



Oak Hills

PRESBYTERIAN

**Christ We Proclaim that We May Present
Everyone Mature in Christ**

SUNDAY WORSHIP
January 21, 2024

Welcome!

We are glad you are with us today. Oak Hills is a church of broken people who have been redeemed, and astonished, by God's abundant and free grace offered in the gospel of Jesus Christ. In everything we do, we aim to unpack the greatness and implications of that gospel. In this gospel we encounter two powerful truths that shape our entire lives and relationship with God: we are more sinful and flawed than we ever dared believe, and we are more accepted and loved than we ever dared hope. Our prayer is that these gospel truths would shape us into a community and fellowship worth joining. May you be satisfied in fresh ways today through the gospel of Jesus Christ.

If you are visiting with us today, we would love the chance to get to know you. Please fill out the tear-off contact card in the back of the bulletin and place it in the offering plate. We trust that you will find Oak Hills to be a warm community of people eager to care for you. Let us know if you have any questions.

A New Year. A New Chapter. The word "new" is important in Scripture. Jeremiah declares that God's mercies are "new" every morning. God speaks of making a "new" covenant with his people. Jesus says his shed blood on the cross is the ratification of this "new" covenant. Through his sacrifice, Jesus has opened a "new and living way" into the presence of God. In Christ we are "new" creations. And God declares at the end of the story, "Behold, I am making all things new."

Changes in the seasons and a new year help remind us that in Christ we have hope of new things. The past, our sin, and our shame do not define us. The grace of God, extended through Christ, brings a new life, new character, new hope, and new identity. So we begin this new year leaning into God's abundant grace, recommitting ourselves to the ordinary means that bring his grace to us.

—Pastor Dale

FOR YOUR REFLECTION

²⁷ These all look to you, to give them their food in due season.

²⁸ When you give it to them, they gather it up;
when you open your hand, they are filled with good things.

²⁹ When you hide your face, they are dismayed;
when you take away their breath, they die
and return to their dust.

³⁰ When you send forth your Spirit, they are created,
and you renew the face of the ground.

Psalm 104:27-30

Exalt God's Astonishing Grace

PRELUDE

AJ Harbison

The Call to Worship
is God's invitation to
us. Biblical worship is
a dialogue with God
where he initiates,
calls, and draws us by
his grace and we
respond in praise,
humility,
thanksgiving, and
faith.

Congregation reads
bold print.

CALL TO WORSHIP

From Psalm 145

We will extol you, our God and King, and bless your name forever
and ever.

Every day we will bless you and praise your name forever and ever.

Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised, and his greatness
is unsearchable.

**The Lord is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

The Lord is good to all, and his mercy is over all that he has made.

All your works shall give thanks to you, O Lord,
and all your saints shall bless you!

**Our mouths will speak the praise of the Lord,
and all flesh will bless his holy name forever and ever.**

We respond to God's
call with prayer,
inviting him to
minister to us.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

God of all glory,
on this first day you began creation,
bringing light out of darkness.

**On this first day you began your new creation,
raising Jesus Christ out of the darkness of death.**

On this Lord's day grant that we,
the people you create by water and the Spirit,
may be joined with all your works
in praising you for your great glory.

**Through Jesus Christ,
in union with the Holy Spirit,
we praise you now and forever. Amen.**

SONGS OF PRAISE

Rejoice In All Your Works (Psalm 104)

Fairest Lord Jesus

(LYRICS ON PAGES 6-7)

REJOICE IN ALL YOUR WORKS (PSALM 104)

WORDS AND MUSIC: WENDELL KIMBROUGH (2014)

Every mouth that cries for food
Every lung that yearns for breath
Every eye that searches through the dark for light
All creation looks to you
For its breath and for its food
From the goodness of your hand we're satisfied

Chorus:

Oh rejoice in all your works
King of heaven, King of earth
Every creature you have made declares your praise
We rejoice in all you've made
God of all-sustaining grace
With the mountains, sky and sea we sing your praise

Every tree that thirsts for rain
Every bird that seeks its nest
Every heart that waits in hope to be made glad
All creation looks to you
For its breath and for its food
From the goodness of your hand we're satisfied

Chorus

May the ponderings of my heart
And the song upon my lips
With the chorus of creation join in praise
To the God who made all things
To the Spirit who sustains
To the Son who over all creation reigns

Chorus

FAIREST LORD JESUS

WORDS: MÜNSTER GESANGBUCH (1677, TR. 1850, 1873); MUSIC: SILESIAN FOLK SONG (19TH CENTURY)

Fairest Lord Jesus, Ruler of all nature,
O thou of God and man the Son!
Thee will I cherish, thee will I honor,
Thou, my soul's glory, joy, and crown.

Fair are the meadows, fairer still the woodlands,
Robed in the blooming garb of spring:
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer,
Who makes the woeful heart to sing.

Fair is the sunshine, fairer still the moonlight,
And all the twinkling, starry host:
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer
Than all the angels heav'n can boast.

Beautiful Savior! Lord of the nations!
Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor, praise, adoration,
Now and forevermore be thine!

Encounter God's Astonishing Grace

Confession is a
normal and essential
part of our
relationship with
God. Humility and
honesty about our sin
is welcome and safe in
the presence of God.
See Psalm 51:17;
Isaiah 57:15; & 1
John 1:9.

CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord our God, King of the universe,
exalted in the heavens, high and lifted up:
We confess that we are often blind to your greatness,
we are often unmoved by your mercy,
and our hearts are hardened against you.
Forgive us our unbelief and sin.
Give us fresh eyes to see Jesus anew,
to stand in awe of your greatness,
to marvel at your mercy,
and to have our hearts changed that we might live for you. Amen.

Silent Confession

SONG OF CONFESSION

God Be Merciful To Me

WORDS: SCOTTISH PSALTER (1912), MUSIC: CHRISTOPHER MINER (1997)

God, be merciful to me;
On thy grace I rest my plea.
Plenteous in compassion thou,
Blot out my transgressions now;
Wash me, make me pure within;
Cleanse, O cleanse me from my sin.

The Good News of
Jesus Christ is that we
are forgiven of our sin
by faith in Christ's
substitution for us on
the cross.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

John 1:1-5

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

Thanks be to God!

SONG OF THANKSGIVING

And Can It Be

(LYRICS ON PAGE 10)

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND SUPPLICATION

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Pastor John

After the Children's
Message, children
ages 4-8 are dismissed
to go to Promiseland,
our children's church
program. If you are
visiting with us, you
are more than
welcome to escort
your child downstairs
to see the classroom
and meet the teacher.

Of course, you are
also welcome to have
your children sit with
you through the
service.

AND CAN IT BE

WORDS: CHARLES WESLEY (1738, ALT. 1990), MUSIC: THOMAS CAMPBELL (1825)

And can it be that I should gain
An interest in the Savior's blood?
Died he for me, who caused his pain?
For me, who him to death pursued?
Amazing love! How can it be
That thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

Chorus:

Amazing love! How can it be
That thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

He left his Father's throne above
(So free, so infinite his grace!),
Humbled himself (so great his love!)
And bled for all his chosen race!
'Tis mercy all, immense and free,
for, O my God, it found out me!

Chorus

Long my imprisoned spirit lay
Fast bound in sin and nature's night;
Thine eye diffused a quick'ning ray;
I woke, the dungeon flamed with light;
My chains fell off, my heart was free;
I rose, went forth, and followed thee.

Chorus

No condemnation now I dread;
Jesus, and all in him, is mine!
Alive in him, my living Head,
And clothed in righteousness divine,
Bold I approach th'eternal throne,
And claim the crown, through Christ, my own.

Chorus

Know God's Astonishing Grace

We believe the
Scriptures are given
by inspiration of
God to be the rule
of faith and life. If
you are able, we
invite you to stand
in honor of God's
Word.

The Spirit makes the
reading and
preaching of God's
Word a powerful
means of nourishing
and comforting
God's people, and
awakening people to
new faith.

SCRIPTURE READING - Genesis 1:1-2

¹ In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.
² The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over
the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over
the face of the waters.

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

MESSAGE - Pastor Dale Thiele

Genesis: Foundations for Life From Emptiness to Habitation

Questions for

Further Study or

Group Discussion:

1. Read Genesis 1:1-
2. How do these two verses relate to each other?
2. The Hebrew words for “without form and void” are used two other times in the Old Testament: Isaiah 34:11 & Jeremiah 4:23. How do these two verses help us understand Genesis 1:2?
3. Read Isaiah 45:18, which uses the same word for “without form.” What is God’s design for creation? What place does humanity have?
4. What questions about creation do you have? Does Genesis 1 answer all the questions that surround creation? Why do you think this is?

Without Form and Void

Deep Waters

God’s Designs

Memory Verse of the Week:

Isaiah 45:18 For thus says the Lord, who created the heavens (he is God!), who formed the earth and made it (he established it; he did not create it empty, he formed it to be inhabited!): “I am the Lord, and there is no other. (ESV)

Experience God's Astonishing Grace

Communion, or the Lord's Supper, is a symbolic meal for Christians. As part of our preparation to receive the bread and the cup, we profess our hope in Christ out loud. We join with Christians throughout history and the world in making such a profession.

In his Last Supper before crucifixion, Jesus commanded his followers to "do this in remembrance of me." The broken bread and the cup represent Christ's broken body and shed blood for the sake of our salvation. By partaking of the bread and cup, you are proclaiming hope in this salvation and, by faith, enjoy fellowship with Christ (see 1 Cor. 10:16). The bread and cup are signs and seals of God's covenant promises to forgive our sin and make us new in Christ.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

The Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds; God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God; begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made.

Who, for us and for our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried; and the third day he rose again, according to the Scriptures; and ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of the Father; and he shall come again, with glory, to judge the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life; who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church*. I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

* "one holy catholic and apostolic Church" refers to the universal church in all places, at all times

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

For Your Gift Of God The Spirit
(LYRICS ON PAGE 14)

SONG OF RESPONSE

Doxology

WORDS: THOMAS KEN (1674), MUSIC: LOUIS BOURGEOIS (1551)

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
Amen

FOR YOUR GIFT OF GOD THE SPIRIT

WORDS: MARGARET CLARKSON (1984), MUSIC (COME THOU FOUNT): JOHN WYETH (1813)

For your gift of God the Spirit, pow'r to make our lives anew,
Pledge of life and hope of glory, Savior, we would worship you.
Crowning gift of resurrection sent from your ascended throne,
Fullness of the very Godhead, come to make your life our own.

He who in creation's dawning brooded on the lifeless deep,
Still across our nature's darkness moves to wake our souls from sleep,
Moves to stir, to draw, to quicken, thrusts us through with sense of sin;
Brings to birth and seals and fills us—saving Advocate within.

He, himself the living Author, wakes to life the sacred Word,
Reads with us its holy pages and reveals our risen Lord.
He it is who works within us, teaching rebel hearts to pray,
He whose holy intercessions rise for us both night and day.

He, the mighty God, indwells us; his to strengthen, help, empow'r;
His to overcome the tempter, ours to call in danger's hour.
In his strength we dare to battle all the raging hosts of sin,
And by him alone we conquer foes without and foes within.

Father, grant your Holy Spirit in our hearts may rule today,
Grieved not, quenched not, but unhindered, work in us his sovereign way.
Fill us with your holy fullness, God the Father, Spirit, Son;
In us, through us, then, forever, shall your perfect will be done.

Go and Make Known God's Astonishing Grace

God has blessed us by
graciously inviting us
to worship and by
reminding us of his
astonishing grace in
Jesus Christ. We end
our service with a
reminder of God's
promises to bless us
throughout our week.

SONG OF DEPARTURE

His Love Can Never Fail

WORDS: E.S. HALL (1897), MUSIC: CHRISTOPHER MINER (2004)

I do not ask to see the way my feet will have to tread;
But only that my soul may feed upon the living Bread.
'Tis better far that I should walk by faith close to his side;
I may not know the way I go, but oh, I know my Guide.

Chorus:

His love can never fail, his love can never fail,
My soul is satisfied to know his love can never fail.
My soul is satisfied to know his love can never fail.

And if my feet would go astray, they cannot, for I know
That Jesus guides my falt'ring steps, as joyfully I go.
And though I may not see his face, my faith is strong and clear,
That in each hour of sore distress my Savior will be near.

Chorus

I will not fear, though darkness come abroad o'er all the land,
If I may only feel the touch of his own loving hand.
And though I tremble when I think how weak I am, and frail,
My soul is satisfied to know his love can never fail.

Chorus

BENEDICTION

All that we have is
from God (James
1:17). Our offerings
are an expression of
worship to God. They
express thanksgiving,
declare dependence
on God, and
demonstrate that
God is more valuable
to us than money.
You can give your
offering by placing it
in the box in the back
of the sanctuary or
give online
at oakhillspca.com.

Ministry Highlights

WELCOME VISITORS!

If you are visiting Oak Hills (in person or virtually) we're glad you are with us! [Use this form to introduce yourself to us](#) or fill out a visitor slip found at the back of the bulletin.

Getting Acquainted with Oak Hills - Today After the Service

This is for anyone interested in learning more about Oak Hills, her history, her distinctives, and her denomination. This also serves as the first step in becoming a member of Oak Hills.

Adult Christian Education Class

Equipping the Saints: Ministry Training 101 - Sundays at 9:30am

Every follower of Christ is a minister. Every Christian has a ministry. According to Ephesians 4:12, the church is to equip the saints for the work of ministry. This class covers the foundations for being an effective minister in the church. Join us next week! Taught by Pastor Dale.

2024 Summer Mission Trip Informational Meeting - January 28 after Service

Oak Hills has the privilege to send a team to Warm Springs, OR, July 13-20. We'll work alongside Sacred Road Ministries on the Native American Reservation. If you have interest in or questions about, please let [Pastor John](#) know and plan to come to this informational meeting.

Annual Congregational Meeting - Sunday, February 4, Noon

Plan to join us as we celebrate God's faithfulness to Oak Hills and look ahead to what God has in store for us in the new year. The elders will touch on ministry needs, building updates, and the new budget.

FOR THE MEN

Men's Friday Morning Bible Study - Fridays, 6:30am at [Panera](#) (Contact is [Roy Heinbach](#))

FOR THE WOMEN

Bible Study - Next meets January 24 & 25 (Reach out to [Lindsey Layzell](#) for more information.)

FOR THE YOUTH

[Kid360 is for students in grades 1st-5th. OH, Youth! is for students in grades 6th-12th.]

Kid360 Fun Night - Wednesday, January 24 @ 6:30-7:30pm at Church

OH, Youth! - Wednesday, January 24 @ 6:30-8pm at Church

Join Us in Longing to Know and Make Known the Astonishing Grace of God

THE VISION OF OAK HILLS

"...that they may be called oaks of righteousness,
the planting of the Lord, that he may be glorified."

Isaiah 61:3

Be a part of what God is doing at Oak Hills. He calls us "oaks," which means we are...

ROOTED IN THE GOSPEL

Sunday Mornings – The ordinary means of grace, the Word and Sacrament, in the context of weekly worship feeds us in God's grace.

Study the Bible with Others – Whether it is a men's or women's or age-specific study, or one of our Adult Christian Education classes, studying God's Word with brothers and sisters sharpens our understanding of the gospel.

GROWING IN COMMUNITY

Church Gatherings – God saves us into a community, his church. Know and be known in our community by coming to one of our regular gatherings.

Life Groups – Go deeper in knowing and being known by joining a Life Group for regular fellowship and prayer. Contact Pastor Dale (dalethiele@oakhillspca.com) for more info.

Membership – Members commit to be faithful contributors to the mission and vision of Oak Hills. The *Getting Acquainted Luncheon* is the first step toward membership (offered periodically). Contact Pastor Dale (dalethiele@oakhillspca.com) for more info.

BLESSED TO BE A BLESSING

Serve the Church – The church builds itself up when each part is serving and contributing. Look for ways to serve, whether volunteering with children's ministry, joining the worship team or serving in some other way.

Serve Your Community – You are an ambassador for Christ wherever you live or study or work. How can you love others well, meet needs, and share the gospel?

Communication is important for any relationship. We send weekly emails and periodic text message announcements. Contact Gerie Owens (gerieowens@oakhillspca.com) to sign up.

Getting to Know the Shorter Catechism

The Westminster Shorter Catechism is a useful tool for the church. It summarizes essential truths taught in Scripture. Let these brief summaries assist you to delight in God's works and study them more closely. Find other summaries at oakhillspca.com/wsc.

Q. 105. *What do we pray for in the fifth petition?*

A. In the fifth petition, which is, *And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors*, we pray that God, for Christ's sake, would freely pardon all our sins; which we are the rather encouraged to ask, because by his grace we are enabled from the heart to forgive others.

Jesus teaches his disciples that it is good and necessary to ask for forgiveness of sins on a regular basis. Scripture gives us at least three reasons why it is good and necessary to make confession of sins.

1. Confession of sins is the only means to seek and find forgiveness based on Christ's mercy.

1 John 1:7 tells us that "the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin." How do we lay hold of that cleansing blood? John continues to explain in verse 9, "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." Christ died for our sins. There is redemption and reconciliation through his shed blood. But the benefits of the death of Christ are enjoyed only through the expression of faith in Christ that confession of sin espouses.

2. Confession of sins is the only means to enjoy fellowship and intimacy with God. "God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble" (James 4:6). This posture of humility before God is essential because we have no right to stand before a holy and just God. In his graciousness, God promises to dwell "with him who is of a contrite and lowly spirit" (Is. 57:15). And Jesus promises, "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven" (Matt. 5:3). Confession takes humility. It admits our weakness and inability to do what God calls us to do. God is ready to extend grace to the one who humbles himself in confession.

3. Honest confession of sins naturally springs from a heart transformed by grace. This is how the Catechism interprets the logic of Jesus' statement, "forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors." Do we ask for forgiveness ***because*** we are forgiving of others? That would make the forgiveness we receive conditioned on our performance of forgiving others. That is not the gospel or the message of Scripture. Rather, we have confidence to confess our sins before a holy and just God because we have seen evidence in our lives and hearts that he has already rescued us and transformed us by his grace. God's saving work through Christ in our lives enables us to be forgiving of others.

CONTACT US

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Ministers: The Congregation
Pastor: Rev. Dale Thiele (dalethiele@oakhillspca.com)
Assistant Pastor: Rev. John Lee (johnlee@oakhillspca.com)
Director of Worship Music: AJ Harbison
Administrative Assistant: Gerie Owens

Elders: Michael Buckley, Bill Burns, Roy Heinbach, Alex Keimach, Tony Layzell, Matt Stagemeyer, Dale Thiele, Bret Willoughby

Deacons: Joel Call, Jason Mauk, Jeremy Muehlbauer, Brandon Schwabauer, Bryan Wagner, Mason Welsh

Care Team: Kristi Fender, Roberta Harbison, John Lee, Pamela Morriss, Dale Thiele, Kim Wagner, Bret & Nancy Willoughby (careteam@oakhillspca.com)

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Financial Update	General Fund Offerings	Actual Expenses	Budgeted Expenses	Building Fund
Aug 2023	\$18,329	\$22,992	\$25,521	\$208
Aug YTD 2023	\$155,408	\$195,305	\$204,168	\$9,222

YOU'RE UP!

See if you are on an Oak Hills Crew next Sunday.

January 28, 2024

Deacon of the Week: Jason Mauk

Greeters: Roy Heinbach, Greg Thull

Nursery: Pamela Morriss, Cole/Olivia Welhoff

Prayer: John Lee

Promiseland: Matt Braun, Noel Heinbach

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please write your prayer requests in the space below.

I/We would like:

- ☐ to talk to a pastor about becoming a Christian
- ☐ to join Oak Hills
- ☐ info on Sunday School
- ☐ info on Children’s Ministries
- ☐ a call from the pastor
(Best time: _____)
- ☐ info on Discovering Oak Hills Seminar
- ☐ info on Life Groups
- ☐ info on Student Ministries
- ☐ info on Men’s Ministries
- ☐ info on Women’s Ministries
- ☐ other: _____
- ☐ Check if you do not want to receive emails from Oak Hills

Thanks for Visiting Us Today!
We are glad you're here! Please take a moment to fill out this card and help us to know and serve you better. Just drop it in the offering basket.

Name(s):

Address:

Phone(s):

Email(s):

Children (Name/Age/Grade):

How did you learn of us?

Please check all that apply:

- ☐ Youth
- ☐ 18-21
- ☐ 20-29
- ☐ 30-39
- ☐ 40-49
- ☐ 50+
- ☐ First time guest
- ☐ Repeat guest
- ☐ Regular attender
- ☐ Member

THIS WEEK AT OAK HILLS
January 22-28

Monday, January 22
No Meetings

Tuesday, January 23
Session Meeting @ 7:30pm, Location TBD

Wednesday, January 24
Women's Bible Study @ 9:30am at Church
Kid360 Fun Night @ 6:30-7:30pm at Church
OH, Youth! @ 6:30-8pm at Church

Thursday, January 25
Women's Bible Study @ 7:30pm at Eleanor Call's

Friday, January 26
No Meetings

Saturday, January 27
No Meetings

Sunday, January 28
Sunday School for All Ages @ 9:30am
Sunday Morning Worship @ 10:30am; Genesis:
Foundations for Life, *Creation Done Decently and In Order*, Genesis 1:1-25, Pastor Dale Preaching (In-Person and Live Stream), The Lord's Supper Served

