



Oaklette United Methodist Church

"God's Body in this Community"

"Oaklette United Methodist Church through worship, education, and outreach, seeks to make the gospel of Jesus Christ real, as we minister to all people."

Eighth Sunday After Pentecost

August 3, 2025

GREETING

JOYS AND CONCERNS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BREAKTHROUGH PRAYER

Loving, sustaining God, like the mighty oak, may our branches at Oaklette church embrace those around us in this community. Use us as an instrument to welcome and shelter your people. Deepen our roots so that our branches are strong. Let the Holy Spirit flow like a river through our church, so that we may do your will. In Jesus' holy name, Amen.

OPENING SCRIPTURE

Luke 12:1-3, 8-12 [CEB]

When a crowd of thousands upon thousands had gathered so that they were crushing each other, Jesus began to speak first to his disciples: "Watch out for the yeast of the Pharisees – I mean, the mismatch between their hearts and lives. Nothing is hidden that won't be revealed, and nothing is secret that won't be brought out into the open. Therefore, whatever you have said in the darkness will be heard in the light, and whatever you have whispered in the rooms deep inside the house will be announced from the rooftops.

"I tell you, everyone who acknowledges me before humans, the Human One will acknowledge before God's angels. But the one who rejects me before others will be rejected before God's angels. Anyone who speaks a word against the Human One will be forgiven, but whoever insults the Holy Spirit won't be forgiven. When they bring you before the synagogues, rulers, and authorities, don't worry about how to defend yourself or what you should say. The Holy Spirit will tell you at that very moment what you must say."

PRELUDE

"Communion With Christ"

DANA MOODY

PASSING OF THE PEACE

MESSAGE FOR GROWING CHRISTIANS

OPENING PRAYER

Extravagant God, you offer riches that no earthly pleasures can match. You pour out mercy and cover us with love. You show us true justice and offer us peace. You provide us with every need and promise us eternal life with you. In the midst of the glitz and glamour of this world, nothing, and no one, shines with your brilliance. Bathe us in the light of Christ, illumine us with your Holy Spirit, and enable us to live only for you. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Sisters and brothers, we have been raised with Christ to new life, freed from every fear, and granted every grace. With songs of praise, let us worship God.

HYMN

“Majesty, Worship His Majesty”

#176

Majesty, worship his majesty;
unto Jesus be all glory, honor, and praise.
Majesty, kingdom authority,
flow from his throne unto his own; his anthem raise.
So exalt, lift up on high the name of Jesus.
Magnify, come glorify Christ Jesus, the King.
Majesty, worship his majesty,
Jesus who died, now glorified, King of all kings.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: God of glory, you sent Jesus among us as the light of the world, to reveal your love for all people.

We confess that our sin and pride hide the brightness of your light. We turn away from the poor; we ignore cries for justice; we do not strive for peace. Forgive us, God. In your mercy, cleanse us of our sin, and renew us once again with your Spirit, so that, as forgiven and renewed people, we may reflect the love and life of Jesus Christ into our world.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Our God is a God of grace and mercy and love; know that our sins have been forgiven. May we be strengthened in all goodness. Since we have been raised with Christ, let us seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Thanks be to God. Amen.

ANTHEM**“Breaking the Bread”****CHANCEL CHOIR****GOSPEL****LUKE 12:13-21 {CEB}**

Someone from the crowd said to him, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.”

Jesus said to him, “Man, who appointed me as judge or referee between you and your brother?”

Then Jesus said to them, “Watch out! Guard yourself against all kinds of greed. After all, one’s life isn’t determined by one’s possessions, even when someone is very wealthy.” Then he told them a parable: “A certain rich man’s land produced a bountiful crop. He said to himself, What will I do? I have no place to store my harvest! Then he thought, Here’s what I’ll do. I’ll tear down my barns and build bigger ones. That’s where I’ll store all my grain and goods. I’ll say to myself, You have stored up plenty of goods, enough for several years. Take it easy! Eat, drink, and enjoy yourself. But God said to him, ‘Fool, tonight you will die. Now who will get the things you have prepared for yourself?’ This is the way it will be for those who hoard things for themselves and aren’t rich toward God.”

LESSON**“ Important Re-Thoughts”****Rev. Ned Alderman****HYMN****“As We Gather at Your Table”****TFWS #2268**

1. As we gather at your table,
as we listen to your word,
help us know, O God, your presence;
let our hearts and minds be stirred.
Nourish us with sacred story
till we claim it as our own;
teach us through this holy banquet
how to make Love’s victory known.
2. Turn our worship into witness
In the sacrament of life;
Send us forth to love and serve you,
Bringing peace where there is strife.

Give us, Christ, your great compassion
To forgive as you forgave;
May we still behold your image
In the world you died to save.

3. Gracious Spirit, help us summon
other guests to share that feast
where triumphant Love will welcome
those who had been last and least.
There no more will envy blind us
nor will pride our peace destroy,
as we join with saints and angels
to repeat the sounding joy.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Pastor The Lord be with you,

People: and also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Pastor: It is right, it is good, and it is joyful to give thanks to you, God of mystery and miracle. When there was only darkness, you made light. When we cried out to you from captivity, you claimed us as your own. When we forgot our love for you, you did not forget us, sending your prophets to turn us around and renewing your promises with a bow in the sky, the parting of the sea, your own Son.

And so we praise you, tuning our voices to the angels' songs, joining all those who sing on earth and in heaven:

People: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Pastor: Thank you for Jesus – for his teaching and healing, his challenging and feeding, his living and dying and rising, that we might be raised with him, and all the world made new.

We thank you that on the night before he died he took bread, gave thanks, and broke it, and shared it with his friends, saying, take, eat—my body broken for you. Thank you for the way he took the cup, the new covenant sealed in his blood, shed for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you eat and drink, he said, do it in remembrance of me.

With thanksgiving we take this bread and cups, gifts of the good earth, offering ourselves as a living sacrifice dedicated to your service.

Dying, you destroyed our death; rising, you restored our life. Lord Jesus, come in glory. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your people gathered here and on these gifts – bread and wine of earth, to body and blood of heaven; our frail flesh and blood to your holy people, that we might be Christ's body to your world. For this world we now pray: end all war, mend your wounded earth, heal those who suffer, comfort those who mourn, and infuse us with your peace that is rooted in what is just.

Through the power of your Spirit unite us with Christ and with one another as we work and wait in hope, confident in that day when Christ will come to make all things well and we will feast together at his heavenly table.

All glory and honor are yours, Holy God, through Christ and in the unity of the Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (singing)

Leader: Our Father

People: Our Father

Leader: In Heaven

People: In Heaven

Leader: Holy is Your name.

People: Holy is Your name.

Leader: Your kingdom come,

People: Your kingdom come,

Leader: Your will be done,

People: Your will be done,

Leader: On earth,

People: On earth,

Leader: As in heaven.

People: As in heaven.

Leader: Give us today,

People: Give us today,

Leader: Our daily bread.

People: Our daily bread.

Leader: And forgive those,

People: And forgive those,

Leader: Who sin against us.

People: Who sin against us.

Leader: Save us from the time,

People: Save us from the time,

Leader: Of trials.

People: Of trials.

Leader: And deliver us,

People: And deliver us,

Leader: From evil.

People: From evil.

Leader: For the kingdom and the power and the glory are Yours forever.

People: For the kingdom and the power and the glory are Yours forever.

Leader: Forever,

People: Forever,

Leader: And ever.

People: And ever.

Leader: Our Father,

People: Our Father,

Leader: In Heaven,

People: In Heaven,

ALL: Holy is Your name.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Through Jesus Christ, God cautions us against storing up riches for ourselves. Let us consider these things and give as our conscience directs us.

Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year C, Volume 2 © 2012 Westminster John Knox Press

OFFERING PRAYER

Holy and ever-present God, you call us to set our minds on things above, to let go of all that weighs us down, and to embrace the new life found in Christ. As we bring these gifts, shape our hearts in generosity, our hands in service, and our minds in faithfulness. May these offerings be used to transform lives, to build up your kingdom, and to reflect your love in this world. Keep us ever mindful that we give because you have first given so abundantly to us. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

DOXOLOGY

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise him all creatures here below.
Praise him above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

HYMN

“Christ We Are Blessed”

W&S 3174

1. Christ, we are blest as we gather to dine,
strengthened for love by the bread and the wine.
This is your body, now entering ours,
strong with your loving, miraculous powers.
2. You laid your life down like sowing a seed;
once dead and buried, from death you are freed,
rising like wheat in the warmth of the sun!
Christ, you are risen! New life has begun!
3. Christ, you are risen, but not far above;
You live among us in each act of love
in every deed of compassion you rise,
living in flesh we can see with our eyes.
4. Jesus, you feed us, then bid us to leave,
sharing with others the love we receive.
We are your body, sent by your command
making love real as the bread in our hands.

BENEDICTION

Children of God, receive this blessing: may the renewing grace of the Triune God surround you; may the steadfast love of the Triune God uphold you, and may the goodness of the Triune God entice you to set your mind on Christ that you may live as God’s image-bearers and gospel-bringers wherever you go. Amen.

POSTLUDE

“Benediction”

DANA MOODY

Today's service is being broadcast on Facebook Live at 11:00 am. You can access the service through the Oaklette Church Group on Facebook. You can also access the sermon through the Oaklette UMC Facebook page. If you are unable to use Facebook Live a link can be sent to you by email after the Facebook Live Worship has been recorded, but we will need your email address to do this. The Facebook Live service will also be downloaded to our website on Monday morning.

The Food Basket on the altar is presented to the glory of God..

The flowers on the altar are presented to the glory of God



PARTNERS IN MINISTRY TODAY

Members of the Church

Nursery Care Providers: Brooks & Lisa Ryno

Prayer Partner: Barbara Bennett

Lay Reader – Debbie Rippard

Audio–Visual Operator – Ericka Litten

Facebook Live Recorder: Bright Tsevi

Greeter: Joanne Rooks

Pastor: Rev. Ned Alderman

Administrative Assistant: Eileen Ballance

Financial Secretary: Edna Bess

Coastal Virginia Dist. Superintendent: Rev. Beth Givens

Resident Bishop, Richmond Area: Bishop Sue Hauptert–Johnson