

FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF OAK PARK

27 JANUARY 2019



An open community united in love and justice

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny.
Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly.

- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

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

GATHERING MUSIC

Prelude and Fugue in A Major
Adagio

J. S. Bach
W. A. Mozart

WELCOME

Please sign and pass the black Connections pad.

Alicia Reese

***PASSING THE PEACE**

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

***OPENING SONG**

Be Still and Know That I am God



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GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE

CALL TO WORSHIP

May the light of God's love push back the darkness.

**We come to the light from the four corners of the earth,
from the north, from the south, from the east and from the west.**

We are all one in Jesus Christ.

We come from many nations and many cultures.

We are all one in Jesus Christ.

Let us lift up our many voices and praise the God of all people.

*HYMN 177

God of Change and Glory

KATHERINE

Black hymnal

LITANY OF CONFESSION, ASSURANCE, AND HOPE

Deborah Kapp

In his last speech to the SCLC, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. encouraged his listeners to go forth with a divine dissatisfaction and a deep commitment to the beloved community to which God calls us all, in our church and in our world. Using his words, let us together ask God for forgiveness, courage, and hope. Let us pray.

Let us be dissatisfied until America will no longer have
a high blood pressure of creeds and an anemia of deeds.

**Let us be dissatisfied until the walls that separate
the outer city of wealth and comfort and the inner city of poverty and despair
shall be crushed.**

Let us be dissatisfied until those that live on the outskirts of hope
are brought into the metropolis of daily security.

**Let us be dissatisfied until slums are cast into the junk heaps of history,
and every family is living in a decent sanitary home.**

Let us be dissatisfied until integration is not seen as a problem
but as an opportunity to participate in the beauty of diversity.

**Let us be dissatisfied until men and women
will be judged by the content of their character
and not by the color of their skin.**

Let us be dissatisfied until from city hall,
justice will roll down like waters and righteousness like a mighty stream.

**Let us be dissatisfied until that day
when the lion and lamb shall lie down together,
and every man will sit under his own vine and fig tree and none shall be afraid.**

Let us be dissatisfied.

Silence is kept

Have you not known? Have you not heard?
 The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth.
 He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable.
 He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless.
 Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted;
 but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength,
 they shall mount up with wings like eagles,
 they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.
Amen.

TIME FOR SHARING

Lydia Mulkey

Jesus Loves Me this I know, for the bible tells me so.
 Little ones to God belong, they are weak but God is strong.
 Yes, Jesus loves me, yes Jesus loves me, yes Jesus loves me, the bible tells me so.

LISTENING FOR GOD’S WORD TO US

SONG OF ILLUMINATION

Lead Me, Guide Me

Doris Akers

Lead me, guide me, a - long the way, for ___ if you lead me, I can-not
 stray. Lord, let me walk each day with thee. Lead me, O Lord, lead me. _____

SCRIPTURE READING

I Corinthians 12:12-31

Deborah Kapp

SERMON

Connected

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

ANOINTING

We invite you to receive a blessing through the ritual of anointing from Deacons or pastoral staff at the front or back of the sanctuary. Oil is used to mark a prayer for peace, healing or blessing, whatever your need. All are welcome. Organ music for meditation during the anointing will be based on the *Passion Chorale*.

***HYMN AFTER ANOINTING 179** *We Yearn, O Christ, for Wholeness*
Black hymnal

PASSION CHORALE

FOURTH SUNDAY OFFERING: PADS

Sallie Smylie

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Lydia Mulkey

OFFERTORY

O God, Whose Healing Power

Luke Mayernik

O God, whose healing power is present everywhere,
pervading all creation with your eternal care;
look now in your compassion upon this world of pain,
and lives now bound and broken make free and whole again.

O Christ, who came among us to heal the sick, the blind,
to bless the poor and burdened, the broken heart to bind:
send us where they are waiting for hands to help and heal
and through the gifts we offer, your grace again reveal.

O Spirit, holy, healing, descend to us today,
Restore to all creation the peace for which we pray.
Redeem us from the powers that ravage and destroy
till earth and all its people shall greet the dawn with joy.

—*Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr.*

***DOXOLOGY**

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

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

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Alicia Reese

**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

OUR LIFE TOGETHER

Deborah Kapp

*HYMN

Legacy of Past to Present

HYFRYDOL

Legacy of past to present
Space that houses truth and love.
Spangled with the stars of advent
Hope shimmers in the light above.
Sash and banners lift our spirits;
Word is spoken, verses read.
Worldly care? We need not fear it.
Erased by Word, pale wine, fresh bread.

For the lonely and the desperate,
Those who hunger, those who thirst,
Those who from their cares seek respite,
All are welcome. Come to First.
Gifted folk of proud tradition,
Heirs of faith and filled with zest.
First United seeks God's mission
Serving, loving, place of rest.

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Deborah Kapp

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Please be seated for the annual meeting or if you cannot stay, go in peace.

TODAY AT FIRST UNITED

TODAY'S SANCTUARY FLOWERS were donated by Mark and Sallie Smylie in loving memory of Mark's father, James H. Smylie.

TODAY'S LITANY OF CONFESSION, ASSURANCE, AND HOPE is adapted from "Where Do We Go From Here?" reprinted in *Testament of Hope: The Essential Writings and Speeches of Martin Luther King, Jr.*, edited by James Washington. The words of assurance are found in Isaiah 40: 28-31.

OUR CLOSING HYMN this morning was written by our church member Claudette Zobel, who wrote this poem as part of our Centennial celebration last year. Bill Chin set it to a familiar hymn tune. Thanks to them both.

FOURTH SUNDAY OFFERING - Every Monday night from September to May, 60 people, children and adults, sleep on the floor of First United's basement. Housing Forward manages the PADS Emergency shelter. As the numbers of shelter guests increases, more shelter sites are required. The January Fourth Sunday Offering, received today, provides support for PADS. PLEASE consider making a gift.



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 – HELP WANTED! 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 Greeters: Debby Preiser, Susan Saliny, and Dale Sorenson; Lead Usher: Bonnie Mize; Sanctuary Guild members: Cindy Palombi and Nina Roher; and the First Grade Church School Acolytes. We ask forgiveness for any omissions. We need more people for this work! If you think one or more of these Hospitality Ministries might be a fit for you, please contact Joanne Despotes at jdespotes@gmail.com or 708-209-1377.

EVENTS AND UPDATES

A BRIEF SERVICE OF HEALING AND RECONCILIATION will be held next Wednesday evening at 6 p.m. in the chapel. All who seek healing for themselves, their loved ones, our community, and/or our world are welcome to attend.

MIDPOINT INVITES YOU to a wonderful midwinter event: the first MIDPOINT Chili Challenge! Please bring your meat chili or vegetarian chili, and we'll sample them all and vote on a Champion! **SATURDAY FEBRUARY 9, 7:30 p.m.** at the lovely home of Renee Davis and Josephine Porter (907 N Elmwood, Oak Park) We'll provide the toppings. Everyone is invited! As usual, please bring your own wine/beer to share. Any new members, please join us! Please contact Barbara Metric at barbarametric@comcast.net with any questions.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY - for experienced or novice knitters and/or crocheters! Join us for fellowship, a spiritual practice, and participation in a ministry of care for our congregation! **2nd Mondays 4-5 pm & 4th Tuesdays 1-2 pm.** Meetings in February - the 11th and 26th.

DINNER & A MOVIE - Friday, February 8: *Denial*. In the 1990s, well-known Holocaust denier David Irving sued historian Deborah Lipstadt, issuing a complaint under British law requiring the American academic to prove that the greatest atrocity of World War II actually took place. Dinner at 6 p.m. (\$5 donation); movie at 6:30 p.m. (free). Signup in lounge or call Cynthia Collazo, 708-383-9228.

DINNER AND ANNUAL MEETING, Community of Congregations: Unity in Community, A Neighborhood Gathering, Thursday, January 31; Dinner at 6:30 p.m. and program at 7:15 p.m. Dominican University, Priory Campus Auditorium, 7200 W Division, River Forest. All are welcome, but please RSVP at oprfcoc@gmail.com

UNITED POWER DELEGATE ASSEMBLY: Join United Power to move issues forward so we can't be ignored. **REBUILDING COMMUNITIES:** Work on the west side of Chicago. **TREATING, NOT INCARCERATING:** Eliminating road blocks for crisis stabilization. **REDUCING GUN VIOLENCE:** Uniting law enforcement and investors to hold gun manufacturers accountable. The meeting is February 7 from 7 – 8:30 p.m. at Lawndale Community Church. If you plan to attend, please RSVP Lydia at lmulkey@firstunitedoakpark.com or Lois at lois@thiessenlove.com.

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, JANUARY 27

- 9:30 am Church School for All Ages
- 9:30 am Technology Help Desk
- 11:00 am Worship with Fourth Sunday Offering
- 12:00 pm Annual Congregational Meeting and Lunch
- 6:00 pm FUSH and FUJI

MONDAY, JANUARY 28

- 6:00 pm Monday Bible Study
- 6:00 pm PADS Emergency Shelter
- 6:30 pm CMA Justice and Witness Ministry
- 7:00 pm Building & Grounds meeting
- 7:00 pm Hunger Walkathon West Team meeting
- 7:00 pm Personnel Committee meeting

TUESDAY, JANUARY 29

- 4:00 pm Pro Musica Youth Chorus
- 6:30 pm PNC meeting

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30

- 11:00 am Wednesday Small Group
- 3:30 pm Food Pantry distribution
- 6:00 pm Healing Service

THURSDAY, JANUARY 31

- 6:30 pm Cluster Tutoring

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 1

- 6:30 pm Women's Retreat begins

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2

- Women's Retreat
- 9:00 am Food Pantry Distribution
- 10:00 am PFLAG Council of No. Illinois
- 3:00 pm Nursery School Event

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 3

- Women's Retreat
- 9:30 am Church School for All Ages
- 9:30 am Technology Help Desk
- 11:00 am Worship with Communion
- 6:00 pm FUSH and FUJI

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

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First United Church Nursery School	708-848-4910, www.firstunitedschool.com
Housing Forward	708-338-1724, www.housingforward.org
Oak Park River Forest Food Pantry	708-386-1324, www.oprffoodpantry.org
The Kid's Kloset, children's clothing ministry	susanzaruba@gmail.com
Cluster Tutoring	773-378-5530, www.clustertutoring.org
Pro Musica Youth Chorus	708-406-9597, www.promusicayouthchorus.org
Samaritan Counseling Center	847-446-6955, www.northshoresamaritan.org



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