of the world,  
Christ is the life of the world.

So we remember  
all that he remembered,  
the whole of love returned.  
Christ is the life of the world,  
Christ is the life of the world.

Let us lift up, lift our hearts!  
Let us lift up, lift our hearts.  
It is good to lift our hearts to the Lord!  
Let us lift up, lift our hearts!  
Let us lift up, lift our hearts.  
It is good to lift our hearts to the Lord!

Sent forth in beauty,  
reconciling all things,  
radiant in holiness.  
Christ is the life of the world,  
Christ is the life of the world,  
Christ is the life of the world.

Words & Music by Sandra McCracken

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## Confession of Sin

Create in me a clean heart, O God; put a new and right spirit within me. Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit. Create in me a clean heart, O God; put a new and right spirit within me.

*from Psalm 51*

## Assurance of Pardon

### Isaiah 53:5 NRSV

But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed.

## 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 has 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.

## St Patrick's Breastplate (Christ Be With Me)

*Our communion song today is an adaptation of a portion of a prayer for divine protection which is attributed to St. Patrick in the year 433, before he went to win the Irish King Leoghaire to Christ. This text forms the mystical core of the prayer as we speak to God in Christ, the union of soul and Savior. We reflect on the all-enclosing presence and intimacy of God with us, His always with-ness. We recognize that He is in us, and tangibly visible in those around us.*

Christ be with me and within me;  
Christ behind me and before.  
Christ to fight for me and win me;  
Christ to comfort and restore.  
Christ beneath me and above me;  
Christ in quiet and in danger.  
Christ in hearts of those who love me;  
Christ in mouth of friend and stranger.

Christ in every heart that's broken;  
Christ in every joy and pain.  
Christ in every word that's spoken;  
Christ in sun and moon and rain.  
Christ in resting and in rising;  
Christ the Lord of all my life.  
Christ to guide me and to shield me;  
Christ protecting me in strife.

Christ be with me and within me;  
Christ behind me and before.  
Christ to fight for me and win me;  
Christ to comfort and restore.

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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.

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*oaks parish*

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OP Kids	kids@oaksparish.org	
Community Life	communitylife@oaksparish.org	

# 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.

## Lent & Holy Week

- Morning Prayer, every Wednesday at 6:30am, join online at [oaksparish.org/morningprayer](http://oaksparish.org/morningprayer)
- Sunday Evening Prayer, during Lent, 7pm at the Sytsmas
- Weekly reflections for Lent & Holy Week are available at [oaksparish.org/lent](http://oaksparish.org/lent)

## Vocal Group Rehearsals

Oaks Vocal Group will rehearse immediately following the service March 17th and 24th, wrapping up by 12:30.

## Register for Abide Retreat

If you need spiritual respite, meaningful time away on your own or with your spouse, or a place to process how God is working in your life, join us on the Abide Retreat, April 12-14, at Mount Angel Abbey. Visit [oaksparish.org/retreat](http://oaksparish.org/retreat) for more details and to register by March 25th.

## Ski Evening 3/22

Join us for an afternoon and evening of skiing and fellowship at Mt Hood Ski Bowl from 3-10 pm on Friday, March 22. We will have dinner together at Starlight Lodge at 6 pm. Email [rob@thehowellsgroup.com](mailto:rob@thehowellsgroup.com) for group ticket information.

## Good Friday 3/29 & Easter Sunday 3/31

Remember the death and burial of our Lord Jesus on March 29th at 7:30pm. Celebrate the resurrection on March 31st at 10am, followed by an Easter potluck lunch and egg hunt for children. We'll provide the main dish and beverages; please bring a side dish to share.

## 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](mailto:martha@oaksparish.org).

## Family Promise Volunteers Needed 4/7-4/14

Serve our houseless neighbors by volunteering to provide meals and offer support for participating families during our week of service April 7-14. Learn more and volunteer at [oaksparish.org/family-promise](http://oaksparish.org/family-promise).