

# OAK HILL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

March 31, 2019

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent

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

*Healing Grace*

Sadler

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: It is an incredible thing we do, showing up, singing out, praying loudly, all the time wondering- does anyone hear?

Many: **It is an incredible thing we do, gathering together, reading these stories passed down to us, searching for truth that still calls for us now.**

One: By human standards, this incredible thing we do, this thing called church, might seem kind of silly, even.

Many: **But in Christ, we are told, there is a new creation. All is new. We are new. Even the church can be new!**

One: It is an incredible thing, God becoming human to connect with us, to reconcile us, to reorient us.

Many: **It is an incredible thing, God creating us, calling us together, to become ambassadors for Christ and Christ's message of love.**

One: Oh, you wild, wonderful, incredible God, we're here to try.

Many: **Oh, you wild, wonderful, incredible God, be with us as we seek you.**

One: Come, friends, let us worship the Lord.

\*OPENING HYMN

*God of Grace and God of Glory*

No.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Unison: Gracious God, we love you. And we trust that you love us. In that love, receive our confession. For we have hurt our neighbors and harmed your creation. Through what we have done and what we have left undone, we've rejected you and this community. In this season of Lent, we try to make space to reflect and name those ways we've drifted from your love, your justice, your**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**peace and your truth. In our words, and in our silence, Lord please hear our confessions, receive our repentance, and forgive all our sin. AMEN.**

Silent Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

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

“As we gather in this place, we have come to seek your face.

May our lives reflect Your grace, as we gather in this place.” (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

*For Love Shall Be Our Song*

Wagner

Chancel Choir

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 32

(see insert)

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

(see insert)

SERMON

The Rev. Erin Counihan

MEDITATION IN MUSIC

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (unison)

The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

*(continued on next page)*

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (cont'd)**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**\*HYMN** *Amazing Grace* No. 649

**OFFERING OUR GIFTS**

*(Please sign the Friendship Register found at the end of the pew. Complete information, including your email, and pass pad along to those worshipping with you. )*

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

**Offertory** *Lamb of God* Paris

**\*Doxology** *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* No. 607

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all people here below; praise Holy Spirit evermore; praise Triune God whom we adore. Amen.*

**CONGREGATIONAL JOYS AND CONCERNS AND PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER (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 debts, as we forgive our debtors, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

**LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY**

*(Not merely announcements, but the activities of our life together that reflect our day-to-day responses to God's call for faithfulness, and your invitation to join in!)*

**SENDING**

**\*CLOSING HYMN** *O Love That Will Not Let Me Go* (see insert)

**\*BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE** *Our God Reigns* Smith

*Oak Hill Presbyterian Church*



**Sunday, March 31, 2019**

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**Oak Hill Presbyterian Church**

4111 Connecticut • St. Louis, MO 63116 • (314) 664-5525

office@oakhillpcusa.org (office)

www.oakhillpcusa.org



**Holy Week and Easter at Oak Hill**

<b>Holy Week Prep</b>	<b>Saturday 4/13</b> 9:00 a.m.	Make Palm Crosses, Pack Easter Eggs, Crafts for Stations of the Cross, Prep for Pancake Breakfast
<b>Palm Sunday</b> - Pancake Breakfast to support the Mission Trip - Palms to Passion Worship Service	<b>Sunday 4/14</b> 9:00-10:00 a.m.  10:30 a.m.	Breakfast and a special worship experience!
<b>Maundy Thursday</b>	<b>Thursday 4/18</b> 7:00 p.m.	Ecumenical Worship with Compton Heights Christian Church, here at Oak Hill.
<b>Good Friday</b>	<b>Friday 4/19</b> 3:00-7:00 p.m.	Stations of the Cross, self-guided prayer stations open from 3pm to 7pm, Pastor Erin will lead a special group walk-through at 5pm, here at Oak Hill.
<b>Holy Saturday</b> - Easter Egg Hunt in Tower Grove Park - Easter Vigil in the Sanctuary	<b>Saturday 4/20</b> 10:00 a.m.  2:00-10:00 pm	An Egg Hunt for the kids in the morning, and space later in the day for individuals to reflect, pray, and hold vigil.
<b>Easter Sunday</b> - Sunrise Worship - Sanctuary Worship	<b>Sunday 4/21</b> 6:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	All are invited to Easter worship at Oak Hill. Communion will be served at both services.

**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.

<b>ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK</b>		
March 31, 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
Tuesday	9 <sup>45</sup> – 11 <sup>45</sup> a.m.	MOMS Club of St. Louis in the Nursery
	6:30 - 8:30 p.m.	Foosball & Snacks @ the S.L.S. Building, 3227 Morgan Ford
Wednesday	11:00 a.m.	Bible Study Class in the Faith and Fellowship Room
	5:00 p.m.	Worship and Christian Education Committee in the Faith and Fellowship Room
	6:30 p.m.	Evangelism and Membership Committee in the Faith and Fellowship
	7:30 p.m.	Touchy Topics Book and Discussion Group at Hartford Coffee
Thursday	10:00 a.m.	Circle 3 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 coffee and snacks!

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 **Valery Welch**. Greeters are **Jeff Dahl and Adelaide Bay-Hanify**. Ushers are **Wendy Barrow, Joe Bradshaw, Sarah Gibson, and Bob Ream**. Nursery Caregivers are **Lisa Thompson and Karen Zigler**. **The Stewardship and Property Committee** is hosting the time of fellowship in March.

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.

Peggy and Wendy Barrow  
Alex Carter and Family  
Karen and Bill Reeves

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.

**Foosball is Tuesday, April 2, at 6:30 p.m.** It's a fun night of community with our neighborhood kids. Please join us for pizza, snacks and fun! It's at the Great American Human Foosball, located at 3227 Morgan Ford Road. Please contact Dena Roper with any questions.

**The Touchy Topics Book and Discussion Group will be discussing "The Sellout" by Paul Beaty on Wednesday, April 3, at 7:30 p.m. at Hartford Coffee.** All are welcome to join the conversation!

**Circle 3 will meet on Thursday, April 4, in the Theleos Room at 10 a.m.** Bring a sandwich -- salad, chips and dessert will be provided. In May, Mary Pollock from Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services will come to our meeting to tell us about the work they do and to receive a donation of stuffed bears made by the Circle. If you would like to join us to hear her speak and are able to join us for lunch in May, please let Jan Stanford or Carole Adams know you are planning to come.

**The April fellowship luncheon will be next Sunday, April 7.** The Mission Committee will provide some casseroles, but will need sides and desserts. A free will offering basket will be available. All funds raised will go toward the mission trip for renting vans and gas money. Please contact Dena Roper with any questions.

### **The UKIRK St. Louis Open House and Fundraiser is TONIGHT!**

Join us at from 7-9pm at Trinity Presbyterian Church (UCity) to learn more about Presbyterian campus ministry in the St. Louis area, to meet some of the students involved in this ministry, and to raise a little money for the program.

**Individually wrapped candies that will fit in plastic Easter eggs are needed for Oak Hill's annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 20.** Please place your donations in the boxes in the Large Assembly Room or in the church office by April 12. We appreciate your help!



### **WE'RE HIRING!**

**Seasonal, Part-Time Site Manager – AMEN|St. Louis**, a ministry of Oak Hill Presbyterian Church. We provide mission experiences, retreats summer camps and housing for church groups, youth groups, college groups, activists, and others seeking to serve in the city. Each summer, we hire a site manager to welcome, orient, and assist the visiting teams and camps. We are looking for someone with energy and organizational skills, who loves working with people (especially youth), who is detail-oriented and can manage some administrative tasks, and who can make sure visiting groups have what they need. A full job description is available on the AMEN website at [www.amenstlouis.org](http://www.amenstlouis.org) (look under the "blog" section).

## FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

- <sup>1</sup> Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven,  
whose sin is covered.
- <sup>2</sup> Happy are those to whom the LORD imputes no iniquity,  
and in whose spirit there is no deceit.
- <sup>3</sup> While I kept silence, my body wasted away  
through my groaning all day long.
- <sup>4</sup> For day and night your hand was heavy upon me;  
my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.
- <sup>5</sup> Then I acknowledged my sin to you,  
and I did not hide my iniquity;  
I said, 'I will confess my transgressions to the LORD',  
and you forgave the guilt of my sin.
- <sup>6</sup> Therefore let all who are faithful  
offer prayer to you;  
at a time of distress, the rush of mighty waters  
shall not reach them.
- <sup>7</sup> You are a hiding-place for me;  
you preserve me from trouble;  
you surround me with glad cries of deliverance.
- <sup>8</sup> I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go;  
I will counsel you with my eye upon you.
- <sup>9</sup> Do not be like a horse or a mule, without understanding,  
whose temper must be curbed with bit and bridle,  
else it will not stay near you.
- <sup>10</sup> Many are the torments of the wicked,  
but steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the LORD.
- <sup>11</sup> Be glad in the LORD and rejoice, O righteous,  
and shout for joy, all you upright in heart.

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

*People: thanks be to God!*



## Psalm 32

## SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 15:1-3, 11b,-32

<sup>15</sup> Now all the tax-collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. <sup>2</sup> And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, 'This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.' <sup>3</sup> So he told them this parable:

<sup>11</sup> Then Jesus said, 'There was a man who had two sons. <sup>12</sup> The younger of them said to his father, "Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me." So he divided his property between them. <sup>13</sup> A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and travelled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living.

<sup>14</sup> When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. <sup>15</sup> So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. <sup>16</sup> He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. <sup>17</sup> But when he came to himself he said, "How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! <sup>18</sup> I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; <sup>19</sup> I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.' "

<sup>20</sup> So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. <sup>21</sup> Then the son said to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son."

<sup>22</sup> But the father said to his slaves, "Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. <sup>23</sup> And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; <sup>24</sup> for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!" And they began to celebrate.

<sup>25</sup> 'Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. <sup>26</sup> He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. <sup>27</sup> He replied, "Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound." <sup>28</sup> Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. <sup>29</sup> But he answered his father, "Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. <sup>30</sup> But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!" <sup>31</sup> Then the father said to him, "Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. <sup>32</sup> But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found." '

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