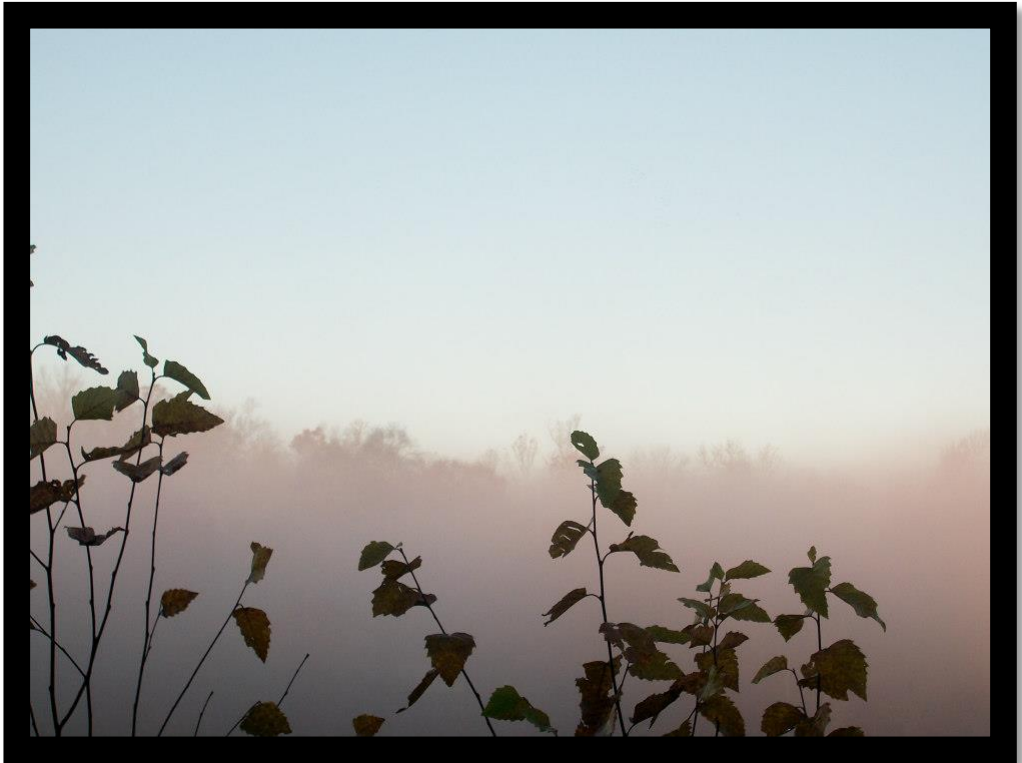


**FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF OAK PARK**  
**26 MAY 2019**



*An open community united in love and justice*

# PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

“The very least you can do in your life is to figure out what to hope for.  
And the most you can do is live inside that hope.”

—Barbara Kingsolver

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

GATHERING MUSIC

*Toccata per l'Elevazione*

Girolamo Frescobaldi (1583-1643)

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

*Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing!*

GELOBT SEI GOTT

The Lord of life is risen to - day! Bring flowers of song, be -  
deck the way; Let ev - ery tongue re - joice and say:  
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

## GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

based on Psalm 67

Come, friends, to celebrate God who is gracious, who blesses the world.

**We come that God's way may be known upon earth; God's redeeming power among all nations.**

Let the peoples praise God!

**We sing for joy, for God moves with equity, guiding the people upon the earth.**

Let the peoples praise God!

**May God continue to bless the world; let all the ends of the earth revere Him.**

**\*HYMN 28**  
Black hymnal

*For the Beauty of the Earth*

DIX

### **CALL TO PRAYER**

Our Muslim kin issue and respond to a call to prayer five times a day. In Arabic, the word is *adhan*, or أَذَان. The root of the word means to listen, to hear, be informed about. As we are called to prayer in this moment, open your heart. Listen. Hear. Be informed about what the Spirit may be sharing with you today.

### **PRAYER FOR WHOLENESS**

**Good and gracious God, we long to sense your presence. We are eager to be close to you and your people. Here we are, Holy One, trying to shed our skin, trying to live into the lives you have cultivated for us. We are imperfect in this process. Our fears get the better of us, our doubts take us over. We are persuaded by the world's promises, pursuing those at the expense of others. Out of the silence, our hearts cry out to you for reconciliation and grace.**

SILENCE IS KEPT.

### **ASSURANCE OF LOVE**

In the gospel, we hear a story of a person who is broken and feels alone. Jesus asks, "do you want to be made well?" The promise of God's love made known to us in Jesus Christ is revealed in this moment: we are freed to go and know healing.

**No longer are we broken or alone! We are made well by the love of God. Amen!**

### **TIME FOR SHARING**

*Children, please come forward as we sing.*

**HYMN 327**

*Jesus Loves Me, v.1*

Lydia Mulkey

**JESUS LOVES ME**

Black hymnal

**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

*Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks*

ALLELUIA NO. 1

Refrain

Al - lel - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give thanks to the ris - en Lord.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give praise to His \_ Name.

Verse

2. Spread the good news o'er all the \_ earth:

Je - sus has died and has ri - sen. D.C.

SCRIPTURE READING

Revelation 21:10, 22:1-5

SERMON

In the Spirit, I Was Carried Away

Ally Vertigan

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

**\*HYMN 403**

*My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less*

SOLID ROCK

Black hymnal

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Lydia Mulkey

OFFERTORY

*At the River*

Hymn tune, arr. Aaron Copland

**\*DOXOLOGY**

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Christ, all people here below. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God whom we adore.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Ally Vertigan

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 391**

*In the Midst of New Dimensions*

NEW DIMENSIONS

Black hymnal

**\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

Ally Vertigan

**\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE**

*Halle, halle, halleluja*

Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - ja.

Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - ja.

Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - ja. Hal - le -

lu - ja, hal - le - lu - ja.

**SENDING MUSIC**

*Toccata and Fugue in C Major*

Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)

**TODAY AT FIRST UNITED**

**FOURTH SUNDAY OFFERING** – Today’s offering will support young moms and their children, who are at risk of homelessness, to find stable housing, employment/career skills and parenting skills. We can help the families create bright futures! Your undesignated offering today or gifts put in the special Fourth Sunday envelope will go to support New Moms.

**OUR GUEST ORGANIST** today is Tom Wikman.



**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 Lead Usher: Susan Buchanan; Greeters: Dave & Hyejong Marshall and Jim Wisuri & Vicky Lekovish; Sanctuary Guild members: Cindy Palombi and Nina Roher; and the Pre-school 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](mailto:jdespotes@gmail.com) or 708-209-1377.

## **EVENTS AND UPDATES**

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING TO CALL NEW LEAD PASTOR** - On Sunday June 23, the candidate for Lead Pastor will be at First United. Following the service there will be a Congregational Meeting to vote on calling the minister to First United. A congregational breakfast will be held before worship at 8 a.m. It will be a time for fellowship, conversation, and questions for our lead pastor candidate. The worship service with the candidate preaching will begin at 10 a.m and the meeting will immediately follow the service.

**CONFIRMATION SUNDAY** is next week, June 2. Celebrate with us as this year's confirmands are received into membership. Following worship, we will honor them with a reception.

**YOUTH WORK CAMP** - Final Meeting on June 9, 11:15 – 11:30 a.m. (Youth and Parents); 11:30 – 12:15 a.m. (Youth only).

**NEW MEMBERS SUMMER SESSION** starts Sunday, June 2. Our new member class is for regular churchgoers interested in First United membership and for newcomers wanting to know more. Our shortened summer series includes a church tour on June 2, a 2 hour dinner discussion on June 5, and an opportunity to join our membership on June 9. Meet June 2 at 9:00am; chapel. Contact Lydia at [lmulkey@firstunitedoakpark.com](mailto:lmulkey@firstunitedoakpark.com) for information.

**APPEARANCES COUNT** – Folks who walk by the church notice whether our grounds are neat and weed free. A great appearance signals something positive to people. We want our grounds to look great! To do so we are initiating a new effort – WEED A WEEK. Join this effort by signing up in the

church lounge. Your one-time commitment will be approximately 45 minutes. It's a great way to help. Invite a friend, be together as a family, and, most important, know that you have helped to make us look great! Sign up today. Questions? Talk to Charlie Morris.

**PLEASE NOTE** – The church office and the building will be closed on Monday, May 27 in observance of Memorial Day.

*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).

## WEEKLY CALENDAR

### SUNDAY, MAY 26

9:30 am Technology Help Desk  
10:00 am Worship  
Fourth Sunday Offering

3:00 pm PFLAG

### MONDAY, MAY 27

Building Closed  
in observance of Memorial Day

### TUESDAY, MAY 28

4:00 pm Food Pantry Volunteer Leadership

### WEDNESDAY, MAY 29

11:00 am Wednesday Small Group  
3:30 pm Food Pantry Distribution

### THURSDAY, MAY 30

### FRIDAY, MAY 31

7:00 pm Troop 16 Court of Honor

### SATURDAY, JUNE 1

9:00 am Food Pantry Distribution  
9:00 am Confirmation Rehearsal  
2:00 pm Nursery School Irish Dance Class

### SUNDAY, JUNE 2

8:00 am Confirmation Breakfast  
9:00 am Newcomers Class  
9:30 am Technology Help Desk  
10:00 am Worship with Communion  
11:00 am Confirmation Reception

**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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708-848-4910, [www.firstunitedschool.com](http://www.firstunitedschool.com)

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

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

[susanzaruba@gmail.com](mailto:susanzaruba@gmail.com)

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)



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