

FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF OAK PARK
14 APRIL 2019
SIXTH SUNDAY IN LENT – PALM SUNDAY



An open community united in love and justice

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

This is the week that defines the truth of the world.
This is the week when we remember what God did
to reveal divine ways most clearly in this world.
It is a way of redemption, a way of facing that which is wrong
and has gone wrong, and not letting the wrong define us.
And it all started with a parade.

-The Rev. Tom Are, Jr.

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

GATHERING MUSIC

O Guiltless Lamb of God

J. S. Bach

WELCOME

Please sign and pass the black Connections pad.

*PASSING THE PEACE

Lydia Mulkey

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

*OPENING SONG

Seek Ye First, v.1

LAFFERTY

Blue hymnal 333

**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

Hogan Porter

We gather together in this place.
Raising our branches in joy!

Joining all who wish to see Jesus
**eager for a healing touch,
a blessing received.**

We gather together in this place.
Raising our branches in hope!

Joining all who wish to hear Jesus
**longing for a message of welcome
and acceptance on our journey.**

We gather together in this place.
Laying down our branches in fear.

Wondering if we are able to walk with Jesus
**through the week ahead,
through anguish, accusations, despair.**

We gather together in this place.
**Waving branches of prayer.
Walking toward the Cross, and the empty tomb.**

***HYMN 88**

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

ALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN

Blue hymnal

LITANY OF SCRIPTURE AND PRAYER

Alicia Reese

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love,
any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete:
Be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind.

Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit,
but in humility regard others as better than yourselves.

Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others.

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus.

Take nothing with you. Throughout Lent we have pondered the ways in which we are
burdened by the weight of temptations, accomplishments, expectations, ego, stinginess, and
other dimensions of our lives. We have encouraged one another to ponder what weights we
might put aside, that we might each have the same mind that was in Christ Jesus:

**Who, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited,
but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant,
being born in human likeness.
And being found in human form he humbled himself.**

Let us consider in silence the baggage that God invites us to leave behind.

SILENCE IS KEPT

As a sign of our willingness to lay aside the sin and weight that cling so closely, let us bring forward the stones that we were invited to pick up as we came into worship and place them in the baskets on the communion table.

SONG

O Lord, hear my prayer

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of two systems of music. The first system has a melody line and a bass line. The melody line has lyrics: "O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: when I call, an - swer me. O". The bass line has lyrics: "O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer. Come and lis - ten to me. O". The second system continues the melody and bass lines. The melody line has lyrics: "Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer. Come and lis - ten to me. O". The bass line has lyrics: "Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer. Come and lis - ten to me. O". Both systems end with a double bar line and a fermata over the final note, with the text "Last Time" written above the fermata.

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.
 Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near.
 Do not worry about anything,
 but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving
 let your requests be made known to God.
 And the peace of God, which passes all understanding,
 will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

TIME FOR SHARING

Deborah Kapp

As children come forward, all sing:

Wherever Love Is

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of two systems of music. The first system has a melody line and a bass line. The melody line has lyrics: "Wher- ev- er Love is God is there too, God is in me 'cause". The bass line has lyrics: "I love you! Wher- ev- er Love is God is there too, God is wher- ev- er Love is!". The second system continues the melody and bass lines. The melody line has lyrics: "I love you! Wher- ev- er Love is God is there too, God is wher- ev- er Love is!". The bass line has lyrics: "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

Day by Day, Dear Lord **541**

Richard of Chichester (c. 1197-1253) STONETHWAITE: 3. 8. 6. 5. 6. 3.
Arthur Somervell, 1931

Day by day, Dear Lord, of Thee three things I pray: To see Thee more clear-ly, Love Thee more dear-ly, Fol-low Thee more near-ly, Day by day. A-MEN.

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SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 21:1-16, NT p. 23

Deborah Kapp

SERMON

King for a Day

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

*HYMN 91

Blue hymnal

Ride On! Ride On in Majesty!

ST. DROSTANE

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Alicia Reese

OFFERTORY

Hosanna to the Son of David

Orlando Gibbons

Hosanna to the Son of David. Blessed be he that cometh in the name of the Lord. Blessed be the King of Israel, the Kingdom that cometh in the name of the Lord. Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest places. Hosanna in the highest heavens.

*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

Deborah Kapp and Hogan Porter

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

Alicia Reese

*HYMN 89
Blue hymnal

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

ELLACOMBE

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Deborah Kapp

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Threefold Amen

DANISH



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

SENDING MUSIC

Fugue in G minor

J. S. Bach

TODAY AT FIRST UNITED

CELEBRATE CENTENNIAL POETRY – Following worship today, we are delighted to distribute a "Collection of Centennial Poetry" as the final chapter in our Centennial celebration. This keepsake collection includes original poetry and a hymn interlaced with artwork and photos by church members. Please join us for Second Sunday Sundaes and other goodies (who doesn't like cookies with their ice cream?) in the Lounge following the service.



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: Barbara Fletcher, Marilyn Kauffmann, Clara Kearley, and Dale Sorenson; Lead Usher: Bonnie Mize; Sanctuary Guild members: Cindy Palombi and Nina Roher; and the Kindergarten 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

FLOWERS FOR EASTER – You are invited to help provide beautiful flowers to be delivered to the homebound and to help adorn the Sanctuary with flowers for our Easter celebration by making a gift in memory of or in honor of a loved one. Easter Flower envelopes are available at the Sanctuary exits and on the desk in the Lounge. Please follow the instructions on the envelope to make your gift. The gifts will be acknowledged in the Easter Sunday bulletins.

BREAD BAKING AND TABLE SETTING – On Wednesday, April 17 starting at 3:00 p.m., we'll gather to bake bread and set tables in preparation for our Maundy Thursday meal. Join us!

MAUNDY THURSDAY HELP, April 18 - Set up, soup warmers, table hosts, clean up. Go to the Sign Up Genius at bit.ly/HolyWeekHelpers to let us know how you can help and to see start times for the various opportunities.

MAUNDY THURSDAY WORSHIP – We will gather for a soup dinner at 6:30 p.m. in Centennial Hall and then make our way through the tunnels for an 8 p.m. Tenebrae Service in the Sanctuary.

PEACE VIGIL – Good Friday, April 19, 7 p.m. First United front steps – Ending the Hate

Take a stand for peace and against hate:

- * Pray for the end of hate & violence
- * Align with the peace signs made by our 3rd Graders
- * Hear anti-violence activist guest Anthony Clark
- * Share a liturgy on peace and meaning of Good Friday

Let nothing separate us from the love of God. Hate has no home here!

“Let our words and actions now assemble to bring peace, to restore justice, and to show love.

- Rev. John Dorhauer

FOURTH SUNDAY OFFERINGS on April 28 will be directed toward the One Great Hour of Sharing, a historic offering in which both our denominations participate, and our offering will be split between the two. The offering is used to help refugees and immigrants, provide start-up funding for economic development, and deliver disaster relief around the world. Our churches do a good job with this work, and this is a way you can participate. Please give as generously as you are able. Thank you.

POWER UP FOR MOTHER'S DAY - Join the Housing Justice team in the Lounge and sign up to sponsor a flower pot planted by Church School children on May 5. The pots will be delivered to New Moms for Mother's Day. Help us help New Moms break the cycle of poverty and homelessness for teenage moms and their children by sponsoring a pot (or two) with a tax-deductible donation of \$10-\$15.

WE ARE ENDING HUNGER ONE STEP AT A TIME! Join the First United Team for the 36th Hunger Walkathon West on Sunday afternoon, May 5, 2019. See a recruiter in the Lounge before or after Worship for information or to sign up.

PRAY IN MAY! Join us for a Deacon-sponsored workshop on prayer, open to all! We will gather on Sunday, May 5, 12:30 - 2 p.m. Lunch will be served, and we will engage in an afternoon of self-care by experiencing new types of prayer together. Please RSVP to Alicia Reese (areese@firstunitedoakpark.com) so we can order the right amount of food.

A CONGREGATIONAL MEETING is called for Sunday, May 19, 2019 at the end of our regular service. New Council members, Deacons, and members of the Nominating Committee will be voted upon. Please join us for this important meeting.

PLEASE NOTE: The First United office and building will be closed on Monday, April 22 to give the pastors and staff a break the day after Holy Week and Easter.

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, APRIL 14

- 9:00 am Flower Power
- 9:30 am Church School for All Ages
- 9:30 am Technology Help Desk
- 11:00 am Palm Sunday Worship
- 12:00 pm Second Sunday Sundaes
Centennial Poetry celebration
- 6:00 pm FUJI and FUSH

MONDAY, APRIL 15

- 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

TUESDAY, APRIL 16

- 4:00 pm Pro Musica Youth Chorus
- 7:00 pm Council meeting

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17

- 11:00 am Wednesday Small Group
- 3:00 pm Bread Baking
- 3:30 pm Food Pantry distribution
- 7:00 pm Food Pantry Volunteer
Orientation
- 7:00 pm Lenten Book Group

THURSDAY, APRIL 18

- 6:30 pm Maundy Thursday Soup Supper
- 8:00 pm Tenebrae Worship Service

FRIDAY, APRIL 19

- 7:00 pm Ending the Hate
Peace Vigil

SATURDAY, APRIL 20

- 9:00 am Food Pantry distribution
- 10:00 am PFLAG Council meeting

SUNDAY, APRIL 21

- 8:00 am Bluegrass Easter Worship
- 9:15 am Easter Fellowship
- 11:00 am Easter Celebration

MONDAY, APRIL 22

Church Office Closed

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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