

Oak Grove Church of Christ Newsletter - 2025.11.30

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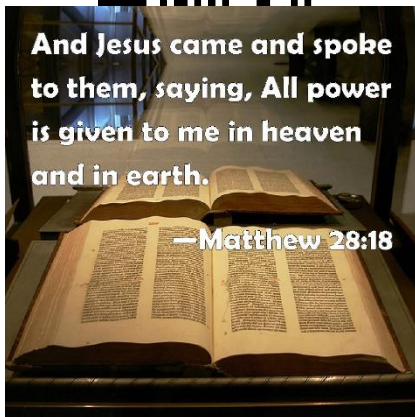
Sermon recordings

Scan the QR code below with your phone's cam, or visit oakgrovecofc.org/sermons.

Speaker-AM: Brad Bunyard

Title: Authority

Recording:



Speaker-PM: Robbie, LJ, Tyler, Josh

Title: Names Of Christ: Song Service

Recording:



The Man of Sorrows, 12/1/2025 By Patrick Hite

There are many different names and descriptors given to Jesus throughout the scriptures, many of which describe His role in our salvation. John the Baptist called Him “the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world” (John 1:29). In 1 John 2:2 He is called “the propitiation for our sins”, and in 4:14 of the same book the apostle simply calls Him “the Savior of the world”. But one descriptor of Jesus that resonates deeply with me, particularly when partaking of the Lord’s supper, is Man of sorrows. It appears only once in the scriptures in Isaiah 53:3 where the prophet describes the suffering servant as “a Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief”. We can see throughout Jesus’ life that He knew sorrow and grief in a few different ways. We know that He mourned over Lazarus when he died (John 11:1-35) and that He lamented over Jerusalem because they rejected Him (Matthew 23:37-39, Luke 19:41).

Certainly, He experienced sorrow over these things, just as any of us are sorrowful when we lose a loved one or someone rejects the gospel. But where Jesus really showed Himself as the Man of sorrows was in the foreknowledge of His death. In Luke 12:50 Jesus said, “But I have a baptism to be baptized with, and how distressed I am till it is accomplished”. Jesus knew the difficulty of what was to come, and the thought of it weighed greatly on His mind. The weight of this thought is shown to us even more clearly, and more intensely, in Matthew 26:36-46. There we read that on that fateful night when He was betrayed, Jesus said of Himself, “My soul is exceedingly sorrowful, even to death” (Matthew 26:38).

It is difficult to imagine the depth of Christ’s sorrow in this moment. He knew with perfect clarity what He was about to suffer. The hurt of Judas’ betrayal and the abandonment of the other disciples. The injustice of His trial. The pain of being scourged. The weight of His cross and the agony of being nailed to it. Prior to this, we see Jesus in the gospels mostly as the figure of strength and authority. One who knew the hearts of men and whose will even the wind and the waves obeyed. But here, alone in the night, He was so overcome with His grief and sorrow that He didn’t go but a little further before He fell with His face to the earth and prayed. With blood and tears running down His face, He lifted His voice to His Father and asked for something He knew He couldn’t have (Matthew 26:39) He sought deliverance, knowing it wouldn’t be given.

Truly this was the Man of sorrows, acquainted with grief. But it was sorrow that He endured willingly and sorrow that He endured for us. He suffered these things so that we might not have to know the sorrow of being forever separated from God (Isaiah 53:10-11), and so that we might be able to go to a place where the sorrows of this life are remembered no more (Revelation 21:3-4). As it is said in one of our songs, “Man of sorrows, what a name for the Son of God who came. Ruined sinners to reclaim! Hallelujah! What a Savior!”. Were it not of Jesus, were it not for His willingness to become the Man of sorrow and pay the cost for our sins, we would have no salvation. What a Savior indeed!