

religious leaders and betrayed by one of his own. He was lied about, tortured, and hung on a cross to die.

Yet, even on the day of his crucifixion, Jesus continued to teach those who would listen. When evil people came with his betrayer, Jesus did not respond with violence, choosing instead to remind us that those who live by the sword will die by the sword. When he was falsely accused and condemned to death, Jesus refused to do harm. And while hanging on the cross, he prayed: "Father forgive them, for they know not what they do."

But we give you thanks that nothing ever was, or ever will be, able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Early on the morning of the third day Jesus laughed at death, shed his grave clothes, and walked among us alive! Forty days later, he ascended into heaven, where he is seated at the right hand of the God of our ancestors. Our eyes are turned toward the skies looking for the day when Jesus shall return to a kingdom without end, where the lion will lie down peaceably with the lamb, where sickness and disease are not known where the wicked will cease from troubling and we will study war no more!

**All (Sung):** Soon and very soon, we are going to see the King; soon and very soon, we are going to see the King; soon and very soon, we are going to see the King. Hallelujah! Hallelujah! We're going to see the King.

**Pastor:** On the night that Jesus was betrayed, He shared a meal with his disciples. He took bread from the table, gave thanks to God, and gave it to his disciples saying: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the meal was over he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to his disciples saying: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

Today, Jesus, we remember the bread and the cup. Today, we remember your life and your death. We remember your resurrection; we remember eternal life. As we receive these gifts in praise and thanksgiving we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

**People:** Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again!

**Pastor:** Holy God, pour out your Spirit upon these gifts of bread and wine; make them be for us the body and blood of Christ. Wonder-working God, pour out your Spirit upon us; as we offer ourselves to be God's presence in the world until Jesus returns in glory.



## 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."

Website: [www.oakletteumc.org](http://www.oakletteumc.org)

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**May 7, 2023 ~ 11:00 A.M.**

**Fifth 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.

**PRELUDE**

**"Meditation"**

**- Dana Moody**

**THE MORNING WELCOME**

**- Dr. Tim Hazlett**

**CENTERING PRAYER (responsively)**

**Pastor:** Come, people of God! Take refuge in the Lord, who listens when we cry out, who rescues us when we call, and who leads and guides us according to his unfailing love.

**People:** You are our God; our lives are in your hands.

**Pastor:** Let's worship God together!

**†OPENING HYMN**

**"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"**

**#103**

1. Immortal, invisible, God only wise,  
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,  
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,  
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.
2. Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,  
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;  
thy justice like mountains high soaring above  
thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.
3. To all, life thou givest, to both great and small;  
in all life thou livest, the true life of all;  
we blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,  
and wither and perish but naught changeth thee.

4. Thou reignest in glory; thou dwellest in light;  
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;  
all laud we would render, O help us to see  
'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee.

**THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION: THE GIFT OF TIME (in unison)**

**O God, you are slow to anger and swift to have mercy; forgive us when we treat time as a commodity or an enemy, when we abuse your gift of time.**

**In our fastness and our slowness, help us to keep pace with you.**

**Free us to live in your time, a new time, in which there is a time for everything under heaven, and slow is not too slow, and fast is not too fast.**

**Transform us into people who see time as a gift and a friend, who live as if we have time, because we know that your time will never cease. Through Jesus we pray the prayer he taught his disciples 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.**

**ANTHEM "Come Lord Jesus Be Among Us" - Chancel Choir**

**SCRIPTURE READING - PSALM 31, v1-16 (NRSV)**

<sup>1</sup>In you, LORD, I have taken refuge; let me never be put to shame; deliver me in your righteousness. <sup>2</sup>Turn your ear to me, come quickly to my rescue; be my rock of refuge, a strong fortress to save me. <sup>3</sup>Since you are my rock and my fortress, for the sake of your name lead and guide me. <sup>4</sup>Keep me free from the trap that is set for me, for you are my refuge. <sup>5</sup>Into your hands I commit my spirit; deliver me, LORD, my faithful God.

<sup>6</sup>I hate those who cling to worthless idols; as for me, I trust in the LORD. <sup>7</sup>I will be glad and rejoice in your love, for you saw my affliction and knew the anguish of my soul. <sup>8</sup>You have not given me into the hands of the enemy but have set my feet in a spacious place.

<sup>9</sup>Be merciful to me, LORD, for I am in distress; my eyes grow weak with sorrow, my soul and body with grief. <sup>10</sup>My life is consumed by anguish and my years by groaning; my strength fails because of my affliction, and my bones grow weak.

<sup>11</sup>Because of all my enemies, I am the utter contempt of my neighbors and an object of dread to my closest friends—those who see me on the street flee from me.

<sup>12</sup>I am forgotten as though I were dead; I have become like broken pottery. <sup>13</sup>For I hear many whispering, "Terror on every side!" They conspire against me and plot to take my life.

<sup>14</sup>But I trust in you, LORD; I say, "You are my God." <sup>15</sup>My times are in your hands; deliver me from the hands of my enemies, from those who pursue me. <sup>16</sup>Let your face shine on your servant; save me in your unfailing love.

**THE SUNG RESPONSE TO THE SCRIPTURE READING "In His Time"**

In his time, in his time; he makes all things beautiful in his time.  
Lord, please show me every day as you're teaching me your way,  
that you do what just you say in your time.

**SERMON "Whose Time Is It Anyway?" - Dr. Tim Hazlett**

**†COMMUNION HYMN "Bread of the World" #624**

**1. Bread of the world in mercy broken, wine of the soul in mercy shed,  
by whom the words of life were spoken, and in whose death our sins are dead:**

**2. Look on the heart by sorrow broken, look on the tears by sinners shed;  
and by thy feast to us the token that by thy grace our souls are fed.**

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING FOR EASTERTIDE**

Pastor: *Lift up your heads*

People: **We lift them up to God**

Pastor: *Lift up your hearts*

People: **We lift them up to the Lord**

Pastor: *Lift up your hands*

People: **We dedicate our heads, our hearts, and our hands to the worship of God.**

Pastor: *We offer our entire being to the God of Creation, who made the sun and the moon to govern by day and by night and hung the stars in the sky. We offer our entire being to the great God who hollowed out the valleys and bulged up the mountains, who spat out the seven seas, and populated the world with glorious creatures. Blessed be the name of the Lord who created us and fashioned us from the dust and breathed into us the breath of life.*

All (Sung): **Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name. He has done great things, he has done great things, he has done great things: bless his holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name.**

Pastor: *Blessed be the name of the Lord Jesus Christ who came to us in spite of our destructive ways. He healed the sick, raised the dead and cast out demons. In the brief time that he was with us, Jesus sided with the oppressed, had compassion for those who suffer, and gave dignity to women and children. He taught us in word and deed about a God we had been unable to understand.*

*In spite of his glory-revealing presence among us, we turned him into a man of sorrows, acquainted with grief. Jesus was persecuted by certain*

**All (Sung): Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and never be hungry.  
Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in me and you will not thirst.**

**CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**

*(As the organ music begins you are invited to come forward to receive the elements. Those desiring to commit themselves to the way of discipleship may kneel at the rail for prayer after they have received communion. Baskets have been placed in the front to receive your CAP offering.)*

† **CLOSING PRAYER (responsively)**

**Lay Reader:** Let us know the Lord gives strength to all who trust and gives us courage even to be fearless.

**People:** Let us know the Lord gives us faith even in our doubting and gives us peace at all times.

**Lay Reader:** Let us know the Lord is our stronghold today and always, and may we go forth in hope with joy.

**People:** May our Lord's many blessings fill us now and always. Amen.

† **CHORAL BENEDICTION**

**“Amen”**

**- Chancel Choir**

† **POSTLUDE**

**“Through Christ”**

**- 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 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 Mildred Walling in memory of her parents, Mildred and Roy Guthrie.*

*The Food Basket on the altar is presented to the glory of God by Barbara and Jack Buchanan in honor of our daughter, Phyllis B. Wolfe, for her birthday. And I'm very thankful for another birthday on May 1<sup>st</sup>.*

**PARTNERS IN MINISTRY TODAY**

**Members of the Church**

**Nursery Care Providers: Barbara Bennett & Randy Story**

**Lay Reader: Debbie Rippard**

**Organist/Director of Music: Dana Moody**

**Prayer Partner: Brenda Swoope**

**Audio-Visual Operator: Rob 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**