

FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF OAK PARK
7 OCTOBER 2018



An open community united in love and justice

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

Christians, go into the world with a song in your heart.

Listen for lyrics of encouragement.

Share hope.

And may the God we know as Creator, Christ, and Comforter
sing through you always.

Sylvia Casberg, *Praying the Seasons*

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

GATHERING MUSIC

Deck Yourself, My Soul, With Gladness

J.S. Bach

WELCOME

Please sign and pass the black Connections pad.

Deborah Kapp

GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Charlie Morris, Kathy Pederson, the Thurman family,
and acolytes from the third-grade church school class

Voice 1: We are here to prepare the Lord's Supper and to celebrate it.

For a celebration we need community. Each one of us is part of this community.

In community we share life with one another and experience the variety of gifts God has given us.

I bring myself. As I am, I come before God and before you. Now I am here.

I want to be strengthened in the company of those celebrating with me.

I want to be here, to be here wholly.

Voice 2: We set the table festively. We beautify it with flowers.

Flowers accompany us throughout life. Is a flower not as life is?

The flower unfolds from a bud to the flower and it withers as we do.

Voice 1: We beautify the table with candles. The candles shall shine for us with their warm light.

Let us be open for this light and it will be bright and warm in and around us. Light is warmth and life. Did not also Jesus give himself, as a candle is consumed by its flame?

Voice 2: We bring bread to place on our table. The baskets are filled with bread:
Bread, which we have in abundance,

bread, which we throw away thoughtlessly,
bread, which is so scarce for many people that they go hungry each day,
bread, which we now would like to eat together in memory of the life and dying of Jesus Christ.
Jesus Christ says, "I am the bread of life. Those who come to me will never be hungry."

Voice 1: We bring a symbol of wine to our table. Juice in pitchers. They are well-shaped
pitchers, shaped from clay, from baked earth, from earth in which a vine can grow
and bear fruit.

The pitchers are filled with juice which we will now drink together.
Jesus Christ says, "The one who believes in me will never be thirsty."

Voice 2: We put cups on our table, cups made from earth, shaped and fashioned by the human
hand. We bring these cups for the juice so that we can all drink from them.
Look, touch, and taste what fills the baskets and cups.

Please stand and join together in our opening prayer:

**God, you are the friend of all. We pray to you for the Holy Spirit,
the Spirit which makes us free of fear and guilt,
the Spirit which gives the strength to do good
and bring us together in community, joy, and gratitude.
For this Spirit we pray through Jesus Christ.**

* HYMN 253
Blue hymnal

I'll Praise My Maker

OLD 113TH

PRAYER FOR WHOLENESS

Lydia Mulkey

**O God, we come before you with unclean hearts, selfish minds, and distorted bodies.
But, in your grace, you touch us and make us pure and whole.
We dance with joy, we sing in freedom, we swim in love.
We thank you for your grace and pray that you continue to touch us,
so that we will discover the abundant life you promise in Jesus Christ.**

Silence is kept.

Words of Assurance: Psalm 23

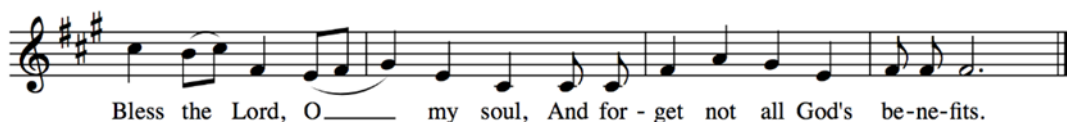
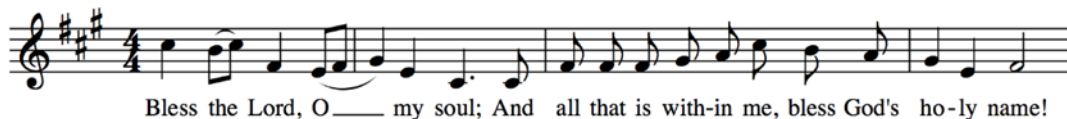
TIME FOR SHARING

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD TO US

SONG OF ILLUMINATION

Bless the Lord, O My Soul

Appalachian Folk Melody



SCRIPTURE READING

John 10:1-11a, NT p. 103

Deborah Kapp

SERMON

Life Abundant

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

*HYMN 521

You Satisfy the Hungry Heart

FINEST WHEAT

Blue hymnal

MOMENT FOR GIVING

Steve Pederson

OFFERTORY

Kwake Yesu Nasimama

Trad. Kenyan song, arr. Greg Scheer

Kwake Yesu nasimama, ndiye mwamba ni salama.

Ndiye mwamba ni salama, ndiye mwamba ne salama.

Here on Jesus Christ I will stand. He's the solid rock of my life.

He's the solid rock of my life. He's the solid rock of my life.

There's no other place I can hide till the storm that rages subsides.

My voice cries to God from the flood, and I'm saved because of his blood.

It is not the work of my hands that has washed away all my sins.

I'm redeemed, and all of my days, Jesus Christ will be my heart's praise.

When my days on this earth are done, and I stand at God's holy throne,

my heart will not have any fear; in Christ's righteousness I am here.

*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.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Deborah Kapp

**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.**

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Lydia Mulkey

INVITATION

The table is now prepared. Jesus Christ invites us to have communion just as we are: those tired from carrying heavy loads, or those joyful and lighthearted, the old and the young, including our children, members, neighbors, and strangers. All are welcome; no one is excluded. No one should exclude themselves. The bread of life is here for all. The wine is the sign of the feast to which all are invited.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

Today we serve communion by intinction. Beginning from the middle pews, we invite everyone to come to the front or rear of the Sanctuary to share in the joyful feast. As you reach the servers, break off a piece of bread and dip it in the cup. Gluten-free bread is available at the station by the baptismal font. Return to your place by the outside rows.

***PASSING THE PEACE**

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

CONCLUDING PRAYER

**Lord Jesus Christ, you have put your life into our hands;
now we put our lives into yours. Take us, renew and remake us.
What we have been is past; what we shall be, through you, still awaits us.
Lead us on. Take us with you. Amen.**

GOING FORTH IN DEDICATION AND SERVICE

*HYMN 422

God Whose Giving Knows No Ending

BEACH SPRING

Blue hymnal

OUR LIFE TOGETHER

Deborah Kapp

*CHARGE

Let us go into the world in peace. In our everyday living, may we embody the faith and hope that we express in worship:

**We are moving from words to witness in our relationship with God,
From individualism to intimate fellowship in our relationship with each other,
From charity to changing structures of injustice in our relationship with the world.**

May God grant us grace to love and serve faithfully, and may God bless us with kindness, courage, and peace.

*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Danish Amen

Amen, a-men, a - men.

The image shows a musical score for a benediction response. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. Both staves are in 4/4 time and have a key signature of one sharp (F#). The treble staff begins with a G4 chord, followed by an A4 chord, then a B4 chord, and finally a G4-A4-B4-G4 melodic line. The bass staff begins with a G2-B2-D2 chord, followed by an A2-B2-D2 chord, then a C3-D3-F#3-G3 chord, and finally a G2-A2-B2-G2 melodic line. The lyrics 'Amen, a-men, a - men.' are written below the treble staff, with a long dash under the 'a' in 'a - men'.

SENDING MUSIC

We All Believe in One True God

J. S. Bach

TODAY AT FIRST UNITED

TODAY'S COMMUNION LITURGY is adapted from a prayer by Hans Knopfli, Basel Mission, Basel, Switzerland. **In God's Hands: Common Prayer for the World.** Week 10.



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. We are grateful to our Worship and Music leaders and to those who provide Hospitality through various ministries. This week we thank Art Guild members: Jane Barker, Emory Mead, Steve Pederson, Linda Sandman and Sara Stevenson; Lead Ushers: Ted & Joanne Despotes; Greeters: Marsha Hubbuch, Marge Lyon and Debby Preiser; Sanctuary Guild members: Marilyn Heinrichs, Cindy Palombi and Nina Roher; and the 3rd Grade Church School Acolytes. We ask forgiveness for any omissions.

We need more people to do this work! If you think one or more of these Hospitality Ministries would be a fit for you, please contact Joanne Despotes at jdespotes@gmail.com or 708-209-1377.

EVENTS AND UPDATES

NEW MEMBERS FALL SESSION starts October 21! Our new member class is perfect for regular churchgoers interested in becoming First United members and for newcomers wanting to know more about us. A series of four classes gives our attendees a great base of knowledge on life at First United and a chance to formally join our membership. Classes start October 21 at 9:30 a.m.; we will meet in the chapel. Contact Lydia at lmulkey@firstunitedoakpark.com for more information.

EVENING DIVISION ODDS AND ENDS FOR YOUR USE - Next Sunday, October 14, please look in the lounge for a table of Evening Division supplies which have collected over the years. Due to Evening Division's closure this past summer, we have tablecloths, decorative centerpieces, and other items which may be of value to individuals or groups, and we would be glad if these items could continue to be useful. Any questions call Elaine Pierce at 708-848-1762.

HELP NEEDED FOR PADS. We need 5 or 6 regular volunteers to help staff our shifts on the 3rd and 5th (if there is one) weeks of the month. We need help on the Monday dinner shift (6:30 p.m. – 10:30 p.m.) and also on Tuesday mornings (5:00 a.m. – 7:30 a.m.). For more information, talk to Deborah Kapp after church or contact Stephanie Schrodts, theschrodts@yahoo.com or Matt Kemper, mattkemper1227@gmail.com, who are our site supervisors. This is an important commitment that we have made, and we need your help.

We also need your help with providing supplies for the PADS lunches that our church school classes make and pack. Juice boxes, individually packaged snacks and desserts, paper lunch bags, napkins, and plastic sandwich bags are all acceptable donations. Bring as much as you can! Thank you for your support!

DINNER AND A MOVIE - FRIDAY, OCTOBER 12: *The Post*. When the *Washington Post* agrees to publish the leaked Pentagon Papers, which point to a secret escalation of the Vietnam War, the Nixon administration tries to block publication, setting off an epic legal and political battle. Dinner at 6:00 p.m. (\$5 donation); movie (free) at 6:30 p.m. Sign up in lounge or call Barbara Ballinger 708-386-3230.

HOUSE TO HOME KITS. It's not too late. The Housing Team is collecting items for House-to-Home kits to relocate five families into permanent housing. Sign up in the church lounge or at SignUp Genius at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0e48a9ae2ba3f58-housing>. Questions? Contact Charlie Morris, (cmorris91120@gmail.com) or Ann Armstrong (geneann1113@yahoo.com). Bring items to church by next Sunday, October 14.

Moving from

words to witness
in our relationship with God,

individualism to intimate
fellowship in our relationship with other members of the church community,

charity to changing
structures in our relationship with the world.

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 registration 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 Lydia Mulkey at 708.386.5215 or lmulkey@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.

ABOUT WORSHIP - Worship is our time to praise and grow closer to God. Worship each week includes song, prayer, learning, silence and giving. If you have any questions about what we do, please ask a minister or a member.

WORSHIP WITH CHILDREN - We welcome all children to participate fully in worship. Age-appropriate worship activities and books are available as you enter the sanctuary. We offer safe, quality childcare and quiet play for children five and under in our nursery (just off the lounge). Accompanied by a parent, these children may leave after Time for Sharing.

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

GIVING - Offering envelopes are in the pew racks. You can also give one time or recurring gifts online at www.firstunitedoakpark.com/giving.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 7

9:15 am Choir Rehearsal
9:30 am Church School for all ages
9:30 am Technology Help Desk
9:45 am House to Home Kit Sign-up
11:00 am Worship with Communion
6:00 pm FUJI and FUSH

MONDAY, OCTOBER 8

12:00 pm Custodial Team meeting
6:00 pm Monday Bible Study
6:00 pm PADS Emergency Shelter
7:00 pm Worship, Music & Arts meeting

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 9

10:00 am Cooking Class for Seniors
4:00 pm Pro Musica rehearsal
5:30 pm Communications Comm. meeting
6:00 pm PNC meeting
7:00 pm Finance Committee meeting
7:00 pm Newcomers Committee meeting
7:00 pm Youth Committee meeting

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 10

11:00 am Wednesday Small Group
7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir rehearsal
7:00 pm So You Want to Talk About Race

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 11

6:30 pm Cluster Tutoring
7:30 pm Faith in Action meeting

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 12

5:30 pm Dinner and a Movie
6:00 pm FUNS Ice Cream Social

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13

9:30 am Youth Sunday rehearsal
3:00 pm Twos Ice Cream Social

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14

9:30 am Church School for all ages
9:30 am Technology Help Desk
9:45 am House to Home Kit Sign-up
11:00 am Worship
4:00 pm Church School's Got Talent!
6:00 pm FUJI and FUSH

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

708.386.5215

Gene Armstrong, Council Moderator
Barbara Metric, Council Clerk
Deborah Kapp, Interim Lead Pastor (ext. 101)
Lydia Mulkey, Associate Pastor of Education (ext. 103)
Alicia Reese, Pastoral Assoc., Youth & Cong. Care (ext. 104)
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 Kloset, children's clothing ministry
Cluster Tutoring
Pro Musica Youth Chorus
Samaritan Counseling Center

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