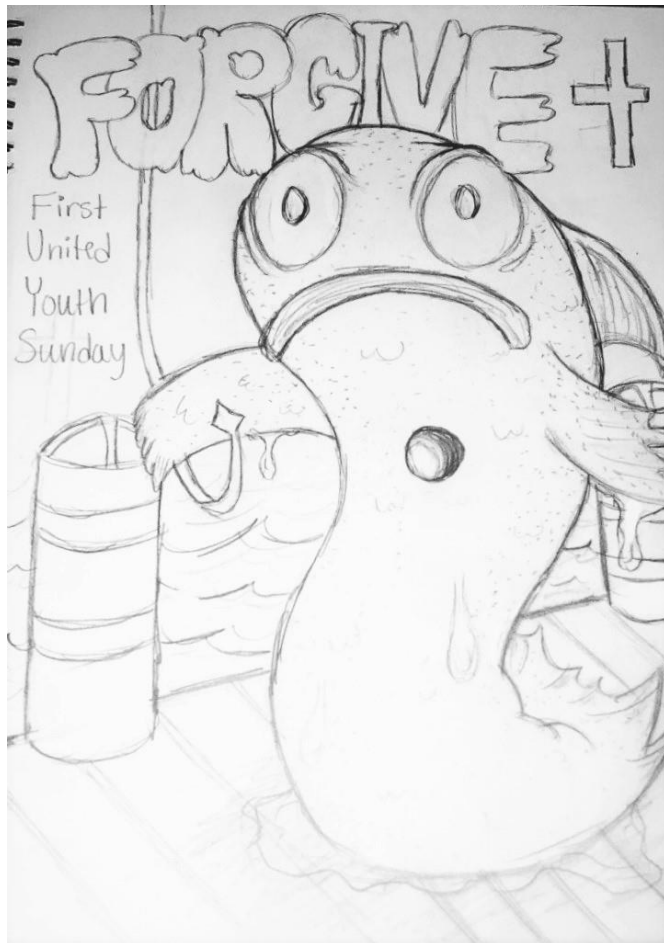


FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF OAK PARK
5 MAY 2019



Cover Art by Phoebe Foster

An open community united in love and justice

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

“There is no love without forgiveness, and there is no forgiveness without love”

-Bryant H. McGill

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

GATHERING MUSIC

Frasquita Serenade
Jane Vachon, violin

Franz Lehar

WELCOME

Please sign and pass the black Connections pad. Camryn Zdziarski-West

ANNOUNCEMENT AND READING OF PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES

Art Spooner

*PASSING THE PEACE

Evan Huber

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

*OPENING SONG 40

You are the Way

NUN DANKET ALL'

Black hymnal

GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Caroline Lever

Lord, save us from ourselves.

We continue to do the same things over and over, expecting different results.

Lord, save us from doing too much.

We go fishing every day, not noticing you waiting with a meal on the beach.

Lord, save us from doing too little.

We say we love you, and yet so often we neglect your sheep.

Lord, save us from ourselves.

Help us to hear and respond when you say, "Follow Me."

1. Will you come and fol - low me If I but
 2. Will you leave your - self be - hind If I but
 3. Will you let the blind - ed see If I but
 4. Will you love the 'you' you hide If I but
 5. Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true When you but

call your name? Will you go where
 call your name? Will you care for
 call your name? Will you set the
 call your name? Will you quell the
 call my name. Let me turn and

you don't know And nev - er be the same?
 cruel and kind And nev - er be the same?
 pris - 'ners free And nev - er be the same?
 fear in - side And nev - er be the same?
 fol - low you And nev - er be the same.

Will you let my love be shown, Will you
 Will you risk the hos - tile stare Should your
 Will you kiss the lep - er clean, And do
 Will you use the faith you've found To re -
 In your com - pa - ny I'll go Where your

let my name be known, Will you let my
 life at - tract or scare? Will you let me
 such as this un - seen, And ad - mit to
 shape the world a - round, Through my sight and
 love and foot - steps show. Thus I'll move and

life be grown In you and you in me?
 an - swer prayer In you and you in me?
 what I mean In you and you in me?
 touch and sound In you and you in me?
 live and grow In you and you in me.

CALL TO PRAYER

Paul Raducha

Our God is gracious and kind. Reconciliation and forgiveness are what await us on the beach.
 Please join me in our prayer for wholeness...

PRAYER FOR WHOLENESS

Loving God, all the fancy words in the world, expressed in eloquent prose, decorated with emotion, spoken with conviction, cannot compete with a simple, yet heartfelt 'sorry.' There are times when we are all too aware of our limitations, conscious of our mistakes, and the distance it creates between us. Sometimes 'sorry' is all the heart can bear to say aloud. It is only you, who can read and understand the language of our hearts. Only you, who can translate our 'sorry' into the prayer we would have prayed, if we had the words within us. Then you forgive, and having forgiven, surround us in an embrace of love, drawing us close to your heart, as it was always meant to be. Thank you for listening to our voices and our hearts.

SILENCE IS KEPT.

ASSURANCE OF LOVE

Hannah Metric

Friends, each of you are a beloved child of God. Nothing can separate you from God's love, no fault or failure, mistake or brokenness. God will always see more.

Thanks be to God, Amen!

SONG FOR TIME FOR SHARING

Like a Rock

Musical notation for the first line of the song. The melody is written on a treble clef staff with a key signature of two flats (Bb and Eb) and a common time signature. The lyrics are: "Like a rock, like a rock God is un - der our feet, Like the star - ry night sky God is". Chord symbols above the staff include Bb, F/Bb, Eb/Bb, F/Bb, Bb, and Eb.

Musical notation for the second line of the song. The melody continues on the treble clef staff. The lyrics are: "o - ver our head, Like the sun on the ho - ri - zon God is". Chord symbols above the staff include Bb, F, Gm, and Eb.

Musical notation for the third line of the song. The melody concludes on the treble clef staff. The lyrics are: "ev - er be - fore, Like the riv - er runs to o - cean, our home is in God ev - er - more." Chord symbols above the staff include Bb, Cm, Gm, F, Bb, Eb, Bb, F, and Bb.

TIME FOR SHARING

Grace Kopka, Caroline Lever, Olivia Lonergan

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.

DRAMATIC SCRIPTURE READING John 21:1-19, NT p. 115

Narrator: Grace Kopka

Peter: Jane Vachon

Jesus: Gilbert Vivas

SERMON BY A SENIOR YOUTH

Matt Aeschleman

A MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

CONGREGATIONAL DISCUSSION ON SERMON

Even though Peter denied Jesus three time, Jesus knows the depth of Peter's commitment and love. Jesus does not dwell on Peter's mistakes, instead he models reconciliation and gives Peter a mission. To feed his sheep, to care for the people he loves. Where have you witnessed this kind of forgiveness or reconciliation? Where have you or would you like to grant forgiveness and engage in reconciliation?

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

*HYMN 570

We Shall Overcome

WE SHALL OVERCOME

Black hymnal

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Emerson Porter

OFFERTORY

Beautiful City

Colin Lonergan

*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!

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

INVITATION

Daniella Chapman-Rienstra

GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 thanks and praise.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING THE ELEMENTS

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

For Everyone Born
Sung by Elise & Roz Beile

Shirley Erena Murray/Brian Mann

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Daniella Chapman-Rienstra

GOING FORTH IN DEDICATION AND SERVICE

OUR LIFE TOGETHER

Colin Lonergan

*HYMN 537
Blue hymnal

Shalom Chaverim

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Matt Aeschleman

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Halle, halle, halle

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

Trumpet Tune in D

David N. Johnson

TODAY AT FIRST UNITED

**WE GIVE THANKS FOR THE GIFT OF LIFE, THE GIFT OF LIVES WELL LIVED,
AND THE GIFT OF LIFE ETERNAL.**

We remember with thanksgiving the life of Patrick Guinan, who died peacefully on Thursday night. For 42 years Pat served this congregation as a custodian, and we shall miss him in more ways than we can imagine. We extend our condolences to his family and friends. Services are pending; we will let you know when we have further information.

We celebrate new life in our midst, the birth of Ivy Alice Parker on April 26. Congratulations to her moms Aubrey and Ellen, her sister Alec, and her brother Owen. Welcome, Ivy.



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: Cynthia Collazo, Marge Lyon, Anne Paluck and Debby Preiser; Lead Usher: Bob Larson; Sanctuary Guild members: Cindy Palombi and Nina Roher; and the Preschool Church School Acolytes. We also thank Linda Sandman who was one of the Art Guild members who decorated the church for Easter and was omitted last week. If you think one or more of these Hospitality Ministries might be a fit for you, please contact Joanne Despotas at jdespotas@gmail.com or 708-209-1377.

EVENTS AND UPDATES

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING - A Congregational Meeting is called for Sunday, May 19, 2019 following worship. Revisions to the Church's Constitution will be recommended for your adoption. New Council members, Deacons, and members of the Nominating Committee will be voted upon. Please join us for this important meeting. There will be informational sessions following worship today and May 12 so you are fully informed for the May 19 congregational meeting and vote.

DINNERS FOR EIGHT - This year's Dinner Parties were the "best ever" according to all reports. A record number of 88 people gathered around 10 dinner tables to savor delicious meals and warm-hearted conversations. This year's twist was the combination of people from multiple generations. From all reports, people loved this chance to meet some new folks, enjoy a wonderful meal and share their best stories. Hats off to our generous hosts: Rick and Marcia Ashton, Vickie, Engelhardt, Melinda Haag and Jane Barker, Megan and Justin Lewis, Nell and John Lurain, Kelly and Rick Pollock, Sallie and Mark Smylie, Martha and Doug Sorensen, Mary Sue Voth, and Claudette and Herb Zobel.

PER CAPITA - Please help defray the cost of the 2019 per capita payment. The per capita amount that we are asking for from each confirmed member is \$34.22. We are required by PC(USA) to make an annual per capita payment to support important denominational work, and we make an equal annual contribution to support the UCC since we are a union church. A gift can be made online or if you write a check, please be sure to note that it is for per capita.

DINNER & A MOVIE - Friday, May 10: *A Fantastic Woman*. Marina (Daniela Vega), a transgender nightclub singer, comes under suspicion when her much older lover Orlando (Francisco Reyes) dies suddenly. After being harassed and threatened by her late boyfriend's vengeful relatives and the police, she must defend her rights as both Orlando's partner and as a human being. Dinner at 6 p.m. (\$5 donation); movie at 6:30 p.m. (free). Sign up in the Lounge or call Cynthia Collazo, 708-383-9228.

CENTENNIAL POETRY COLLECTION - Did you receive your copy of "A Collection of Centennial Poetry"? This keepsake collection includes original poetry and a hymn interlaced with artwork and photos by First United members. Stop by the Elder Desk in the Lounge today to pick up your booklet.

TODAY IS HUNGER WALKATHON WEST - We are Ending Hunger One Step at A Time! First United Team members are walking to raise money to ease hunger locally and internationally. Church World Service will receive 75% of the funds raised and 25% will support local hunger fighting agencies including food pantries in Oak Park, Forest Park, Austin, Maywood and Melrose Park as well as Housing Forward and Cluster Tutoring. Please help First United reach its goal of \$12,500 by supporting a team member OR making a donation to support the team. You can give in person or online by going to crophungerwalk.org/oakparkil. Donations will be accepted until the end of August.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT: The annual elections meeting required by our Constitution will be held after church on Sunday, May 19. The Nominating Committee is happy to nominate the following people for service on Church Council, Deacons, and Nominating Committee:

For Church Council: Carol Ingram, Megan Lewis, Sue Saliny, one-year extension for Priscilla Sibley.

For Youth members of Church Council: Samantha Duwe, one-year extension for Paul Raducha.

For Deacons: Leah Beckwith, Len Palombi, and Betsy Samore.

For Nominating Committee: Ryan Issel and Lois Merrill.

SPRING WORK DAY – Building & Grounds will be beautifying the church yard on Sunday, May 19 from 2 to 5 p.m. and they need volunteers! Planting grasses and wildflowers, dividing and transplanting perennials, and spreading mulch are all on the list of projects. Read all the details in the May Messenger Bell.

PRO MUSICA YOUTH CHORUS is celebrating Senior Citizens at its concert on May 11, 3 p.m., Grace Lutheran Church. Seniors are admitted free and will be honored at a reception immediately following the concert.

GARGOYLE BRASS AND ORGAN ENSEMBLE presents its spring concert TODAY, 4 p.m., Grace Episcopal Church. Get ready for a cascade of musical colors when they present the first suburban Chicago performance of William C. White's "Flood of Waters."

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, MAY 5

9:30 am Church School for All Ages
9:30 am Technology Help Desk
10:00 am Flower Power!
11:00 am Worship with Communion
12:30 pm Pray in May! Workshop

MONDAY, MAY 6

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

TUESDAY, MAY 7

4:00 pm Pro Musica Youth Chorus
5:30 pm Communications Committee meeting
7:00 pm Children's Ministry meeting
7:00 pm Planned Giving meeting

WEDNESDAY, MAY 8

11:00 am Wednesday Small Group
3:30 pm Food Pantry Distribution
6:45 pm Deacon Meeting

THURSDAY, MAY 9

8:15 am Mission Partner meeting
11:30 am Nursery School Art Show
6:30 pm Cluster Tutoring

FRIDAY, MAY 10

6:00 pm Dinner & A Movie

SATURDAY, MAY 11

9:00 am Food Pantry Distribution

SUNDAY, MAY 12

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

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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708-386-1324, www.oprffoodpantry.org

susanzaruba@gmail.com

773-378-5530, www.clustertutoring.org

708-406-9597, www.promusicayouthchorus.org

847-446-6955, www.northshoresamaritan.org

Sandwiches and Drinks Provided.

May 19
Annual
Church Picnic
Following Worship

Please bring side dishes
and desserts to share.



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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