



***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."*

***Fifth Sunday After Pentecost***

***July 13, 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**

**COLOSSIANS 1:3-14 [CEB]**

We always give thanks to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you. We've done this since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and your love for all God's people. You have this faith and love because of the hope reserved for you in heaven. You previously heard about this hope through the true message, the good news, which has come to you. This message has been bearing fruit and growing among you since the day you heard and truly understood God's grace, in the same way that it is bearing fruit and growing in the whole world. You learned it from Epaphras, who is the fellow slave we love and Christ's faithful minister for your sake. He informed us of your love in the Spirit.

Because of this, since the day we heard about you, we haven't stopped praying for you and asking for you to be filled with the knowledge of God's will, with all wisdom and spiritual understanding. We're praying this so that you can live lives that are worthy of the Lord and pleasing to him in every way: by producing fruit in every good work and growing in the knowledge of God; by being strengthened through his glorious might so that you endure everything and have patience; and by giving thanks with joy to the Father. He made it so you could take part in the inheritance, in light granted to God's holy people. He rescued us from the control of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of the Son he loves. He set us free through the Son and forgave our sins.

**PASSING OF THE PEACE  
MESSAGE FOR GROWING CHRISTIANS  
CALL TO WORSHIP**

Lay Reader: How shall we live?

**People: We will love the Lord our God with all our heart, with all our being, and with all our mind.**

Lay Reader: How shall we love?

**People: We will love our neighbor as ourselves.**

Lay Reader: Who is our neighbor?

**People: Our neighbor lies by the road in pain. Our neighbor goes to bed hungry. Our neighbor has lost hope.**

Lay Reader: How shall we love our neighbor?

**We will respond with love and compassion. We will do what is needed to help others. We will care for one another.**

*Beu, B.J.; Scifres, Mary. The Abingdon Worship Annual 2019: Worship Planning Resources for Every Sunday of the Year (pp. 160-161). Abingdon Press. Kindle Edition.*

**OPENING PRAYER (in unison)**

**Holy God, you call us to live out your justice and righteousness. Help us to walk in your footsteps, so that we never lose our way. Enable us to live and love in the way that you have taught us, so that we can act in grace, even with those who we consider our enemies. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.**

**HYMN**

**“I Surrender All”**

**#354**

1. I All to Jesus, I surrender; all to him I freely give;  
I will ever love and trust him, in his presence daily live.

Refrain

I surrender all, I surrender all, all to thee my blessed Savior, I surrender all.

2. All to Jesus I surrender, humbly at his feet I bow,  
worldly pleasures all forsaken; take me, Jesus, take me now.

Refrain

3. All to Jesus I surrender; make me, Savior, wholly thine;  
let me feel the Holy Spirit, truly know that thou art mine.

Refrain

4. All to Jesus I surrender; Lord, I give myself to thee;

fill me with thy love and power; let thy blessing fall on me.

*Refrain*

5. All to Jesus I surrender; now I feel the sacred flame.

O the joy of full salvation! Glory, glory to his name!

*Refrain*

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Lay Reader: The psalmist asks a question: how long? How long will we live unjustly and show partiality, instead of loving as God has loved us? Trusting in that love, let us confess our transgressions to the Lord.

**People: Holy God, we are your sons and daughters, descendants of the God most high, yet, we do not behave to honor you and our actions belittle the love you have for us. We do not defend the weak or those without fathers or mothers. We do not uphold the poor or the oppressed. We do not commit to efforts to rescue the weak and the needy; we sometimes deliver them into solitude and neglect. Rise up to judge us, O God. We prefer your merciful justice, than living with guilt and fear. Straighten our path, so that we can be guided as a mother or a father guides beloved children. Amen.**

Lay Reader: The triune God's unconditional love does not seek appearances or conditions, but loves in such a way, that we are restored to health and to wholeness. Thanks be to God! In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Lay Reader: Together let us pray the prayer that Jesus taught his disciples to pray.

## **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. Amen.**

**ANTHEM      "My Redeemer is Faithful and True"**

**CHANCEL CHOIR**

## **GOSPEL**

**Luke 10:25-37 [CEB]**

A legal expert stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to gain eternal life?"

Jesus replied, "What is written in the Law? How do you interpret it?"

He responded, “You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your being, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and love your neighbor as yourself.”

Jesus said to him, “You have answered correctly. Do this and you will live.” But the legal expert wanted to prove that he was right, so he said to Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?”

Jesus replied, “A man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho. He encountered thieves, who stripped him naked, beat him up, and left him near death. Now it just so happened that a priest was also going down the same road. When he saw the injured man, he crossed over to the other side of the road and went on his way. Likewise, a Levite came by that spot, saw the injured man, and crossed over to the other side of the road and went on his way. A Samaritan, who was on a journey, came to where the man was. But when he saw him, he was moved with compassion. The Samaritan went to him and bandaged his wounds, tending them with oil and wine. Then he placed the wounded man on his own donkey, took him to an inn, and took care of him. The next day, he took two full days’ worth of wages and gave them to the innkeeper. He said, ‘Take care of him, and when I return, I will pay you back for any additional costs.’ What do you think? Which one of these three was a neighbor to the man who encountered thieves?”

Then the legal expert said, “The one who demonstrated mercy toward him.”

Jesus told him, “Go and do likewise.”

## **LESSON**

### **“Saying a Prayer for Someone I Really Could Care For”**

**Rev. Ned Alderman**

## **HYMN**

### **“Lord, I Want to Be a Christian”**

**#402**

1. Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart, in my heart;  
Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.  
In my heart, in my heart, Lord I want to be a Christian in my heart.
2. Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart, in my heart;  
Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.  
In my heart, in my heart, Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.
3. Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart, in my heart;  
Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart.  
In my heart, in my heart, Lord I want to be more holy in my heart.
4. Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart, in my heart,  
Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.  
In my heart, in my heart, Lord, I want to like Jesus in my heart.

## **RESPONSE TO THE WORD**

Lay Reader: In peace, let us pray to the Lord, saying, hear our prayer.

Gracious God, you know our wounds, our troubles, and our needs even before we know them ourselves. As the Samaritan showed compassion to the wounded man, you offer mercy to us.

We pray for those who are sick or in trouble. Comfort them with your grace, and empower your church to minister to them. God of Compassion, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who suffer the violence of human hands or the tragedy of natural disaster. Shield them with your holy angels, and motivate your church to care for them.

God of Compassion, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for children and for the defenseless. Safeguard them in your protection, and strengthen your church to tend to them.

God of Compassion, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for elected officials and for civil servants. Stir them to heed justice, and rouse the church to hold them accountable.

God of Compassion, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for pastors, teachers, musicians, and all the saints who lead your church. Inspire them by your Holy Spirit, and guide the church to encourage them.

God of Compassion, **hear our prayer.**

God of Compassion, receive our prayers, and lead us all to serve in love, through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **INVITATION TO THE OFFERING**

Let us bring to God the fruit of our labors.

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

**Receive these gifts, O God. May our lives be an offering that is pleasing to you, good gifts that come from the knowledge of life in Christ our Lord in whose name we pray. Amen.**

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

## **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.**

1. O Church of God, united to serve one common Lord,  
proclaim to all one message, with hearts in glad accord.  
Christ ever goes before us; we follow day by day  
with strong and eager footsteps along the upward way.
2. From every land and nation the ordered ranks appear;  
to serve one valiant leader they come from far and near.  
They chant their one confession, they praise one living Lord,  
and place their sure dependence upon his saving word.
3. Though creeds and tongues may differ, they speak, O Christ, of thee;  
and in thy loving spirit we shall one people be.  
Lord, may our faithful service and singleness of aim  
proclaim to all the power of thy redeeming name.
4. May thy great prayer be answered that we may all be one,  
close bound, by love united in thee, God's blessed Son:  
To bring a single witness, to make the pathway bright,  
that souls which grope in darkness may find the one true light.

**BENEDICTION**

O church of God, united, we have a mission:

**To make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world!**

O people of God, we have a vision:

**To ignite and sustain a passionate spiritual relationship with Christ among all people!**

O brothers and sisters, we have one great value at the core of our being:

**To love! We shall love our God with all that we have and love our neighbors as ourselves.**

*Worship & Song, Worship Resources Edition copyright 2011 by Abingdon Press*

**POSTLUDE****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: Brenda Swoope**

**Lay Reader – Monica Whitehurst**

**Audio–Visual Operator – Danny Castellow**

**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**