

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."

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April 30, 2023 ~ 11:00 A.M.

Fourth Sunday of Easter



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

[†] = Invites persons to stand as they are able.

(After the scripture is read, the leader will say: "This is the Word of God for the people of God..."

And the people shall respond: "Thanks be to God!")

SERMON "Everything, Everywhere, All at Once" - Dr. Tim Hazlett

†**HYMN OF RESPONSE** "He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought" #128

1. He leadeth me: O blessed thought! O words with heavenly comfort fraught!
Whate'er I do, where'er I be, still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me.

Refrain

He leadeth me, he leadeth me, by his own hand he leadeth me;
His faithful follower I would be, for by his hand he leadeth me.

2. Sometimes mid scenes of deepest gloom, sometimes where Eden's bowers bloom
By waters still, o'er troubled sea, still 'tis his hand that leadeth me.

Refrain

3. Lord, I would place my hand in thine, nor ever murmur nor repine;
Content, whatever lot I see, since 'tis by God that leadeth me.

Refrain

4. And when my task on earth is done; when by thy grace the victory's won,
E'en death's cold wave I will not flee, since God through Jordan leadeth me.

Refrain

†**CLOSING PRAYER (responsively)**

Lay Reader: You have come together as members of Christ's body. You have drunk once again of the Holy Spirit. Now go and share your spiritual gifts in service to God's world.

Pastor: *If you are a foot, walk the path of justice.*

Lay Reader: If you are a hand, touch others for the sake of healing.

Pastor: *If you are an eye, remain open to visions of God's kingdom.*

Lay Reader: If you are an ear, listen for God's word, especially in the world's pain.

†**CHORAL BENEDICTION** "He is Lord" - Chancel Choir

He is Lord, he is Lord! He is risen from the dead and he is Lord!
Every knee shall bow, every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord.

†**POSTLUDE** "Rejoice" - Dana Moody



PRELUDE

"Largo"

- Dana Moody

THE MORNING WELCOME

- Dr. Tim Hazlett

CENTERING PRAYER (in unison)

Lord God in heaven, today we gather as your people to worship you in spirit and truth. We celebrate your life in us and celebrate your body, the church. Help us to reflect your love for us with the love we have for each other. It is with great joy that we come before you today, joined by your Spirit. Thank you for your love and mercy shown to us. Thank you that we can comfort another with the same love and mercy that has comforted us. Praise be to you, our shepherd. We are your people, the sheep of your pasture. Help us today to understand more fully how you have made us to live together and serve each other. Help us to understand your plan for your body and to give you praise. Amen.

†**OPENING HYMN**

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

#139

1. Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!

O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation!

All ye who hear, now to his temple draw near;

Join me in glad adoration!

2. Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigning

Bears thee on eagle's wings, e'er in his keeping maintaining.

God's care enfolds all, whose true good he upholds.

Hast thou not known his sustaining?

3. Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee;

Surely his goodness and mercy here daily attend thee.

Ponder anew what the Almighty can do,
Who with his love doth befriend thee.

4. Praise to the Lord, who doth nourish thy life and restore thee,
Fitting thee well for the tasks that are ever before thee.
Then to thy need God as a mother doth speed,
Spreading the wings of grace o'er thee.
5. Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him!
Let the amen sound from his people again;
Gladly forever adore him.

THE PRAYER OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD (responsively)

Lay Reader: Jesus, you are the Good Shepherd of your people. Hear the cry of your flock as we pray, "Good Shepherd,

People: Receive our prayer."

Lay Reader: Good Shepherd, you call us to follow where you lead. Give us ears to hear and know your voice. And give us the courage and strength to lay down our lives for one another, as even you laid down your life for us. Good Shepherd,

People: Receive our prayer.

Lay Reader: Good Shepherd, gather to yourself the people of the world so there will be one flock under your reign. Forgive us for our hatred and divisions. Good Shepherd,

People: Receive our prayer.

Lay Reader: Good Shepherd, you have blessed us with green pastures and still waters—places in your world where we find rest and renewal. We thank you for the beauty of the earth. Good Shepherd,

People: Receive our prayer.

Lay Reader: Good Shepherd, even when wolves attack, you never leave your loved ones; even in the valley of the shadow of death, you are present. Be with all victims of violence. Comfort them in their distress. Good Shepherd,

People: Receive our prayer.

Lay Reader: Good Shepherd, you love us so much that you call us each by name: We pray for the healing of our brothers and sisters in your name. Good Shepherd,

People: Receive our prayer.

Lay Reader: Good Shepherd, you are our salvation. Grant all who have died a dwelling place in your house forever. Good Shepherd,

People: Receive our prayer. We pray this and all our prayers in the name of Jesus who taught us to pray...

THE LORD'S PRAYER (in unison)

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.

FIFTH SUNDAY FAVORITE HYMNS

(Favorite Hymns will close with the hymn "Victory in Jesus" found on page #370.)

1. 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.

2. 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

3. 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

SCRIPTURE READING

- PSALM 23 (NRSV)

¹The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

²He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul.

He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.

⁴Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

⁶Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD my whole life long.

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 must be a member of that group page to see it however. Please send Dr. Tim a Facebook request to join the group if you are not already a member of the group. 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 today are presented to the glory of God by Tim and Lori Hazlett in honor of Joanne Rooks in appreciation for all the work she does with the Worship Committee.

The Food Basket on the altar is presented to the glory of God by Ethel Hickman in memory of her husband, Bobby Hickman for his birthday.

PARTNERS IN MINISTRY TODAY

Members of the Church

Nursery Care Providers: Nancy Helsel & Barbara Bennett

Lay Reader: Monica Whitehurst

Organist/Director of Music: Dana Moody

Prayer Partner: Barbara Bennett

Audio-Visual Operator: Danny Castellow

Facebook Live Recorder: Bright Tsevi

Greeter: Joanne Rooks

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Timothy D. Hazlett

Administrative Assistant: Eileen Ballance

Financial Secretary: Edna Bess

Costal Virginia Dist. Superintendent: Rev. Dr. Cecelia R. Brooks

Resident Bishop, Richmond Area: Bishop Sue Hauptert-Johnson