

FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF OAK PARK
10 MARCH 2019
FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT



An open community united in love and justice

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

“You are imperfect, and you are wired for struggle, but you are worthy of love and belonging.”
“True belonging doesn’t require that we change who we are; it requires that we be who we are.”
-Brené Brown

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

GATHERING MUSIC *Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison (Lord have mercy, Christ, have mercy)* J. S. Bach

WELCOME Please sign and pass the black Connections pad. Alicia Reese

POEM READING Laurie Jolicoeur

Let go of the place that holds,
Let go of the place that flinches,
Let go of the place that controls,
Let go of the place that fears.
Just let the ground support me.

Listen, the wind is breathing in the trees.
Sensing the edge of soft and hard, I follow the unseen path.
Walking in the dark night, I practice faith,
Building confidence in the unknown.
Walking in the dark night, I practice courage, accepting the vastness of what I cannot see.

*PASSING THE PEACE

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

*OPENING SONG 333

Seek Ye First, v. 1

LAFFERTY

Blue hymnal

**Seek ye first the kingdom of God and God’s righteousness,
And all these things shall be added unto you. Kyrie eleison.**

GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Deborah Kapp

Our journey into the Lenten wilderness has begun.

Let your spirit be near us, let us not walk alone.

Be our guide. Help us to let go, to take nothing with us.

Practicing our faith, courage, and vulnerability.

We are confident in you O God.

We yearn for you and praise your name, Amen.

*HYMN 179

We Yearn, O Christ, for Wholeness

PASSION CHORALE

Black hymnal

CALL TO PRAYER

Lydia Mulkey

We are a people with brokenness in need of healing, we yearn for wholeness and seek out the Spirit's presence so that we might be filled with love and peace. I invite you into a time of prayerful reflection as we listen to the sung prayer for wholeness...

PRAYER FOR WHOLENESS

Requiem Aeternam (from Requiem)

John Rutter

Eternal rest give unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.

A hymn, O God, becometh Thee in Zion, and a vow shall be paid to thee in Jerusalem.

Hear my prayer. All flesh shall come before you.

Lord, have mercy on us. Christ, have mercy on us. Lord, have mercy on us.

SILENCE IS KEPT.

ASSURANCE OF LOVE

Our God is good, shining light upon us, hearing our prayers, granting us grace because nothing can separate us from the love of God.

Thanks be to God.

TIME FOR SHARING

Deborah Kapp

As children come forward, all sing:

Wherever Love Is

The musical score is written on two staves. The first staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (half). The lyrics are: "Wher- ev- er Love is God is there too, God is in me 'cause". The second staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The melody is: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (half). The lyrics are: "I love you! Wher- ev- er Love is God is there too, God is wher- ev- er Love is!".

F/G C F C F C
Wher- ev- er Love is God is there too, God is in me 'cause
Dm7 Dm7/G C C7 F C Dm7 Dm7/G C
I love you! Wher- ev- er Love is God is there too, God is wher- ev- er Love is!

Words and Music by Bryan C. Sirchio

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD TO US

SONG OF ILLUMINATION *Out of the Deep* (Psalm 130) from *Requiem*

John Rutter

Out of the deep have I called unto thee, O Lord: Lord, hear my voice.
O let thine ears consider well: the voice of my complaint.
If thou, Lord, wilt be extreme to mark what is done amiss: O Lord, who may abide it?
For there is mercy with thee: therefore shalt thou be feared.
I look for the Lord; my soul doth wait for him: in his word is my trust.
My soul fleeth unto the Lord; before the morning watch, I say, before the morning watch.
O Israel, trust in the Lord, for with the Lord there is mercy: and with him is plenteous redemption.
And he shall redeem Israel: from all his sins.

RESPONSIVE SCRIPTURE READING Luke 4:1-13

Alicia Reese

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. The devil said to him,
"If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread."
Jesus answered him,
"It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone.'"
Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And the devil said to him, "To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours."
Jesus answered him,
"It is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'"
Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you, 'and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'"
Jesus answered him,
"It is said, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'"
When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

SERMON

Vulnerability is Not Very Tempting

Alicia Reese

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

*HYMN 211

Black hymnal

Lord Jesus, Who through Forty Days

ST. FLAVIN

UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Deborah Kapp

Faithful God, let these gifts be like food and drink in the wilderness for those who have suffered and longed for your presence. May these offerings strengthen those who are resisting temptation and lead us to attend to the vulnerable and all who need your healing touch. This we pray in the name of your son, our teacher and guide, Christ Jesus. Amen.

OFFERTORY

The Lord Is My Shepherd (Psalm 23) from *Requiem*

John Rutter

The Lord is my shepherd, therefore can I lack nothing.

He shall feed me in a green pasture: and lead me forth beside the waters of comfort.

He shall convert my soul: and bring me forth in the paths of righteousness, for his Name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff comfort me.

Thou shalt prepare a table before me against them that trouble me: thou hast anointed my head with oil, and my cup shall be full.

But thy loving-kindness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

*DOXOLOGY

OLD HUNDREDTH

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

Lydia Mulkey

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

CLOSING PRAYER

Lux Aeterna, from Requiem

John Rutter

I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord, for they rest from their labors: even so saith the Spirit.

Let everlasting light shine on them, O Lord, with your saints for ever: for you are merciful.

Eternal rest grant them, O Lord: and let perpetual light shine upon them.

*UNISON CHARGE

Alicia Reese

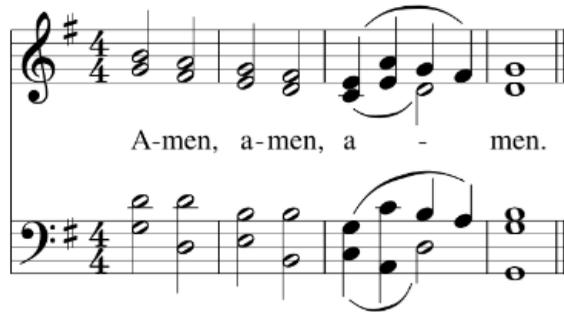
We are moving from words to witness, in our relationship with God, from individualism to intimate fellowship, in our relationship with other members of the church community, and from charity to changing structures in our relationship with the world.

*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Threefold Amen

DANISH



A-men, a-men, a - men.

SENDING MUSIC

Kyrie eleison (Lord, have mercy)

J. S. Bach

TODAY AT FIRST UNITED



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 Greeters: Joanne Despotes, Marilyn Kauffmann, Anne Paluck and Doug Thurman; Lead Ushers: Ted Despotes and Nell Lurain; Sanctuary Guild members: Cindy Palombi and Nina Roher; and the 4th Grade Church School Acolytes. We ask forgiveness for any omissions. 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

LENTEN BOOK GROUPS begin this week. Check the March Messenger Bell for times and locations and to read about the books that will be used for discussion.

YOUR BUILDING & GROUNDS COMMITTEE is making plans to beautify the gardens and plantings around our church building. Next Sunday, March 17, from 1 – 4 p.m. is the first of a series of outdoor work days and the more hands, the better! Lunch will be provided and the committee would like to know how many people to plan for, so please contact Sarah Thompson or go to this link TODAY and fill out the form:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1CwXo44YuPtcheGu2lRHmm__KVKxllCUijkhMHDcQ-UQ/viewform?edit_requested=true

FROM THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE: 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. Several opportunities are listed. 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.)

There's plenty of room on the "Nominations" side of the card to recommend people you know to serve in specific roles. And, if you have even more ideas about who would be great, feel free to turn in two or even three cards! Please think carefully and prayerfully about yourself, and about other members of the congregation. You can put the completed card in the offering plate when it is passed, or in the Nominating Committee mailbox. Blank cards are also available at the Elder's Desk in the Lounge. You can also access and complete the form electronically on the Church web site.

CITY VOICES SINGS ZOLTAN KODALY'S *MISSA BREVIS* on Saturday, March 16, 7:30 p.m. here in the Sanctuary. Under the direction of Bill Chin, our resident community chorus also presents music about angels, plus Arvo Pärt's *De Profundis* and the Alleluia from Randall Thompson's *The Place of the Blest*. Featured in this concert is Michael Surratt, organ, and Julian Chin, piano and percussion. Admission \$20, students \$10, all 18 and under free. This concert is presented by Music At First.

KODÁLY MISSA BREVIS

\$20 ADULTS

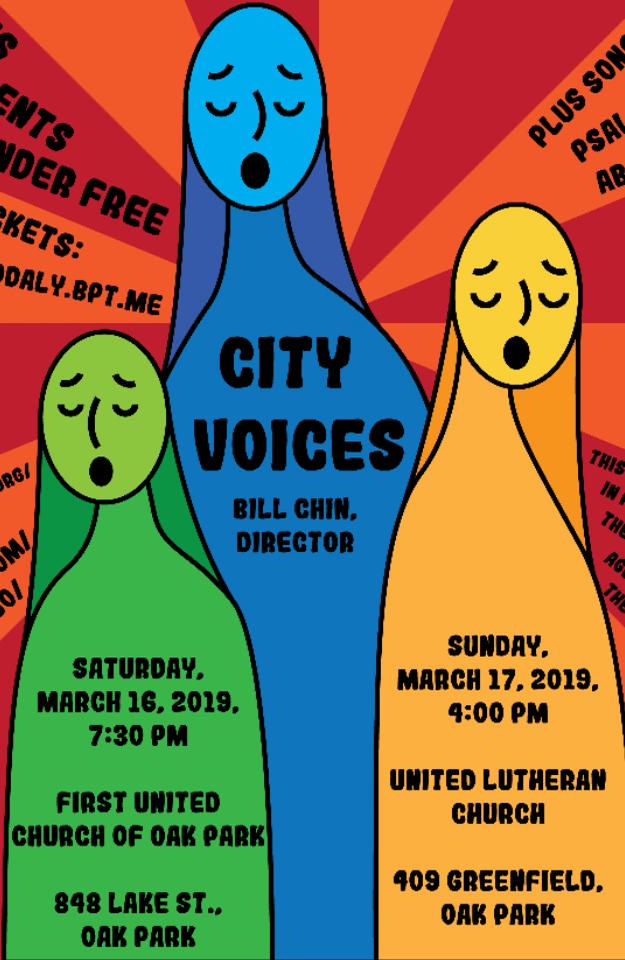
\$10 STUDENTS

18 AND UNDER FREE

ADVANCE TICKETS:

CITYVOICESKODALY.BPT.ME

**PLUS SONGS OF PRAISE,
PSALMS, AND MUSIC
ABOUT ANGELS**



**CITY
VOICES**

**BILL CHIN,
DIRECTOR**

**CITYVOICESCHICAGO.ORG/
WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/
CITYVOICESCHICAGO/**

**SATURDAY,
MARCH 16, 2019,
7:30 PM**

**FIRST UNITED
CHURCH OF OAK PARK**

**848 LAKE ST.,
OAK PARK**

**SUNDAY,
MARCH 17, 2019,
4:00 PM**

**UNITED LUTHERAN
CHURCH**

**409 GREENFIELD,
OAK PARK**

**THIS PROGRAM IS FUNDED
IN PART BY A GRANT FROM
THE ILLINOIS ARTS COUNCIL
AGENCY AND A GRANT FROM
THE OAK PARK AREA ARTS COUNCIL**

ART BY ELIANA TORIN

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, MARCH 10

- 9:30 am Church School for All Ages
- 9:30 am New Member Class
- 9:30 am Technology Help Desk
- 11:00 am Worship
- 12:00 pm Second Sunday Sundaes
- 6:00 pm FUSH and FUJI

MONDAY, MARCH 11

- 4:00 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry
- 6:00 pm Lenten Book Group
- 6:00 pm PADS Emergency Shelter
- 7:00 pm Worship, Music & Arts meeting

TUESDAY, MARCH 12

- 4:00 pm Pro Musica Youth Chorus
- 6:30 pm PNC meeting
- 7:00 pm Finance Committee meeting
- 7:00 pm Newcomers Committee meeting
- 7:00 pm Youth Committee meeting

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13

- 11:00 am Lenten Book Group
- 3:30 pm Food Pantry distribution
- 6:00 pm Adult Handbell rehearsal
- 6:30 pm Lenten Prayer
- 7:00 pm Lenten Book Group

THURSDAY, MARCH 14

- 6:30 pm Cluster Tutoring
- 7:00 pm Faith in Action meeting
- 7:00 pm Lenten Book Group

FRIDAY, MARCH 15

- 7:00 pm FUJI Retreat

SATURDAY, MARCH 16

- 9:00 am Food Pantry Distribution
- 7:30 pm City Voices Concert

SUNDAY, MARCH 17

- 9:15 am Adult Handbells
- 9:30 am Church School for All Ages
- 9:30 am New Member Class
- 9:30 am Technology Help Desk
- 11:00 am Worship
- 1:00 pm Building & Grounds Spring
Work Day
- 6:00 pm FUSH

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

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Barbara Metric, Council Clerk	barbarametric@comcast.net
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Lydia Mulkey, Associate Pastor of Education (ext. 103)	lmulkey@firstunitedoakpark.com
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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



FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF OAK PARK

an open community united in love & justice

848 Lake Street, Oak Park IL 60301 | 708.386.5215

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