

**FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF OAK PARK**  
**3 MARCH 2019**



*An open community united in love and justice*

## PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

Where could I go to get away from your spirit?  
Where could I go to escape from your presence?  
If I went up to heaven, you would be there.  
If I went down to the grave, you would be there, too.  
If I could fly on the wings of the dawn,  
stopping to rest only on the far side of the ocean,  
even there your hand would guide me, even there your strong hand would hold me tight.  
Psalm 139: 7-10

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

GATHERING MUSIC	<i>Choral and Prayer</i>	Léon Boëllmann
WELCOME	Please sign and pass the black Connections pad.	Alicia Reese
INTROIT	<i>A Festive Peal</i> Eighth Grade Handbells	John Levitt

### \*PASSING THE PEACE

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

### \*OPENING SONG 368

*I've Got Peace Like a River (v. 1)*

AFRICAN-AMERICAN SPIRITUAL

Blue hymnal

**I've got peace like a river, I've got peace like a river, I've got peace like a river in my soul (x2)**

## GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Alicia Reese

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.**

It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks, O God.

You set the sun to brighten the day

and the moon and stars to illumine the night.

You lead us by the light of your truth

into the way of goodness and peace.

Blue hymnal

**CALL TO PRAYER**

With confidence in God’s transforming love for us, let us pray:

**PRAYER FOR WHOLENESS**

Lord, bring new life where we are worn and tired,  
New love where we have turned hard-hearted,  
Forgiveness where we feel hurt and where we have wounded,  
And the joy and freedom of your Holy Spirit  
where we are the prisoners of ourselves.

SILENCE IS KEPT.

**ASSURANCE OF LOVE**

To all and to each, where regret is real,  
God pronounces pardon and grants us the right to begin again.  
Thanks be to God.  
**Amen.**

**TIME FOR SHARING**

Lydia Mulkey

*The children may come forward as we sing:*

Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so.  
Little ones to him belong. They are weak, but he 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

Exodus 34:29-35, OT p. 81

Deborah Kapp

SERMON

*Hopes and Dreams*

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

\*HYMN 276

*Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

FAITHFULNESS

Blue hymnal

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Deborah Kapp

OFFERTORY

*Prayer for Transfiguration Day*

John Weaver

O God, in the glorious transfiguration of Christ, your Son, you have confirmed the mystery of the faith by the testimony of the apostles. In the voice that came from the bright cloud you proclaimed him to be your Son, and told us to heed his teachings. O God, make us heirs with Christ, in his glory evermore, alleluia. Amen.

\*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.**

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Alicia Reese, Lydia Mulkey, and Deborah Kapp

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,  
for they shall be filled.  
Let us pray.

Holy God, Holy One, Holy Three!  
Before all that is, you were God.  
Outside all we know, you are God.  
After all is finished, you will be God.  
Archangels sound the trumpets, angels sing us their song,  
Saints pull us into your presence.  
And this is our song:

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Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er, God of  
 might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. \_\_\_\_\_ Ho - san - na in the  
 high - est. \_\_\_\_\_ Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. \_\_\_\_\_ Ho -  
 san - na in the high - est, \_\_\_\_\_ ho - san - na in the high - est.

Holy God, Holy One, Holy Three!

You beyond galaxies, you under the oceans,

You inside the leaves, you pouring down rain,

You opening flowers, you feeding insects,

You giving us your image,

You carrying us through the waters and holding us in the night:

Your smile on Sarah and Abraham,

Your hand with Moses and Miriam,

Your words through Deborah and Isaiah,

You lived as Jesus among us, healing, teaching, dying, rising,

Inviting us all to your feast.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Holy God, we remember your Son,

His life with the humble, his death among the wretched,

His resurrection for us all:

Your wisdom our guide, your justice our strength,

Your grace our path to rebirth.

Hear now our concerns. . .

And our joys. . .

And so we cry:

**Mercy.**

And so we cry:

**Glory.**

And so we cry:

**Blessing.**

Holy God, we beg for your Spirit:  
Enliven this bread, awaken this body,  
Pour us out for each other.  
Nourish the life of the earth.  
Make us, while many, united.  
Make us, though broken, whole.  
Make us, despite death, alive.

And so we cry:

**Come, Holy Spirit.**

And so the church shouts:

**Come, Holy Spirit.**

And so the earth pleads:

**Come, Holy Spirit.**

You, Holy God, Holy One, Holy Three -  
Our Life, our Mercy, our Might,  
Our Table, our Food, our Server,  
Our Sovereign, our Water, our Wine,  
Our Light, our Truth, our Life—  
Holy God, Holy One, Holy Three!

Praise now, praise tomorrow, praise forever.

And so we cry:

**Amen.**

## **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.

## **PRAYER FOLLOWING COMMUNION**

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.**

## **OUR LIFE TOGETHER**

# GOING FORTH IN DEDICATION AND SERVICE

**\*HYMN 376**

Blue hymnal

*Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

HYFRYDOL

**\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

**\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE**

*Amen, Amen*

**SENDING MUSIC**

*Rigaudon*

André Campra

# 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, Communion Servers, and those who provide Hospitality through various ministries.

## EVENTS AND UPDATES

**ONE EARTH FILM FESTIVAL**, March 1-10. Interfaith Green Network suggests: "Paris to Pittsburgh" Sunday, March 3 (TODAY!), St. Giles Parish, action fair plus refreshments 12:30 p.m., film 1:30 p.m., free. And "Tawai: A Voice From the Forest" Sunday March 3, 4pm, Unity Temple, film plus reception \$20. For details, trailers, tickets, and information on 26 additional films go to [www.oneearthfilmfest.org](http://www.oneearthfilmfest.org).

**UNITED POWER** - We are planning to join United Power for a meeting with Gov. Pritzker this spring. It will be a Sunday afternoon TBD. If you would like to attend, (if at all possible), please sign up in the lounge today - help with #'s predicted and to be notified.

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

**DINNER & A MOVIE** - Friday, March 8: *BlacKKKlansman*. In the early 1970s, Ron Stallworth becomes the first African-American detective in the Colorado Springs Police Department. Determined to make a difference, he bravely sets out on a dangerous mission: infiltrate and expose the Ku Klux Klan. He recruits a seasoned colleague, Flip Zimmerman, into the undercover investigation. Together, they team up to take down the extremist organization aiming to garner mainstream appeal. Dinner at 5:45 p.m. (\$5 donation); movie at 6:20 (free). Sign up in the Lounge or call Cynthia Callazo 708-383-9228.

**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.

**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.

**REMEMBER TO SPRING FORWARD!** Daylight Savings Time begins next weekend! Don't be late to church!

# 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](mailto: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](http://www.firstunitedoakpark.com/giving).



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848 Lake Street, Oak Park IL 60301 | 708.386.5215

[www.firstunitedoakpark.com](http://www.firstunitedoakpark.com) | [facebook.com/firstunitedoakpark](https://facebook.com/firstunitedoakpark)

## WEEKLY CALENDAR

### SUNDAY, MARCH 3

8:30 am Church School Leader Breakfast  
9:15 am 8th Grade 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 with Communion  
4:00 pm Quest Session  
5:00 pm FUSH Youth Board  
6:00 pm FUSH and FUJI

### MONDAY, MARCH 4

6:00 pm Monday Bible Study  
6:00 pm PADS Emergency Shelter

### TUESDAY, MARCH 5

4:00 pm Pro Musica Youth Chorus  
5:30 pm Communications Committee meeting  
6:30 pm FUJI Chili Cook-Off  
6:30 pm PNC meeting  
7:00 pm Children's Ministry meeting

### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6

11:00 am Wednesday Small Group  
6:30 pm Ash Wednesday Worship  
7:00 pm Food Pantry distribution

### THURSDAY, MARCH 7

6:30 pm Cluster Tutoring  
7:00 pm Housing Justice meeting

### FRIDAY, MARCH 8

5:45 pm Dinner & A Movie

### SATURDAY, MARCH 9

9:00 am Food Pantry Distribution  
3:00 pm Nursery School Event

### SUNDAY, MARCH 10

#### DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS!

9:30 am Church School for All Ages  
9:30 am New Member Class  
9:30 am Technology Help Desk  
11:00 am Worship  
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

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)

Suzi Benes, Financial Assistant (ext. 109)

Keith Liesse, Manager of Building and Grounds (ext. 110)

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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708-338-1724, [www.housingforward.org](http://www.housingforward.org)

708-386-1324, [www.oprffoodpantry.org](http://www.oprffoodpantry.org)

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773-378-5530, [www.clustertutoring.org](http://www.clustertutoring.org)

708-406-9597, [www.promusicayouthchorus.org](http://www.promusicayouthchorus.org)

847-446-6955, [www.northshoresamaritan.org](http://www.northshoresamaritan.org)

