

FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF OAK PARK
4 MARCH 2018
LENT THREE



An open community united in love and justice

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

I believe that the power of Christianity – the thing that made the very first disciples drop their nets and walk away from everything they knew, the thing that caused Mary Magdalene to return to the tomb and then announce the resurrection of Christ, the thing that the early Christians martyred themselves for, and the thing that keeps me in the Jesus business – cannot be killed. The power of unbounded mercy, what we call The Gospel, cannot be destroyed by corruption and toothy TV preachers. Because in the end, there is still Jesus.

- Nadia Bolz-Weber

*Please stand in body or spirit. Please silence cell phones.

GATHERING MUSIC

O Guiltless Lamb of God

J. S. Bach

OUR LIFE TOGETHER

Please sign and pass the connections pew pad.

Deborah Kapp

GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

As we, your wandering people, step into your sanctuary,

Welcome us, God, in you.

As we recollect ourselves in prayer,

Gather us, God, in you.

As we refresh ourselves with your word,

Enlighten us, God, in you.

As we bring the world's joy and sorrows to the table,

Refresh us, God, in you.

As we renew our commitment to your work,

Strengthen us, God, in you.

As we walk again with our companion and brother Jesus,

Keep us together, God, in you.

*HYMN 83

O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High (vs. 1-3)

DEO GRACIAS

Blue hymnal

LITANY OF CONFESSION AND PARDON

Alicia Reese

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. With trust in God's mercy and grace, with confidence in the redemptive love of Jesus Christ and the sustaining presence of the Holy Spirit, let us together confess our sins before God and one another. Let us pray:

God of mercy, God of love, with humble and believing hearts, we confess our sin. We forget to love and serve you, and wander from your ways. We are careless of your world, and put its life in danger. We talk of our concern for others, but fail to match our words with action. Lord have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord have mercy.

SILENCE IS KEPT

***HYMN 83**

O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High (vs. 4, 5)

DEO GRACIAS

Blue hymnal

***PASSING THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD TO US

TIME FOR SHARING

Britt Cox

SONG OF ILLUMINATION

O Lord, Hear My Prayer

TAIZÉ



O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer. When I call, an-swer me. O



Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer. Come and lis-ten to me.

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READING

1 Corinthians 3: 9-17, NT p. 167

READING

Matthew 7: 24-27, NT p. 7

SERMON

Ribbons and Wood

Deborah Kapp

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

***HYMN 607**

We Would Be Building

FINLANDIA

Black hymnal

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

Lydia Mulkey

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.

From your abundant gifts, O God, we make this offering, brought from our daily living. With your grace and blessing, may our gifts be used in ways that help us to fulfill our mission: to move from words to witness in our relationship with you, from individualism to intimate fellowship in our relationship with each other, and from charity to changing structures of injustice in our relationship with the world. Amen.

OFFERTORY

Teach Me, O Lord

David Hurd

Teach me, O Lord, the way of Thy statutes; and I shall keep it to the end.
Give me understanding and I shall keep your law; I shall keep it with all my heart.
Make me go in the path of your commandments, for that is my desire.
Incline my heart to your decrees and not to unjust gain.
Turn my eyes from watching what is worthless; give me life in your ways.
Fulfill your promise to your servant which you make to all who fear you.
Behold, I long for your commandments; in your righteousness preserve my life. (Ps. 119:33–38, 40)

***DOXOLOGY**

OLD HUNDRETH

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

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.
O, love, how deep, how broad, how high (minister continues prayer)
Who forever sing to the glory of your holy name.

SANCTUS

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord

LAND OF REST

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.**

(Minister continues prayer)
Together we proclaim the mystery of faith:
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.
Love divine, pour out your Spirit on these, your gifts
(Minister continues prayer)

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

PRAYER FOLLOWING COMMUNION

REFUGEE SPONSORSHIP UPDATE

John Chapma- Rienstra

GOING FORTH IN DEDICATION AND SERVICE

*HYMN 376

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

HYFRODOL

Blue hymnal

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Jesus, Remember Me

TAIZÉ

Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when You come in - to Your king - dom.

Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when You come in - to Your king - dom.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in 3/4 time, G minor. The melody is simple and repetitive, with lyrics underneath. The first staff ends with a fermata over the final note, and the second staff ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

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SENDING MUSIC

Prelude and Fugue in E minor

J. S. Bach

TODAY AT FIRST UNITED

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 and a gift to take home with you.
- Sign the connections pad when it's passed. Include your email to receive our weekly e-news and devotional!
- Speak with any greeter or minister or join us for coffee hour following worship.
- Contact Britt Cox at 708.386.5215 or 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.

RESTROOMS & WiFi - Accessible restrooms are located off the church lounge. Free Wireless Internet is available in all areas except the Sanctuary. Network: 'FirstGuest', password: 'FirstUnited'.



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

JOIN THE DEACONS for prayer and anointing in the chapel following Worship.

HEARING AMPLIFICATION DEVICES--INCLUDING T-COIL CABLES, LARGE PRINT BULLETINS, BIBLES AND HYMNALS are available for use during worship. Please talk to a greeter to obtain these items and return the amplification device to the greeter. Large print bibles and hymnals should be returned to the table behind the middle pews.

HOSPITALITY IN WORSHIP - It takes many hands and hearts to make our worship pleasing in the sight of God. This week we thank Lead Usher Carl Nauert; Greeters Rose Buckner, Marge Lyon, Debby Prieser, and Susan Saliny; Sanctuary Guild members James Morrison, Cindy Palombi, and Nina Roher; and the Church School Acolytes. We ask forgiveness for any omissions. Please contact Joanne Despotes at jdespotes@gmail.com or 708-209-1377 if you would like to help with one of these hospitality ministries.

EVENTS AND UPDATES

NEXT SUNDAY, Matthew 12: 1-14

SECOND SUNDAY SUNDAES! Stop by in the lounge after service next week for Second Sunday Sundaes. The second Sunday of every month, after service, the 7th Grade Sunday School class will provide ice cream and the toppings. Come for a sweet treat and fellowship!

DECORATIVE PAINTING AT NEW MOMS, INC.! Come out on March 4 between 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. to help beautify the interior windows at New Moms, 5317 W. Chicago Ave. This is a project for Troop 16 Eagle Scout candidate James Kennedy. All materials will be provided! All ages welcome! Visit newmoms.org to sign up for a slot. New Moms is a partner organization of the First United Faith in Action committee.

MARCH 18 HOLDS THIS YEAR'S LENTEN CANTATA, which will be the *Requiem* by Gabriel Fauré. The movements of this work will be woven into the morning service. Hear our Sanctuary Choir, with organist Michael Surratt, along with vocal soloists and a chamber orchestra composed of church members and guest musicians.

CONVERSATIONS RECAP. On Sunday, March 18, Deborah Kapp will be available for conversation after worship, for those who want to hear more about the conversations we held on February 11 and 18. All are welcome. We will gather in the sanctuary when worship is concluded.

INTERFAITH GREEN NETWORK - Ever wonder how you can turn your interest in sustainability and your faith experience into positive result for the whole community? Come join the Interfaith Green Network! The next meeting is Tuesday, March 13 at 7 p.m.

SEVENTH ANNUAL ONE EARTH FILM FESTIVAL - March 2-11, presenting over 30 award-winning environmental films at 39 locations around Chicagoland. The screening at St. Giles Church, Sunday, March 4, 12:30 p.m., will feature *Making Waves: Battle for the Great Lakes*, narrated by Bill Kurtis. Other titles include *Happening: A Clean Energy Revolution*, *Wasted! The Story of Food Waste* and *Chasing Coral*. For the full schedule, visit www.oneearthfilmfest.org.

EVENING DIVISION DINNER will be held in Centennial Hall at 6 p.m. Thursday March 8 (\$15.00). Program will follow dinner at 7 p.m. (free). Our speaker, Sue Lindberg, docent at Ernest Hemingway's birthplace home and Oak Park teacher, discusses early influences on him in Oak Park--family, community, and education. For reservations sign up at lounge desk or call (708) 383-5632.



FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF OAK PARK

an open community united in love & justice

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SUNDAY, MARCH 4

9:30 am Education for all
 9:30 am Tech. Help Desk Volunteers
 11:00 am Worship
 6:00 pm FUJI and FUSH
 6:00 pm SOPRF Chorus Rehearsal
 6:00 pm Men's Lenten Book Group

MONDAY, MARCH 5

8:00 am FUNS Staff Meeting
 10:00 am Library Committee Work
 7:00 pm Deacon Board
 7:00 pm Food Pantry Board

TUESDAY, MARCH 6

4:00 pm Pro Musica Youth Chorus
 5:00 pm Cooking Matters - Teens
 6:00 pm Communications Committee
 7:00 pm Children's Ministry
 7:00 pm Planned Giving

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7

11:00 am Wednesday Small Group
 6:00 pm Handbell Rehearsal
 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, MARCH 8

8:15 am Mission Partner
 6:00 pm Evening Division Dinner

FRIDAY, MARCH 9**SATURDAY, MARCH 10**

9:00 am Hunger Walkathon West
 3:45 pm Quest Visits the Night Ministry

SUNDAY, MARCH 11**DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS!**

9:30 am Education for All
 9:30 am Technology Help Desk
 11:00 am Worship
 12:00 pm Second Sunday Sundaes
 1:00 pm Social Media & Faith Formation
 6:00 pm FUJI and FUSH
 6:00 pm SOPRF Chorus Rehearsal
 6:00 pm Men's Lenten Book Group

**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)
 Keith Liesse, Manager of Building and Grounds
 First United Church Nursery School
 Housing Forward
 Oak Park River Forest Food Pantry
 The Kid's Closet, children's clothing ministry
 Cluster Tutoring

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