

**FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF OAK PARK**  
**1 APRIL 2018**  
**EASTER SUNDAY, 8 AM**



*An open community united in love and justice*

# PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

Believing in the resurrection is not a matter of mental effort. Such belief does not dwell in the space between our ears. That belief becomes life in our very bones.

- Eric Barreto

\*Please stand if you are able. Please silence cell phones.

## LABYRINTH WALK

In the 15 minutes prior to worship, you are invited to walk the labyrinth as a symbol of walking into Christ's death as you move toward the center, and Christ's resurrection as you walk out. In the center, consider the empty tomb and its surprising promise of new life.

## GATHERING MUSIC

*Down by the River to Pray*

## GOSPEL READING

Luke 24: 1-11, NT p. 90

Britt Cox

## LITANY OF PRAISE

Joyful is the sound we make this morning!

**For this day liberates us from doubt and fear.**

Thankful is the song we sing!

God has given us new life and hope.

**God has raised Jesus from the dead.**

**God has claimed us as his own,**

**Brought us out of darkness,**

**And made us light to the world.**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

## TIME FOR SHARING

Lydia Mulkey

## \* PROCESSIONAL HYMN 339

*Be Thou My Vision*

SLANE

blue hymnal

**Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;**

**Nought be all else to me, save that Thou art -**

**Thou my best thought, by day or by night,**

**Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.**

Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise;  
Thou mine inheritance, now and always:  
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart,  
Great God of heaven, my treasure Thou art.

Be Thou my wisdom, and Thou my true word;  
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,  
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

WELCOME

Deborah Kapp

EASTER PRAYER

O God, worker of wonders, you made this day for joy and gladness.  
Let the risen Lord abide with us this day, opening the scriptures to us and breaking bread in our midst. Set our hearts aflame, and open our eyes so that we may see in his sufferings all that the prophets foretold, and recognize him at this table as the Christ, now entered into his glory, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

SONG OF THANKS

*Blessed Assurance*

ASSURANCE

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!  
O what a foretaste of glory divine!  
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,  
Born of his Spirit, washed in His blood.

This is my story, this is my song,  
Praising my Savior all the day long,  
This is my story, this is my song,  
Praising my Savior all the day long.

\*PASSING THE PEACE

Alicia Reese

The peace of Christ be with you.  
And also with you.

# LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD TO US

## SONG OF ILLUMINATION

*Farther Along*

The musicians will sing 3 stanzas with 3 instrumental breaks.

The congregation is invited to sing the refrain:

**Farther along, we'll know all about it.  
Farther along, we'll understand why.  
Cheer up, my brother, live in the sunshine.  
We'll understand it, all by and by.**

## SCRIPTURE READING

I Corinthians 15, selected verses, p. 176

Deborah Kapp

## SERMON

Fake News?

# RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

## \*HYMN

*Preachin', Prayin', Singin'*

The musicians will sing two stanzas with instrumental breaks.

The congregation is invited to sing the refrain:

**Preachin' prayin' singin' everywhere  
Shouting their praises of his loving care  
All of God's children seem to gather there  
Preachin' prayin' singin' down on the public square**

## PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Offerings are a sacred act of worship. We invite you to use the green giving cards in the pew rack to celebrate what you've already given or to make an additional donation.

## OFFERTORY

*I Saw the Light*

The musicians will sing three stanzas with instrumental breaks.

The congregation is invited to sing the refrain:

**I saw the light, I saw the light,  
No more in darkness, no more in night.  
Now I'm so happy, no sorrow in sight.  
Praise the Lord! I saw the light.**

**\*DOXOLOGY**

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

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

## THE JOYFUL FEAST, THE HEAVENLY BANQUET

**INVITATION**

Alicia Reese

Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life.  
Whoever comes to me will never be hungry,  
and whoever believes in me will never thirst."  
Friends, this is the joyful feast of the people of God.  
**We have come from east and west, and from north and south  
to sit at table in God's presence.**

This is the Lord's table, and our Savior invites all who trust him to share the feast which he has prepared.

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Britt Cox

With confidence in God's presence, and in the company of God's children, gathered here from east and west, from north and south, let us pray for one another. . .

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

Lydia Mulkey

Lord God, early in the morning, when the world was young,  
you made life in all its beauty; you gave birth to all that we know.

Hallowed be your name.

*(the congregation sings)*

**Hallowed be your name.**

Early in the morning, when the world least expected it,  
a newborn child crying in a manger announced that you had come among us,  
that you were one of us.

Hallowed be your name.

**Hallowed be your name.**

Early in the morning, surrounded by respectable liars, religious leaders, anxious statesmen, and silent friends, you accepted the penalty for doing good, for being God:

You shouldered and  
suffered the cross.

Hallowed be your name.

**Hallowed be your name.**

Early in the morning, a voice in a guarded graveyard  
and footsteps in the dew proved that you had risen,  
that you had come back to those and for those who had forgotten, denied, and executed you.

Hallowed be your name.

**Hallowed be your name.**

This morning, in the multicolored company of your church on earth and in heaven,  
we celebrate your creation, your life, your death and resurrection,  
your interest in us, and your redemption of all creation.

Hallowed be your name.

**Hallowed be your name.**

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Deborah Kapp

## PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

Alicia Reese

It is here at this table, Resurrecting God, that we are fed by your love. As you pour out your  
spirit upon this bread and cup,

**Fill us with the spirit of Jesus, so that we may go forth to be your people.**

Feed us with the bread of heaven,

**So we can fill the hunger of the world.**

Touch our lips with salvation's cup,

**So we can proclaim the good news of this day to everyone we meet.**

And when the morning comes when we are united with all the saints, gathered around heaven's  
table, we will lift our voices to you.

**God in community, Holy in One, forever and ever. Amen.**

## SHARING THE ELEMENTS

Today we serve communion by intinction. Beginning from the middle pews, we invite everyone to  
move to the front or to the back as the ushers direct you. As you reach the servers, take a piece of  
bread and dip in the cup. Gluten free bread is available with the servers at the baptismal font.



1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the  
 2 Though I am small, my God, my all, you  
 3 From the halls of power to the for - tress tower, not a  
 4 Though the na - tions rage from age to age, we re -



God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the  
 work great things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the  
 stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your  
 mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.  
 depths of the past to the end of the age to be.  
 jus - tice tears ev - ery ty - rant from his throne.  
 liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp.



You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my  
 Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to  
 The hun - gry poor shall weep no more, for the  
 This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my  
 those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the  
 food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread; ev - ery  
 prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be



name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?  
strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.  
mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.  
crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.

*Refrain*



My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the



fires of your jus - tice burn. Wipe a - way all tears, for the



dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.

## PRAYER FOLLOWING COMMUNION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Deborah Kapp

God of our salvation, you have restored us to life. You have brought us back again into your love by the triumphant death and resurrection of Christ. Continue to heal us as we go to live and work in the power of your Spirit, to your praise and glory.

We pray in your name, and with the words you taught us:

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.



# GOING FORTH IN DEDICATION AND SERVICE

## \*HYMN

*Ain't No Grave*

The musicians will sing three stanzas with instrumental breaks.  
The congregation is invited to sing the refrain:

**There ain't no grave can hold my body down.  
Ain't no grave can hold my body down.  
When I hear that trumpet sound I'm gonna get up out of the ground.  
Ain't no grave. . . can hold my body down.**

## \*EASTER BLESSING AND BENEDICTION

### \*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

*Leaning on the Everlasting Arms*

**What a fellowship, what a joy divine,  
Leaning on the everlasting arms.  
What a blessedness, what a peace is mine,  
Leaning on the everlasting arms.**

**Chorus:**

**Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms,  
Leaning, leaning, leaning on the everlasting arms.**

## POSTLUDE

*Will the Circle be Unbroken*

# TODAY AT FIRST UNITED

**THANKS TO THE MUSICIANS** who led us in worship this morning:

Kevin Crowell: Guitar, banjo, ukulele, vocals  
Tom Gorman: Mandolin, vocals  
Ron Paluck: Guitar, vocals  
Anne Paluck: Vocals, percussion  
Len Palombi: Guitar, vocals  
Don Sibley: Guitar, vocals  
Ed Studzinski: Bass, vocals  
Michael Surratt: Organ, piano  
David Swain: Fiddle, vocals

**WELCOME** - We're glad you joined us for worship. Learn about First United:

- Visit the welcome desk in the Lounge or the visitor table in the Narthex to receive more information about the church.
- Sign the pew pad when it's passed. Include your email to receive our weekly e-news and devotionals!
- Speak with any greeter or minister or join us for coffee hour following worship.
- Contact Britt Cox at 708.386.5215 x105 or [bcox@firstunitedoakpark.com](mailto:bcox@firstunitedoakpark.com) for information about Newcomers Gatherings and any additional questions.

**ABOUT US** - We are a union church of the Presbyterian Church (USA) and the United Church of Christ. We seek to be an inclusive expression of Christ's body celebrating our diversity while finding our unity in Christ. We are a More Light/Open and Affirming congregation, committed to full inclusion of GLBTQ people in membership & ministry.

**HEARING AMPLIFICATION DEVICES, LARGE PRINT BULLETINS, BIBLES AND HYMNALS** are available for use during worship. Please talk to a greeter to obtain these items.

**HOSPITALITY IN WORSHIP:** It takes many hands and hearts to make our worship pleasing in the sight of God. We are grateful to our worship and music leaders and to the folks who minister in the background in other important ways. This morning we thank Greeters Cynthia Collazo, Christine Davis, Marsha Hubbuch and Marge Lyon; Lead Usher Bob Larson; Sanctuary and Art Guild members Jane Barker, Joanne Despotes, Ted Despotes, Stu Gillette, Emory Mead, James Morrison, Cindy Palombi, Anne Paluck, Ron Paluck, Steve Pederson, Karin Pietrini, Nina Roher, Linda Sandman, Sara Stevenson, Ally Vertigan, Rich Wheelock and John Zaruba and the Church School Acolytes. If you think one or more of these Hospitality Ministries might be a fit for you, please contact Joanne Despotes at [jdespotes@gmail.com](mailto:jdespotes@gmail.com) or 708-209-1377.



**PLEASE RECYCLE** your bulletin in one of the bins near the Sanctuary exits.

**PLEASE NOTE** that the First United building will be closed tomorrow, April 2.

## **EASTER LILY DEDICATIONS:**

From Gayle Jessen, in loving memory of her parents, Lou and Helen Jessen.

From David Hanson in loving memory of Nancy Hanson.

**CONTACT THE FIRST UNITED OFFICE MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY 9 AM TO 5 PM  
708.386.5215**

Deborah Kapp, Interim Lead Pastor (ext. 101)  
Britt Cox, Associate Pastor of Discipleship (ext. 105)  
Lydia Mulkey, Associate Pastor of Education (ext. 103)  
Alicia Reese, Coordinator of Youth & Children's Ministry  
William Chin, Director of Music (ext. 108)  
Michael Surratt, Organist  
Amanda Swanson, Manager of Operations (ext. 102)  
Dennis Cobb, Administrative Assistant (ext. 100)  
Maureen Wheeler, Financial Consultant (ext. 106)  
Susan Samek, Financial Assistant (ext. 109)  
Keith Liesse, Manager of Building and Grounds  
First United Church Nursery School  
Housing Forward  
Oak Park River Forest Food Pantry  
The Kid's Kloset, children's clothing ministry  
Cluster Tutoring

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**FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF OAK PARK**

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