

The Oaks Community Church  
Worship Guide



August 17, 2025

I. A Call to Worship

Come, let us sing for joy to the LORD; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation. Let us come before Him with thanksgiving and extol Him with music and song.

Psalm 95:1, 2(NIV)

II. Family Confession & Greeting

At The Oaks we believe in the distinct personhood and unique ministry of the 3rd person of The Holy Trinity - The Holy Spirit. We confess together He is:

**The Spirit of Prayer**

In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. Romans 8:26 (NIV)

III. Worshipping God Through Our Offerings

One person gives freely, yet gains even more; another withholds unduly, but comes to poverty. A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed.

Proverbs 11:24, 25 (NIV)



IV. Trusting Jehovah Shalom Through Your Entire Life  
Judges 8; Luke 8:4-15  
Pastor Gary Barber

But the LORD said to him, "Peace [Shalom]! Do not be afraid. You are not going to die."...So Gideon built an altar to the LORD there and called it Jehovah Shalom. Judges 6:23-24

Knowing Jehovah Shalom in Extreme Battles --

Judges 7:1-8, 9-15, 16-22, 23-25...

1. Jehovah Shalom often weakens and reduces us before a breakthrough.
  - *"My strength is made perfect in weakness" II Cor. 12:9*
2. Jehovah Shalom works in the invisible realm often imperceptibly so we can overcome.
  - *"We walk by faith not by sight" II Cor. 5:7*
3. Jehovah Shalom will give us creative ideas and wisdom to overcome in extreme battles.
  - *"What's in your hand?"*

4. Jehovah Shalom gives us unexpected help to reinforce us.
  - God will give us surprise people to aid us.
5. Jehovah Shalom gives us courage, stamina, and perseverance to overcome. Judges 8:1-21 (NIV)

Gideon and his three hundred men, exhausted yet keeping up the pursuit, came to the Jordan and crossed it. Judges 8:4 (NIV)

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance [hupomeno] the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart. Hebrews 12:1-3 (NIV)

- Gideon drifted and ceased to trust Jehovah Shalom and trusted in himself.
- Gideon's snare

But Gideon told them, "I will not rule over you, nor will my son rule over you. The LORD will rule over you." And he said, "I do have one request, that each of you give me an earring from your share of the plunder." (It was the custom of the Ishmaelites to wear gold earrings.)

They answered, "We'll be glad to give them." So they spread out a garment, and each of them threw a ring from his plunder onto it. Judges 8:23-25,27 (NIV)

- Gideon finished poorly. He exalted himself and forgot Jehovah Shalom.
- Finishing Well - Six Characteristics by Dr. J. Robert Clinton

Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it. Proverbs 4:23 (NIV)

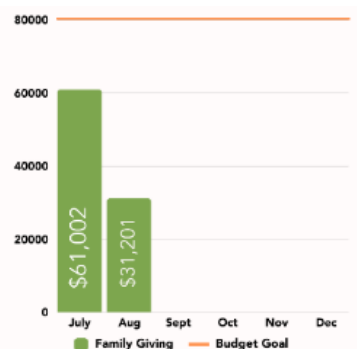
The Parable of the Sower – The Four Soils (Hearts) – Luke 8:4-15

But as for the seed that landed on good soil, these are the ones who, after hearing the word, cling to it with an honest and good heart, and bear fruit with steadfast endurance. Luke 18:15 (NET)

Which soil is your heart?

Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee. Trust ye in the LORD for ever: for in the LORD Jehovah is everlasting strength. Isaiah 26:3-4 (KJV)

Prayer and Invitation



Thank you for your generous giving to the ministry of The Oaks. Your prayers and giving are changing lives.

YTD Budget Need: \$110,700  
YTD Tithes & Offering: \$92,202

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Text us to let us know that you are here today or with any prayer request that you have: 661-241-3408