

We pray for all your creation: turn us from our exploitative ways to help you renew the earth.

Blessed are those who trust in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord.

God, you demand much, but promise that your yoke is easy. Guide us throughout our lives, keeping us ever mindful of the good news of your forgiving and renewing grace; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

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HYMN

“For All the Saints”

TFWS #2283

1. For all the saints who’ve shown your love in how they live
And where they move, for mindful women, caring men,
Accept our gratitude again.
2. For all the saints who loved your name,
whose faith increased the Savior’s fame,
who sang your songs and shared your word,
accept our gratitude good Lord..
3. For all the saints who named your will,
and showed the kingdom coming still
Through selfless protest, prayer, and praise,
Accept the gratitude we raise.
- 4 Bless all whose will or name or love
Reflects the grace of heaven above.
Though unclaimed by earthly powers,
your life through theirs has hallowed ours.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

God places before us the ways of life and the ways of death and bids us to choose. As we prepare to give our tithes and offerings this day, let us choose wisely, guided by the Holy Spirit who dwells among us.

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OFFERING PRAYER

Gracious God, who blesses us in our brokenness and rejoices with us in our joy, we bring these gifts as an offering of hope and love. May they be used to heal the hurting, feed the hungry, and welcome the weary. Help us to be a community that reflects your kingdom, where all find acceptance and grace. In Jesus’ 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.



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.”

February 16, 2025

Sixth Sunday After Epiphany



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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

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 6:12-16 (NRSV)

Now during those days he went out to the mountain to pray, and he spent the night in prayer to God. And when day came, he called his disciples and chose twelve of them, whom he also named apostles: Simon, whom he named Peter, and his brother Andrew, and James, and John, and Philip, and Bartholomew, and Matthew, and Thomas, and James son of Alphaeus, and Simon, who was called the Zealot, and Judas son of James, and Judas Iscariot, who became a traitor.

PRELUDE

“Lead Me, Lord”

DANA MOODY

MESSAGE FOR GROWING CHRISTIANS

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsively)

Lay Reader: When we turn our hearts away from God and toward ourselves, putting trust in our own strength,

People: we become like a shrub in the desert, living in a parched, salty place.

When we trust in God, when our trust is God, we are like a tree planted by water.

Our roots go deep, we are ever-green; even in a drought we are not anxious, but bear fruit, full and beautiful, gifts of the God who made us.

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HYMN**“Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven”**

#66

1. Praise my soul, the King of heaven, to the throne thy tribute bring;
ransomed, healed, restored, for given,
evermore God’s praises sing.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the everlasting King.
2. Praise the Lord for grace and favor to all people in distress;
praise God, still the same as ever, slow to chide, and swift to bless.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Glorious now God’s faithfulness.
3. Father-like, God tends and spares us; well for feeble frame God knows;
mother-like, God gently bears us, rescues us from all our foes,
Alleluia! Alleluia! Widely yet God’s mercy flows.
4. Angels in the heights, adoring, you behold God face to face;
saints triumphant, now adoring, gathered in from every race.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise with us the God of Grace.

SENDING FORTH

Beloved, go today in the blessing of Christ, who calls you, equips you, and accompanies you as you live out God’s justice and joy wherever you go! Amen.

Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, August 2024.

GOING FROM VILLAGE TO VILLAGE**POSTLUDE****“St. Petersburg Hymn”****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 flowers on the altar today are presented to the glory of God.
The Food Basket on the altar is presented to the glory of God.*

**PARTNERS IN MINISTRY TODAY****Members of the Church****Nursery Care Providers: Lisa & Brooks Ryno****Prayer Partner: Brenda Swoope****Lay Reader – Debbie Rippard****Audio–Visual Operator – Julian Baker****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**