

# OAK HILL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

February 17, 2019

6<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

10:30 a.m.

## TIME OF QUIET PREPARATION

*As you arrive in the sanctuary, please quiet and prepare yourself for worship. Relax your body; quiet the inner dialogue of your mind; be open and receptive to God's Spirit in our midst.*

\*those who are comfortable, please stand

## GATHERING

### PRELUDE

*Bow Down Low*

Shaker Hymn

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: God of the mountaintops,

**Many: And God of level places,**

One: God of all times and spaces,

**Many: And God of right here and right now,**

One: Notice your people.

**Many: Come, and be with us.**

One: Listen to our worries.

**Many: Come, and be with us.**

One: Hold our hurts.

**Many: Come, and be with us.**

One: Inspire our questioning.

**Many: Come, and be with us.**

One: Embrace our wonderings.

**Many: Come, and be with us.**

One: Know us and love us.

**Many: Come, and be with us.**

One: Lord, we've come to be with you.

**Many: Lord, we've come to worship you.**

One: Lord, come and be with us.

**Many: Let us worship our God.**

### \*OPENING HYMN

*Blessed Jesus, at Your Word*

No. 395

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Unison: Merciful God, your call to discipleship is demanding. You call us to reorder our lives by the kingdom you are bringing in Jesus Christ. Yet we still pass by the ones you especially notice: people who are poor and hungry; people**

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION (cont'd)

**who weep. We have not stood with those who are hated, bullied, and excluded. Comfortable with the way things are, we are too complacent, even complicit, with injustice and prejudice. Forgive us, O God, and turn us back to your gospel. We pray this now, for our sake, and for the sake of your world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Silent Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

### RESPONSE OF PRAISE *(Cantor sings responses through first, followed by the congregation)*

"God is so good; God is so good.

God is so good; God's so good to me." (repeat)

### \*SHARING THE PEACE

(Share the peace of Christ as you feel led, with a wave, a smile, a kind word, or a handshake.)

## THE WORD

### TIME FOR GROWING DISCIPLES

(At the conclusion of the Time for Growing Disciples, children ages birth to 3<sup>rd</sup> grade may stay in worship or go to the nursery.)

### ANTHEM

*Blessed Are the Poor in Spirit*

Gillette

Chancel Choir

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

### FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 1:46-55

(see insert)

### SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 4:16-21

(see insert)

### THIRD SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 6:17-26

(see insert)

### SERMON

The Rev. Erin Counihan

### MEDITATION IN MUSIC



## **WORSHIP NOTES:**

### **Lectionary Year C:**

Here at Oak Hill we follow the Revised Common Lectionary, an ecumenical set of readings for congregational and personal study which fall in a three year cycle (Years A, B, and C). This year we are in Year C, in which the Gospel texts focus on Luke's Gospel.

### **But What's With Three Gospel Readings Today?**

The Revised Common Lectionary assigns four readings each week (with some exceptions, based around special church holidays), usually one from the Old Testament, a Psalm, one from the New Testament, and a Gospel reading.

But we are not bound to follow the Revised Common Lectionary. It is a wonderful tool for cycling through the liturgical year, for learning the breadth of scripture, for exploring the seasons of the church and their stories. But sometimes churches choose to do "sermon series" and pick texts based on a theme. There's recently been crafted another lectionary, the Narrative Lectionary, which follows an entirely different pattern and format. The Presbyterian Church's Book of Order leaves final worship decisions up to the pastor's discretion.

Today, Pastor Erin has selected three readings from Luke, to focus on the themes in the Gospel of Luke that we'll be exploring throughout Year C. One of those readings is the assigned Revised Common Lectionary Gospel reading for this morning.

For more information about the Revised Common Lectionary, visit the Vanderbilt University Lectionary website: [lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu/](http://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu/). You can read more about the Narrative Lectionary at: [www.luthersem.edu/lifelong\\_learning/narrative\\_lectionary.aspx](http://www.luthersem.edu/lifelong_learning/narrative_lectionary.aspx)

**Prayer of Confession:** Today's Prayer of Confession comes from *Feasting on the Word, Worship Companion*, Year C Vol. 1, pg 73.

**Affirmation of Faith:** Today's Affirmation is a selection from *A Brief Statement of Faith*, one of the 12 statements of faith that make up book one of the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (USA), the Book of Confessions. It was written upon the Reunification of the Presbyterian Church in 1983, when the northern and southern Presbyterian churches became one denomination again. You can find more information about *A Brief Statement of Faith* and read the entire statement at [www.presbyterianmission.org/what-we-believe/brief-statement-of-faith/](http://www.presbyterianmission.org/what-we-believe/brief-statement-of-faith/) or in one of the many copies of the Book of Confessions in our church library, or in the pile of them downstairs where the Adult Sunday School class meets, in the Theleos Room.

## **Oak Hill Presbyterian Church**

Rev. Erin Counihan, Pastor

Rev. Dr. Alan Meyers, Parish Associate

Mrs. Susan Brown, Minister of Music

Ms. Annie Girresch, Director, AMEN St. Louis

Ms. Carole Adams, Secretary

Bulletin Deadline: Wednesday, 12:00 noon in writing.

### **ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK**

February 17, 2019

Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Choir Rehearsal
	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School for All Ages
	10:30 a.m.	Service of Worship
	Following Worship	Time of Fellowship (and snacks)
Monday	7:45 – 8:00 a.m.	Prayer Pause
		<b>OAK HILL NEWS DEADLINE</b>
Wednesday	10:00 a..	La Leche League in the Nursery
	11:00 a.m.	Bible Study in the Faith and Fellowship Room
	6:30 p.m.	Tower Grove South Neighborhood Association Meeting in the Large Assembly Room
Thursday	7:00 p.m.	Bible Study in the Theleos Room

We welcome you to worship at Oak Hill. We greet everyone in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and celebrate the gift of God's incarnate love through our worship and service.

We hope you will stay and join us for a time of fellowship after worship today. We'll gather downstairs for a potluck lunch. All are welcome.

For more information about what's happening at Oak Hill, don't forget to check out our website at [www.oakhillpcusa.org](http://www.oakhillpcusa.org).

Today's Liturgist is **Matt Hanify**. Greeters are **Avery Smith and Josh Smith**. Ushers are **Donna Cook, Brian Heuckroth, Scott Stanford, and Lisa Thompson**. Nursery Caregivers are **Christine and Will Woodward**. **The Worship and Christian Education Committee** is hosting the time of fellowship in February.

As a church family, we shall be praying this morning and all week for the following members and friends. You may wish to contact them to indicate your interest and ask if they have any special prayer concerns.

Ann and Branson Lawrence Jr.  
Maureen and Ricardo Johanning  
Matt Ream,

If you have a specific prayer request to share with the congregation, please fill out the yellow prayer request form in the pew and place it in the offering plate. For prayers and congregational support during the week, call Pastor Erin or the church office.

**OAK HILL NEWS DEADLINE** – Articles for the March issue of the Oak Hill News are due, in writing, by Monday, February 18.

### **OUR OWN LENTEN DEVOTIONAL**

Be a part of writing our own Oak Hill Lenten Devotional. In the back of the sanctuary there is a collection of Lenten Devotional Prompts. Pick one up, read through it, think and dream and ponder a little. Then write, draw, photograph, or paint your reflection. Send it to Pastor Erin by February 21 to be included in this year's Lent Devotionals. If you have questions, please see Pastor Erin. **Pastor Erin will be available after worship today in the Large Assembly Room to lend an ear and offer any help to anyone working on their Devotional Reflection!**

### **Inquirers Lunch 2/24**

If you are interested in exploring membership here at Oak Hill Presbyterian Church, please join us for lunch after worship on Sunday, February 24. Pastor Erin will join us for a conversation about what it means to be Presbyterian and what it is to be a member here at Oak Hill. Some current members will be available to give you their perspective. All are invited to come, chat, listen, and explore. Please let Josh Smith know if you are thinking about coming and if you have any dietary restrictions for lunch.

### **Save the Date: SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER**

The Annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper to benefit Isaiah 58 Ministries will be held on Tuesday, March 5, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. here at Oak Hill! We hope to see you there!

## **AROUND THE PRESBYTERY**

**UKirk's Open House & Dessert Auction** – You are invited to join them for dinner, worship, a fundraiser silent auction (homemade desserts!), and connection with their collegiate faith community! Sunday, March 31, from 7 to 9 p.m. at Trinity Presbyterian Church, 6800 Washington Avenue, St. Louis, MO. RSVP to ukirk\_stl@glpby.org by March 22.

**GUNS IN MY BACKYARD? Neighbors Share Their Stories.** A discussion hosted by Webster Groves Presbyterian Church, 45 West Lockwood, 63119, on Sunday, March 3, from 4 to 6 p.m. You are invited for a viewing of the locally-produced documentary: "No More Thoughts and Prayers," introduced by filmmaker Angela Lamb. This will be followed by individuals from our community sharing their experiences with gun violence and ideas for action. Come learn how gun violence affects all of us and how you can help make a difference in this public health issue. Childcare provided for children 3 and younger.

### **Scholarship Support Available**

The Presbytery's Dismantling Racism and Privilege Team is offering scholarship support for attendance at the White Privilege Conference to be held in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, from Wednesday, March 20, to Saturday, March 23, 2019. For the past 20 years the White Privilege Conference has examined challenging concepts of privilege and oppression and offers solution and team building strategies to work towards a more equitable world. More information about the conference may be found at <http://www.whiteprivilegeconference.com>.

If you are interested in applying for the scholarship support, please contact Vanessa Hawkins at [vhawkins@glpby.org](mailto:vhawkins@glpby.org).

### **Brian Owens Duo to Perform: Today at 4 p.m.**

The Brian Owens Duo explores songs of love and hope. This concert features Brian's own compositions as well as music by African American artists and takes place today at 4:00 p.m. at Second Presbyterian Church. The church is located at 4501 Westminster Place in the Central West End, St. Louis, 63108. The concert is part of the Cousts Music Series and is free to the community. For more information call 314-367-0367 or [www.secondchurch.net](http://www.secondchurch.net).

**FIRST SCRIPTURE READING**

Luke 1:46-55

<sup>46</sup>And Mary said, “My soul magnifies the Lord, <sup>47</sup>and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, <sup>48</sup>for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; <sup>49</sup>for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. <sup>50</sup>His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. <sup>51</sup>He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. <sup>52</sup>He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; <sup>53</sup>he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. <sup>54</sup>He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, <sup>55</sup>according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever.”

*Leader: This is the Word of the LORD;*

*People: thanks be to God!*



**SECOND SCRIPTURE READING**

Luke 4:16-21

<sup>16</sup>When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, <sup>17</sup>and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: <sup>18</sup>“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, <sup>19</sup>to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.” <sup>20</sup>And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. <sup>21</sup>Then he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.” *Leader:*

*This is the Word of the LORD;*

*People: thanks be to God!*



**THIRD SCRIPTURE READING**

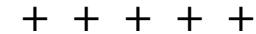
Luke 6:17-26

<sup>17</sup>He came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. <sup>18</sup>They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. <sup>19</sup>And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

<sup>20</sup>Then he looked up at his disciples and said: “Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. <sup>21</sup>“Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. “Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh. <sup>22</sup>“Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. <sup>23</sup>Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets. <sup>24</sup>“But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. <sup>25</sup>“Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry. “Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep. <sup>26</sup>“Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.

*Leader: This is the Word of the LORD;*

*People: thanks be to God!*



**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (unison)** A selection from *A Brief Statement of Faith*

**In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.**

**We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world.**

**God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.**

**With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.**