

FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF OAK PARK
17 FEBRUARY 2019



Art by First United member and 11th grade student, Jojo Desir

An open community united in love and justice

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

Today is Universal Day of Prayer for Students.
Today, we pray and work for an end to school shootings.

“So we are speaking up for those who don’t have anyone listening to them, for those who can’t talk about it just yet, and for those who will never speak again. We are grieving, we are furious, and we are using our words fiercely and desperately because that’s the only thing standing between us and this happening again.”

—Emma Gonzalez

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

GATHERING MUSIC

Variations on O Waly Waly

Janet Linker

WELCOME

Please sign and pass the black Connections pad.

Lydia Mulkey

***PASSING THE PEACE**

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

***OPENING SONG**

**I’ve got peace like a river,
I’ve got peace like a river,
I’ve got peace like a river in my soul.**
(repeat)

GATHERING AS GOD’S PEOPLE

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

A Manifesto for Peacemakers by Bud Hayes

Amaya Wright and Joe Guevara

We are nonviolent, not because we are wimps,
But because we are lovers,
Part of a divine conspiracy
To soften the hardness of our hearts.

We are nonviolent, not because we are cowards,
But because we are fearless
In the face of hatred, carnage, and death,
And we believe that nothing can separate us from the love of God.

We are nonviolent, not because we are passive,
But because we are peace guerrillas,
Involved in spiritual counterinsurgency,
Using unconventional means.

We are nonviolent, not because we have given up,
But because we dare to hope for what seems impossible,
Dare to hope against peoples, generations and nations,
Who avenge themselves one upon the other,
In endlessly destructive cycles,
Dare to hope for a better way.

And in our loving, and our hoping,
In our subversive spirituality,
We are not righteous,
Because it is always also our own liberation we seek,
But we are confident.

***HYMN**

We Are a Gentle Angry People

This hymn is printed on the next page.

Please bring your pink prayer cards forward as we sing.

We Are a Gentle Angry People

$\text{♩} = 66$



1. We are a gen - tle, an - gry peo - ple, and we are
2. We are a jus - tice - seek - ing peo - ple, and we are
3. We are young and old to - geth - er, and we are
4. We are a land of man - y col - ors, and we are



sing - ing, sing - ing for our lives.
sing - ing, sing - ing for our lives.
sing - ing, sing - ing for our lives.
sing - ing, sing - ing for our lives.



Words & music: Holly Near, 1944- , © 1979 Hereford Music,
arr. by Patrick L. Rickey, 1964- ,
arr. © 1992 Unitarian Universalist Association

SINGING FOR OUR LIVES
9.5.5.D.

We are a gen - tle, an - gry peo - ple, and we are
 We are a jus - tice - seek - ing peo - ple, and we are
 We are young and old to - geth - er, and we are
 We are a land of man - y col - ors, and we are

sing - ing, sing - ing for our lives.
 sing - ing, sing - ing for our lives.
 sing - ing, sing - ing for our lives.
 sing - ing, sing - ing for our lives.

5. We are gay and straight together,
 And we are singing, singing for our lives.
 We are gay and straight together,
 And we are singing, singing for our lives.

6. We are a gentle, loving people,
 And we are singing, singing for our lives.
 We are a gentle, loving people,
 And we are singing, singing for our lives.

LITANY FOR SCHOOL SHOOTING VICTIMS

Children, youth, teachers at school — their lives violently ended; their futures lost. They are all our ancestors now: peculiarly American ancestors, whose diverse lives were lost to a peculiarly American violence. We now call upon their spirits for strength in our continued work to ensure that there will not be one more.

After each school's loss is named, please respond **"pray with us."**

The Columbine High School Fifteen
The Appalachian School of Law Three
The University of Arizona Four
The Red Lake High School Ten
The West Nickel Mines Amish School Six
The Blacksburg Virginia Tech Thirty-Three
The Louisiana Technical College Three
The Northern Illinois University Six
The University of Central Arkansas Two
The Chardon High School Three
The Oikos University Seven
The Sandy Hook Elementary Newtown CT Twenty-seven
The Hazard Community and Technical College Three
The Marysville-Pilchuck High School Five
The Oregon Umpqua Community College Ten
The North Park Elementary School Three
The Aztec High School Three
The Marjorie Stoneman Douglas High School Seventeen
The Central Michigan University Two
The Santa Fe High School Ten

SILENCE IS KEPT.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O God, and let light perpetual shine upon them. May they all rest forever in your peace. Amen.

HYMN 99

Abide with Me

EVENTIDE

Black hymnal - *You may remain seated as we sing*

THE PRAYER JESUS PRAYED

licia 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.**

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

Exodus 5:22-6:9

SERMON

Keep Your Friends Close and Your Enemies Closer

Lydia Mulkey

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

*HYMN

If We Just Talk of Thoughts and Prayers
by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

O W A L Y W A L Y

If we just talk of thoughts and prayers
And don't live out a faith that dares,
And don't take on the ways of death,
Our thoughts and prayers are fleeting breath.

If we just dream of what could be
And do not build community,
And do not seek to change our ways,
Our dreams of change are false displays.

If we just sing of doing good
And don't walk through our neighborhood
To learn its hope, to ease its pain,
Our talk of good is simply vain.

God, may our prayers and dreams and songs
Lead to a faith that takes on wrongs —
That works for peace and justice, too.
Then will our prayers bring joy to you.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Alicia Reese

OFFERTORY

Go Down, Moses

TRAD. AFRICAN-AMERICAN SPIRITUAL
arr. Bill Chin

*DOXOLOGY

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

Children, please come forward as we sing

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Christ, all people here below.

Praise Holy Spirit evermore;

Praise Triune God whom we adore. Amen.

TIME FOR SHARING AND BAPTISM OF ASHLEIGH ANN ZINSSER

Pastor: Members and friends in Christ, we gather now to celebrate the gift of grace in the sacrament of baptism for Ashleigh Ann Zinsser, who is here with her parents Caitlin and Kate, her brother Graeson, and her grandparents.

Council Member: On behalf of the Church Council, I present Ashleigh Ann Zinsser to receive the sacrament of Baptism.

QUESTIONS TO THE FAMILY AND COMMUNITY

Pastor: Do you desire to have your child baptized into the faith and family of Jesus Christ?

Parent/s: We do.

Pastor: Relying on God's grace, do you promise to live the Christian faith, and to teach this faith to your children?

Parents: We do.

Pastor: Do you promise, with the help of God, to be followers of God, to resist oppression and evil, to show love and justice, and to witness to the work and word of the Holy as best you are able?

Parents: We do, with the help of God.

Council Member: Jesus Christ calls us to make disciples of all nations, and to offer them the gift of grace in baptism. Do you who witness and celebrate this sacrament promise your love, support and care to the one about to be baptized, as she lives and grows in Christ? If so, please join me in the congregational covenant:

In this act of surpassing grace, we witness the power of God. In baptism, we become newly aware of God's abundant love and mercy. God calls each of us wherever we are, whoever we are, to share in the joy of God's presence in a community of faith. As people who strive to follow Jesus Christ more closely each day, we welcome you, Ashleigh Ann, to our common journey. Trusting God, we offer you our support and care.

THE BAPTISMAL CANDLE IS LIT

God of new life and of old, of our going out and our coming in, we present to you this child and ask that she be always yours. Today is the day she receives her light, her unique flame, her call. May this light guide her journey her whole life long. Amen.

BLESSING THE WATERS

Graeson Zinsser and the children of First United

BAPTISM

WELCOME

Council Member: Ashleigh has been received into the church through baptism. God has made her a member of the household of God. Let us welcome our newest sibling in Christ. With joy and thanksgiving, we welcome you into Christ's church to share with us in ministry, for we are all one in Christ.

BAPTISMAL HYMN

Ashleigh will be presented to the congregation during the first verse, please stand and create a circle around the sanctuary during the second and third verses.

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine x3
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine

Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine x3
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine

All through the night, I'm gonna let it shine x3
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine

GOING FORTH IN DEDICATION AND SERVICE

OUR LIFE TOGETHER

***HYMN 570**
Black hymnal

We Shall Overcome

WE SHALL OVERCOME

**We shall overcome,
We shall overcome,
We shall overcome someday.
Oh deep in my heart I do believe
We shall overcome someday.**

**We'll go hand in hand...
We are not afraid...
Our God will see us through...**

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE**

Amen, Amen

SENDING MUSIC

Sonata II: Allegro maestoso e vivace

Felix Mendelssohn

TODAY AT FIRST UNITED

TODAY'S FLOWERS ARE GIVEN in loving memory of the Rev. Julie Ruth Harley.



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.

FUJI GOES TO THE BOULEVARD - FUJI will visit the Boulevard and throw a birthday party for the residents TODAY, 5 p.m.!

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 Greeters: Joy & Dave Marshall and Vicky & Jim Wisuri; Lead Usher: Susan Buchanan; Sanctuary Guild members: Cindy Palombi and Nina Roher; and the 2nd Grade Church School Acolytes. We need more people for this work! If you think one or more of these ministries might be a fit for you, please contact Joanne Despotes at jdespotes@gmail.com or 708-209-1377.

EVENTS AND UPDATES

EMPTY BOWLS COMMUNITY DINNER – OPRF High School, South Cafeteria, February 22, 6-8 p.m. Soup supper and take-home pottery bowl provides funds for OPRF Food Pantry, PADS, and Global Alliance for Africa. For \$15 per adult (\$10 for students with ID), you pick out your own pottery bowl, handmade by the students in the OPRFHS Wheel-Throwing Club. Fill your bowl with your choice of soup, which is made by the Food Service class (as well as donated by local restaurants); bread and water round out the meal. There's a great spirit of community in the cafeteria where the event is held.

BUILD – DREAMS TO LEGACY ART EVENT – 1133 West Fulton Market, Chicago, February 23, 2019, 6-9 p.m. This fundraiser supports the Art Programs of BUILD. All art is on Silent Auction. BUILD is a recipient of our offering gifts due to their effective programs of youth development and reduction of violence. Tickets are \$50. Please contact stephaniearevalo@buildchicago.org or call 773-227-2880.

PRIMETIME MUSICAL & MALNATI'S. Join your PrimeTime friends (age 60+) for the OPRF High School musical, *Chicago*, and a pizza dinner following at Malnati's. Sunday, February 24, 2-8 p.m. Contact Janet Haisman no later than February 22 with \$20/person for dinner (708-383-2035 or jhaisman59@gmail.com). Come to OPRF High School South Cafeteria at 2 p.m. for treats, a pep talk on the musical, and early admission to the theater!

OUR NEW MEMBERS 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 give our attendees a great base of knowledge on life at First United and a chance to formally join our membership. Classes start February 24 at 9:30 a.m. We meet in the chapel. Contact Lydia at lmulkey@firstunitedoakpark.com for more information.

FOURTH SUNDAY OFFERING – NEXT SUNDAY. Our refugee family is adapting well as they make the difficult transition from Iraq (via Turkey) to America. We continue to be closely involved, helping them improve their English, get technical training, find good jobs, find more appropriate housing and navigate the ins and outs of American life. Money is very tight for this family. Your offering will help with much needed training and supplies.

PLEASE CONSIDER MAKING A LEGACY GIFT TO FIRST UNITED through your will or by designating the church as a beneficiary of your IRA, life insurance, or pension plan. When you make such a gift, please let the church know. We want to thank you and add you to our list of Kindred Spirits (those who have let the church know they have included a gift to First United in their estate plans). Questions? Contact Gene or Ann Armstrong (geneann1113@yahoo.com or 708-657-4484) or any of the pastors (708-386-5215)

NOMINATING COMMITTEE SEEKS INPUT - If you are thinking about using your gifts and talents in a more formal way to contribute to our life together, the "Nominations" card in the pew racks lists a variety of ways to get involved. And, if you would consider serving as an officer of the congregation (elections in May), you can also indicate that on the card. Self-nomination doesn't mean that you can be certain you will be invited to join the committee of your choice, but your input is a very important first step.) You can put the completed card in the offering plate or in the Nominating Committee mailbox. Blank cards are also available at the Elder's Desk in the Lounge.

CHILI COOK-OFF! Shrove Tuesday, March 5, 6:30 p.m. in Centennial Hall. This is a church-wide, community-wide fundraiser that will benefit our junior high youth group, FUJI! Use this Sign-up Genius to enter a chili or cornbread recipe into the competition. Suggested donations are \$5 per individual or \$20 per family. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090944A4AD2AA6F58-fuji2>

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, FEBRUARY 17

- 9:30 am Church School for All Ages
- 9:30 am Technology Help Desk
- 11:00 am Worship
- 12:00 pm Second Sunday Sundaes
- 5:00 pm FUJI Goes to the Boulevard!
- 6:00 pm FUSH

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 18

- 6:00 pm Monday Bible Study
- 6:00 pm PADS Emergency Shelter
- 6:30 pm Waging Peace meeting
- 7:00 pm Building & Grounds meeting
- 7:00 pm Nominating Committee meeting

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19

- 4:00 pm Pro Musica Youth Chorus
- 6:00 pm FUNS Parents Night
- 6:30 pm PNC meeting
- 7:00 pm Council meeting
- 7:00 pm Interfaith Green Network meeting

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20

- 11:00 am Wednesday Small Group
- 3:30 pm Food Pantry distribution
- 6:00 pm Adult Handbell rehearsal
- 7:00 pm Cluster Tutoring Board meeting
- 7:00 pm Food Pantry Volunteer Orientation

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21

- 8:15 am Mission Partner meeting
- 6:30 pm Cluster Tutoring
- 7:30 pm Faith in Action Committee meeting

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 22

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23

- 9:00 am Food Pantry Distribution
- 10:30 am Spiritual Life Team

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 24

- 9:30 am Church School for All Ages
- 9:30 am Technology Help Desk
- 11:00 am Worship and 4th Sunday Offering
- 2:00 pm PrimeTime Event
- 3:00 pm FUNS Cold Blooded Creatures Show
- 6:00 pm FUSH and FUJI

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

708.386.5215

Gene Armstrong, Council Moderator	geneann1113@yahoo.com
Barbara Metric, Council Clerk	barbarametric@comcast.net
Deborah Kapp, Interim Lead Pastor (ext. 101)	dkapp@firstunitedoakpark.com
Lydia Mulkey, Associate Pastor of Education (ext. 103)	lmulkey@firstunitedoakpark.com
Alicia Reese, Pastoral Assoc., Youth & Cong. Care (ext. 104)	areese@firstunitedoakpark.com
William Chin, Director of Music (ext. 108)	bill@firstunitedoakpark.com
Michael Surratt, Organist	msurratt@firstunitedoakpark.com
Amanda Swanson, Manager of Operations (ext. 102)	aswanson@firstunitedoakpark.com
Dennis Cobb, Administrative Assistant (ext. 100)	dcobb@firstunitedoakpark.com
Maureen Wheeler, Financial Consultant (ext. 106)	mwheeler@firstunitedoakpark.com
Suzi Benes, Financial Assistant (ext. 109)	sbenes@firstunitedoakpark.com
Keith Liesse, Manager of Building and Grounds (ext. 110)	kliesse@firstunitedoakpark.com
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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848 Lake Street, Oak Park IL 60301 | 708.386.5215

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