

FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF OAK PARK
CONFIRMATION SUNDAY
2 JUNE 2019



An open community united in love and justice

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

"We believe church is about a lot more than religion. It brings people together as a loving community that helps one another understand and explore God. It's where we can learn and grow together and worship God."

-Quest Class 2018-19

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

GATHERING MUSIC

Prelude and Fugue in D

Dietrich Buxtehude

WELCOME

Please sign and pass the black Connections pad.

Wes Krissinger

A LOOK AT QUEST

Alicia Reese

*PASSING THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

*OPENING SONG 497

Guide My Feet

GUIDE MY FEET

Black hymnal

GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE

"We believe God created life and our world, is with me when I'm in need and hears me, provides me with guidance and hope. God is good and God is love."

-Quest Class 2018-19

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Samantha Duwe

Our world is noisy and distracting. Often our attention is diverted.

Today, God, we choose to listen to Your voice.

We have been shaped and influenced by our friends, family, community, and church.

Today, God, we choose to allow you to shape us.

We travel paths seeking to belong, to feel loved, to be known.

Today, God, we choose to follow Your path for us.

Many voices ring in our ears, but we choose to listen for Yours and choose to walk the path You have lovingly set before us.

Strengthen us to be your disciples! To follow you and honor you. Amen.

*HYMN 339

Be Thou My Vision

SLANE

Blue hymnal

CALL TO PRAYER

Cole Shamhart

We put our faith in a God of goodness, a God who is love. God with us, Emmanuel hears us and offers hope. Knowing this, let us go to God in prayer...

PRAYER FOR WHOLENESS

O Great Spirit, whose voice I hear in the winds, and whose breath gives life to all the world, Hear me! I am small and weak; I need your strength and wisdom. Make me always ready to come to you, with clean hands and straight eyes. When I come to you, my brokenness will find healing, in you I will be made whole, in you we will be made one. So when life fades, as the fading sunset, my spirit may come to you without shame.

SILENCE IS KEPT.

ASSURANCE OF LOVE

Friends, disciples, beloved children of God, nothing can separate you from God's love, grace, and goodness.

Thanks be to God.

TIME FOR SHARING

Grace Kopka & Olivia Lonergan

Children are invited to come forward as we sing.

HYMN 524

This Little Light of Mine

THIS JOY

Black hymnal

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine,

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine,

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine,

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Everywhere I go...

All through the night...

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

FOR COLE SHAMHART

"We believe baptism is how we bring an individual into the church community."

-Quest class 2018-19

INVITATION TO THE FONT

Lydia Mulkey

We are a people of and from water. We are born in water and carried in water. Life comes forth when water flows over the earth and the first life on earth was created in the ancient seas. Water is our symbol of the new birth of faith. It is the place where fear and trust come together.

Deep water fills us with fear. Water lifts us and holds us safe. We enter the Christian church through water because it is the courage, trust, and hope symbolized by water, that is the essence of the love we share here together.

Today, Questor Cole, comes to these waters to be baptized.

QUESTIONS OF COMMITMENT

We are called to live in harmony with God and one another. I invite you to make these baptismal vows in the sight of God and all present in this moment, for these will be the foundations of your life as a disciple of Christ in this community of faith.

Council Member: To the family of faith gathered here today: Do you, who witness and celebrate this sacrament, promise your continued love, support, and care of Cole, as he lives and grows in Christ? If so, please join me in this congregational covenant:

In this act of surpassing grace, we witness the power of God. In baptism, we become newly aware of God's abundant love and mercy. God calls each of us, wherever we are, whoever we are, to share in the joy of God's presence in a community of faith. As people who strive to follow Jesus Christ more closely each day, we welcome you, Cole, to our common journey. Trusting God, we offer you our support and care.

BLESSING THE WATER

RITUAL OF BAPTISM

Cole, you have been received into the church through baptism. God has made you a member of the household of faith.

With joy and thanksgiving, we welcome you into Christ's church and to our common journey, for we are all one in Christ.

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD TO US

"We believe the bible is bigger than just paper. It is the book of God, a collection of stories told by real people that contain messages and lessons but shouldn't always be taken literally.

It teaches us about God." -Quest class 2018-19

SONG OF ILLUMINATION 283

Black hymnal

Spirit of the Living God

IVERSON

SECULAR READING

"Doubt"

Evan Pollock

SCRIPTURE READING

John 17:20-26 CEB

Grace Kopka

QUESTOR SERMON

The Importance of Doubts for Faith

Caroline Lever

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

*HYMN OF RESPONSE 351

I Was There to Hear Your Borneing Cry

BORNING CRY

Black hymnal

THE RITE OF CONFIRMATION

"We believe a disciple does not have to follow everything Jesus says and does, but should spread love and peace, support and do good for others. A disciple is generous and compassionate – a disciple doesn't have to be Christian."

-Quest Class 2018-19

INTRODUCTIONS AND QUESTIONS OF THE CONFIRMANDS

Alicia Reese

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

"We believe faith is what leads you through life." - Quest class 2018-19

Do you believe in God?

Yes, I believe in God.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ.

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

Yes, I believe in the Holy Spirit.

*ANOINTING AND LAYING ON OF HANDS

*CONGREGATIONAL BLESSING

Gene Armstrong

We celebrate this public affirmation of your faith. We have watched you grow, shown you the ways of faith through study and example. We have learned from you as you asked questions, dreamed dreams, and told your stories of faith. We are proud of you as you take this important step into full membership. And now, we promise to partner with you as disciples of Christ and members of First United Church. May God bless us as we witness together the good news of our risen Savior.

All may return to their seats while we sing...

HYMN 330

Let Us Break Bread Together

LET US BREAK BREAD

Black hymnal

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

"We believe communion is a meal we share with God and the wider church community."

-Quest Class 2018-19

INVITATION

Alicia Reese

We come now to the family table of our church,
To the very place where unity is nourished
And the place for remembering Christ as a host
Who treated his disciples not merely as students,
But as siblings and friends.

**We gather around this table
For the comfort of sustaining food and drink
And the companionship of family and friends
Around the table of equity and belonging,
Refreshing and refining our perspectives on life
And returning our attention to the things that matter most.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Lydia Mulkey

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

SHARING THE ELEMENTS

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Alicia Reese

Loving God, may this food strengthen our unity. In these fast-changing and unpredictable times, we ask that we might experience a deepening anchor of mutual respect and trust, of companionship and hope. Help us to rally around our shared purpose our mission of unity and the building of a society in which the realm of God is made visible, one in which all are known, all are loved, and all are one. We ask this in the name of Christ whose feast we have shared and whose prayer we now pray, saying,

**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.**

HYMN 525
Blue hymnal

Here I Am, Lord

Daniel L. Schutte

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Emerson Porter

OFFERTORY

Day by Day from Godspell

Olivia Lonergan, Vocal
Alissa Lonergan, Piano

***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!**

GOING FORTH IN DEDICATION AND SERVICE

"We believe the Holy Spirit is always there around us."

-Quest Class 2018-19

OUR LIFE TOGETHER

Noah Schrodt

***CLOSING HYMN**

The Summons

See next page for the music.

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

Hayden Swader

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE**

Amen, Amen

African-American Spiritual

A line of musical notation in treble clef with a 3/2 time signature. The melody consists of a sequence of eighth and quarter notes with slurs over groups of notes. The lyrics are written below the notes.

A - men, a - men, a - men, a - men, a - men!

GREET THE CONFIRMANDS

SENDING MUSIC

Prelude, Fugue and Chaconne

Dietrich Buxtehude

Please join us in the Lounge following worship
for a reception in honor of our Confirmands.



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 you
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.

TODAY AT FIRST UNITED

TODAY'S BULLETIN COVER was created by Questor Caroline Lever.

PLEASE GATHER IN THE LOUNGE following worship for a reception celebrating our Confirmands!



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 Communion Servers and Coordinators: Karin Pietrini and Bobbie Kmiec; Greeters: Cynthia Collazo, Marsha Hubbuch, Anne Paluck and Debby Preiser; Lead Usher: Bob Larson; Sanctuary Guild members: Cindy Palombi and Nina Roher; and the Sound Board crew. 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

CHICAGO SUMMER SINGS, presented by Music At First, will have its first 2019 event on Tuesday, June 4 starting at 7 p.m. in the Sanctuary. It will be a Sacred Harp Sing under the leadership of Dr. Anne Heider, Artistic Director Emerita of Bella Voce and experienced shape-note singer. Join us to sing or to listen!

ABC: A BENCH FOR CAPS PROGRAM has successfully concluded at First United. Thank you to everyone who faithfully saved bottle caps and other plastics for this Cub Scout Pack 16 effort. The Scouts will take the 670 pounds of plastic to Evanston, Indiana where it will be exchanged for three park benches made from recycled plastics that will be installed in the Village of Oak Park. Please do not bring additional plastic materials to First United.

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

DINNER & A MOVIE – Friday, June 14. *Battle of the Sexes*. In 1973, Billie Jean King, the world's No. 2 female tennis player, took on 55-year-old ex-champ Bobby Riggs in a match hyped as the Battle of the Sexes. This sports dramedy delves into the battles being played out in their lives beyond the spotlight. 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.

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.

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.

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.



FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF OAK PARK

an open community united in love & justice

848 Lake Street, Oak Park IL 60301 | 708.386.5215

www.firstunitedoakpark.com | facebook.com/firstunitedoakpark

WEEKLY CALENDAR

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
Confirmation Sunday!
11:00 am Confirmation Reception

MONDAY, JUNE 3

6:00 pm Food Pantry Board meeting
7:00 pm Personnel Committee meeting

TUESDAY, JUNE 4

7:00 pm Children's Ministry meeting
7:00 pm Chicago Summer Sings

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5

11:00 am Wednesday Small Group
7:00 pm Food Pantry Distribution

THURSDAY, JUNE 6

FRIDAY, JUNE 7

SATURDAY, JUNE 8

9:00 am Food Pantry Distribution
9:00 am Cluster Summer Program
Orientation

SUNDAY, JUNE 9

9:00 am New Members Breakfast
9:30 am Technology Help Desk
10:00 am Worship
11:15 am Youth Work Camp meeting
11:30 am Committee Chair meeting
2:00 pm Pederson Piano Recital

**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

geneann1113@yahoo.com

barbarametric@comcast.net

dkapp@firstunitedoakpark.com

lmulkey@firstunitedoakpark.com

areese@firstunitedoakpark.com

bill@firstunitedoakpark.com

msurratt@firstunitedoakpark.com

aswanson@firstunitedoakpark.com

dcobb@firstunitedoakpark.com

mwheel@firstunitedoakpark.com

sbenes@firstunitedoakpark.com

kliesse@firstunitedoakpark.com

708-848-4910, www.firstunitedschool.com

708-338-1724, www.housingforward.org

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