



**"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."*

**May 31, 2026**  
**Trinity Sunday**



*Welcome in the name of our Lord. A nurturing and well-supervised nursery is available for infants and young children. A cry room is also available. Please ask the greeter for further assistance and directions to these rooms.*

**GREETING**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**JOYS AND CONCERNS AND WHERE WE SEE GOD WORKING IN THE WORLD**

**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, PSALM 8, CEB**

O Lord, our Lord,

**how majestic is your name throughout the earth!**

**You made your glory higher than heaven! From the mouths of nursing babies you have laid a strong foundation because of your foes, in order to stop vengeful enemies.**

**When I look up at your skies, at what your fingers made – the moon and the stars that you set firmly in place –**

**what are human beings that you think about them;**

**what are human beings that you pay attention to them?**

**You've made them only slightly less than divine,**

**crowning them with glory and grandeur.**

**You've let them rule over your handiwork,**

**putting everything under their feet –**

all sheep and all cattle,  
**the wild animals too,**  
the birds in the sky, the fish of the ocean,  
**everything that travels the pathways of the sea.**  
O Lord, our Lord,  
**how majestic is your name throughout the earth!**

**PRELUDE**

**“LITANY”**

**DANA MOODY**

**PASSING OF THE PEACE**

**MESSAGE FOR GROWING CHRISTIANS**

**CALL TO WORSHIP FOR PEACE WITH JUSTICE SUNDAY**

In cities that never slow down, in towns that seem quiet but carry hidden burdens, God is present.

**In the rush of life and its challenges, God is mindful of us.**

When headlines divide, and schedules consume us, when injustice appears distant, or maybe too close, too hard, fearful, God interrupt and show us the urgency of holy purpose.

**God help us see others and the path to the justice.**

You have entrusted us with care for one another. You have called us to see, to listen, and to act.

**We are small, yet deeply loved. We are finite, yet you call us to faithful responsibility.**

Jesus Christ, you walked among the vulnerable, the outcast, and even the wealthy and those with power. The Holy Spirit agitates our complacency and compels us to be a part of solutions in our neighborhoods, communities, cities, nations, and the world.

**God is not still. God moves toward justice. God breathes peace into chaos.**

Jesus said, “I still have many things to say to you.” Truth unfolds. Are we listening?

The Spirit guides. Will we obey? The Church is sent. Will we go?

**We will not hurry past suffering. We will not choose comfort over courage. We will follow the Way of Christ.**

This is the urgency of now: to embody peace, to pursue justice, to become Jesus’ disciples, whose faith is visible in love, to the world.

**God speak, we are listening. God move, we will follow. God, shape us into a people who see all people as your good creation, who act with holy courage, and who courageously walk in the way of Jesus Christ. Let it Be So. Amen.**

## OPENING PRAYER

**O God, Searcher of all our hearts, you have formed us as a people and claimed us for your own. As we come to acknowledge your sovereignty and grace, and to enter anew into covenant with you, reveal any reluctance or falsehood within us. Let your Spirit impress your truth on our inmost being, and receive us in mercy, for the sake of our Mediator, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

*UMPH Methodist Publication. The United Methodist Book of Worship: Regular Edition Black (p. 374). United Methodist Publishing House. Kindle Edition.*

## HYMN

### “ETERNAL FATHER, STRONG TO SAVE”

TFWS #2191

Eternal Father, strong to save, whose arm hath bound the restless wave,  
who bid the mighty ocean deep its own appointed limits keep:  
O hear us when we cry to thee for those in peril on the sea.

O Savior, whose almighty word the wind and waves submissive heard,  
who walked upon the foaming deep, and calm amid its rage did sleep;  
O hear us when we cry to thee for those in peril on the sea.

O Holy Spirit, who did brood upon the chaos wild and rude,  
and bid its angry tumult cease, and gave, for fierce confusion, peace:  
O hear us when we cry to thee for those in peril on the sea.

O Trinity of love and power, All travelers guard in danger's hour;  
from rock and tempest, fire and foe, protect them wheresoe'er they go;  
thus evermore shall rise to thee glad from air and land and sea.

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION FOR PEACE WITH JUSTICE SUNDAY\*

Great God, Transformative God, we come before you to feel your presence, to seek your wisdom and direction. You, God, call us by name and have made us Your own.

**Through your grace, please pursue us. Through your grace, forgive and restore us. Through your grace, shape us into your likeness.**

Thank You for your love towards us, even when we fail and fall into sin. Restore us, redeem us to love as you love.

**Lord, form in us the heart of Christ.**

Where we are indifferent to injustice, awaken us. Where we benefit from systems that harm others, convict us. Where fear keeps us silent, embolden us. Where anger distorts our witness, refine us.

**Embolden our faith but make us obedient to your will. Make us compassionate to all of humanity. Make us courageous to go where you send us. Teach us that peace is not passive, but that peace is fruitful and welcomes all.**

It is the hard work that leads to reconciliation. It is the steady practice of loving our enemies and standing with the vulnerable.

**Lord, order our steps, open our eyes, soften our hearts. Teach us that justice is not partisan, but is rooted in and emulates Your character, God.**

Lord, it reflects Your holiness. It flows from love that refuses to ignore suffering to action.

**As your disciples God, keep us close to you in your way: the way that crosses boundaries, the way that breaks down hostility, the way that tells the truth in love and embodies mercy, the way that carries the cross and does not clamor for crowns.**

Holy Spirit, sanctify our intentions and our actions. Deliver us from performative righteousness. Guard us from self-righteousness.

**Lead us into humble love of all of our siblings. Bind us together in social holiness, a people accountable to one another, show us how to do good works, bearing one another's burdens, and laboring together for the healing of the world.**

Great God, do so until Your kingdom comes on earth, just like it is in heaven, so that justice rolls down like waters and peace becomes the pattern of our everyday life.

**May we not grow weary in doing good. May we cease being divided and distracted from our true calling, "Go make disciples throughout the world."**

So today we offer ourselves again to You, Jesus, to be instruments of reconciliation, servants of mercy, and witnesses to the transforming power of the world, through the Holy Spirit.

**We believe it to be so! Amen.**

*\*By Rev. Dr. Stephanie Moore Hand, Western North Carolina Conference Evangelist*

## **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.**

I heard an old, old story, how a Savior came from glory,  
how he gave his life on Calvary to save a wretch like me;  
I heard about his groaning, of his precious blood's atoning,  
then I repented of my sins and won the victory.

Refrain

O victory in Jesus, my Savior forever!  
He sought me and bought me with his redeeming blood;  
he loved me ere I knew him, and all my love is due him;  
he plunged me to victory beneath the cleansing flood.

I heard about his healing, of his cleansing power revealing,  
how he made the lame to walk again and caused the blind to see;  
and then I cried, “Dear Jesus, come and heal my broken spirit,”  
and somehow Jesus came and brought to me the victory.

Refrain

O victory in Jesus, my Savior forever!  
He sought me and bought me with his redeeming blood;  
he loved me ere I knew him, and all my love is due him;  
he plunged me to victory beneath the cleansing flood.

I heard about a mansion he has built for me in glory,  
and I heard about the streets of gold beyond the crystal sea;  
about the angels singing and the old redemption story,  
and some sweet day I'll sing up there the song of victory.

Refrain

O victory in Jesus, my Savior forever!  
He sought me and bought me with his redeeming blood;  
he loved me ere I knew him, and all my love is due him;  
he plunged me to victory beneath the cleansing flood.

**GOSPEL LESSON, MATTHEW 28:16-20, NIV**

Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go

and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

**LESSON**

**“GO, DO”**

**REV. NED ALDERMAN**

## **RESPONSE TO THE WORD**

Let us give thanks for all of God’s mercies.

O God, our Covenant Friend, you have been gracious to us through all the years of our lives. We thank you for your loving care, which has filled our days and brought us to this time and place.

**We praise your holy name, O God.**

You have given us life and reason, and set us in a world filled with your glory. You have comforted us with family and friends, and ministered to us through the hands of our sisters and brothers.

**We praise your holy name, O God.**

You have filled our hearts with a hunger after you, and have given us your peace. You have redeemed us, and called us to a high calling in Christ Jesus. You have given us a place in the fellowship of your Spirit and the witness of your Church.

**We praise your holy name, O God.**

You have been our light in darkness and a rock of strength in adversity and temptation. You have been the very Spirit of joy in our joys and the all-sufficient reward in all our labors.

**We praise your holy name, O God.**

You remembered us when we forgot you. You followed us even when we tried to flee from you. You met us with forgiveness when we returned to you. For all your patience and overflowing grace,

**We praise your holy name, O God.**

*UMPH Methodist Publication. The United Methodist Book of Worship: Regular Edition Black (pp. 374-375). United Methodist Publishing House. Kindle Edition.*

## **GLORIA PATRI**

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. World without end. Amen. Amen.**

## **INVITATION TO THE OFFERING**

In thanksgiving for the fruitful abundance of God’s creation, let us give back a portion of what we have received.

*Scifres, Mary; Beu, B.J.. The Abingdon Worship Annual 2020: Worship Planning Resources for Every Sunday of the Year (p. 130). Abingdon Press. Kindle Edition.*

## **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION**

**Your gifts overwhelm us, Creator God. We praise you for placing your image within us – an image that makes us who we are. May these gifts reflect the glory of your image as they go forth to move creation forward toward its fulfillment in you. Amen.**

*The Abingdon Worship Annual 2017, copyright 2016 by Abingdon 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. Amen.**

## **HYMN**

### **“LET THERE BE PEACE ON EARTH”**

**#431**

Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me;  
let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.  
With God, our creator, children all are we.  
Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.  
Let peace begin with me; let this be the moment now,  
with every step I take, let this be my solemn vow:  
to take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally.  
Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.

## **BENEDICTION, 1 Corinthians 13:11-13, CEB**

Finally, brothers and sisters, good-bye. Put things in order, respond to my encouragement, be in harmony with each other, and live in peace – and the God of love and peace will be with you.

Say hello to each other with a holy kiss. All of God’s people say hello to you.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

## **POSTLUDE**

### **“SORTIE”**

**DANA MOODY**

*Today's service is available on Facebook Live at 11 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 flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God.

**PARTNERS IN MINISTRY TODAY**

**Members of the Church**

**Nursery Care Providers: Kay Hill & Shellene Castellow**

**Lay Reader: Debbie Reppard**

**Prayer partner: Brenda Swoope**

**Audio-Visual Operator: Monica Whitehurst**

**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**