

FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF OAK PARK
23 JUNE 2019



An open community united in love and justice

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

The Lord spoke to Moses in the wilderness of Sinai...
-Numbers 1:1

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

GATHERING MUSIC

Prelude and Fugue in E Major

Vincent Lübeck

WELCOME

Please sign and pass the black Connections pad.

Deborah Kapp

*PASSING THE PEACE

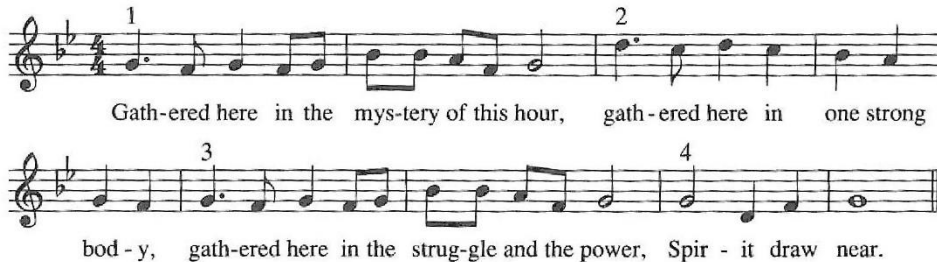
The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

*OPENING SONG

Gathered Here

Phil Porter

(Sing twice; first time in unison; second time as 3 part canon)



Gath-ered here in the mys-tery of this hour, gath-ered here in one strong
bod - y, gath-ered here in the strug-gle and the power, Spir - it draw near.

GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Alicia Reese

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change,

Though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;

Though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.

God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved;

God will help it when the morning dawns.

The nations are in an uproar, the kingdoms totter; God speaks, the earth melts.

The Lord of Hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

***HYMN 1**

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

ST. DENIO

Black hymnal

CALL TO PRAYER

John Edgerton

PRAYER FOR WHOLENESS

Loving God, we confess that life is many things, but it is not what You dream it might be. We confess that when we have what we wanted, then we do not really want what we have and there is no contentment in it. Forgive us the wrong kind of hunger, that can sit before a table full of luxuries and yet still growl for more, while most of the world cries for crumbs. O God, in these moments of quiet, when we have silenced our inner voices, speak to us again those things that lead to life.

SILENCE IS KEPT.

ASSURANCE OF LOVE

HYMN OF RESPONSE

Spirit of the Living God

LIVING GOD

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me; (2x)
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Children, please come forward as we sing.

TIME FOR SHARING

Deborah Kapp

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD TO US

SONG OF ILLUMINATION *Come, O Holy Spirit, Come / Wa wa wa Emimimo*

(Sing once in English, then in Yoruba)

Come, O Ho - ly Spi - rit, come, Come, al - might - y Spir - it,
 Wa wa wa E - mi - mi - mo, Wa wa wa A - lag - ba -

come, Come, — come, — come. —
 ra, Wa - o wa - o wa - o. —

SCRIPTURE READING

Numbers 9:15-23, OT p. 127

Melanie Jakupovic

SERMON

John Edgerton

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

***HYMN 18**

Guide Me, O My Great Redeemer

CWM RHONDDA

Black hymnal

FOURTH SUNDAY OFFERING

BUILD Chicago

Adam Alonzo

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Alicia Reese

OFFERTORY

Sing To His Name

Jane Marshall

Praise the Lord! Praise the name of the Lord, give praise, O servants of the Lord.
You that stand in the house of the Lord, in the courts of the house of God!
Give praise, for the Lord our God is good; sing to his name, O sing for he is gracious.
Thy name, O Lord, endures always, thy renown, O Lord, throughout all time.
O house of Israel, bless the Lord!
O house of Aaron, bless the Lord!
O house of Levi, bless the Lord!
You that fear the Lord, bless the Lord!
Praise the Lord, O praise the Lord, give praise, O servants of the Lord!
(from Psalm 135)

***DOXOLOGY**

OLD HUNDRETH

**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

Lydia Mulkey

**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

Lydia Mulkey

*HYMN 391

In the Midst of New Dimensions

NEW DIMENSIONS

Black hymnal

*BLESSING

John Edgerton

May Jesus Christ, child of Mary, Holy Spirit, Light of Life,
shield and sustain us and all our dear ones, this day and every day.

On our heads and our houses,

The blessing of God.

In our coming and going,

The peace of God.

In our life and believing,

The love of God.

At our end and new beginning,

The arms of God to welcome us and bring us home.

Amen.

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Siyahamba (sung in Swahili)

Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos', si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos',
We are march - ing in the light of God, we are march - ing in the light of God.

— Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos', — Si - ya - ham - ba, —
— We are march - ing in the light of God. — We are march - ing, —

— Oo, — si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'. —
— Oo, — we are march - ing in the light of God. —

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Gene Armstrong

Call to Order
Opening Prayer
Recommendation from the Pastor Nominating Committee
Discussion
Congregational Vote
Closing Prayer
Benediction

SENDING MUSIC

Cwm Rhondda

Paul Manz

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.

FOURTH SUNDAY OFFERING – For 50 years, BUILD, Inc., located in neighboring Austin, has helped thousands of young people facing the steepest challenges—like poverty and chronic exposure to violence and other sources of trauma—escape gang violence and become leaders in their community. BUILD is seeking support for its upcoming community events designed to keep youth and families safe this summer. Visit www.buildchicago.org. Please place your gift in the envelopes provided or clearly mark your check that is for “4th Sunday Offering.”

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: Dave and Joy Marshall, Nancy Pennington and Bonnie Mize; Lead Usher: Ted Despotes; 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

PLAY BALL! Baseball shirt Sunday is next week, not because it is a special day, but because it's fun to wear a shirt that boosts your favorite team. Please join us.

First United Fellowship Event

Stay and Play!

**Water play on the church lawn following our 10am service, weather permitting.
Parental supervision required.
June 30th from 11am-1pm
Bring a bathing suit, towel, and a snack to share. Hot dogs and sprinklers will be provided!**

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, JUNE 23

8:00 am Pastoral Candidate Breakfast
9:30 am Technology Help Desk
10:00 am Worship
11:00 am Congregational Meeting
11:30 am Pastoral Candidate Reception
3:00 pm PFLAG

MONDAY, JUNE 24

9:00 am Recording in Sanctuary
6:30 pm CMA Justice and Witness

TUESDAY, JUNE 25

9:00 am Recording in Sanctuary
4:00 pm Food Pantry Volunteer Party
5:30 pm Cluster Tutoring Program
7:00 pm Finance Committee meeting

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26

9:00 am Recording in Sanctuary
3:30 pm Food Pantry Distribution

THURSDAY, JUNE 27

5:30 pm Cluster Tutoring Summer

FRIDAY, JUNE 28

10:00 am Food Pantry Community Partners

SATURDAY, JUNE 29

SUNDAY, JUNE 30

9:30 am Technology Help Desk
10:00 am Worship
11:00 am Stay and Play
Fellowship Event!

CONTACT THE FIRST UNITED OFFICE MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY 9 AM TO 5 PM

708.386.5215

Gene Armstrong, Council Moderator

Carl Nauert, 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

chnauert@gmail.com

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

PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATION FOR LEAD PASTOR

The Pastor Nominating Committee is delighted to recommend that the Rev. John M. Edgerton be called to serve as First United Church's new Lead Pastor. He will be introduced to the congregation on Sunday June 23, beginning with a get-acquainted breakfast meeting at 8:00 a.m. After the 10:00 a.m. worship service in which Rev. Edgerton will preach, a congregational meeting will convene to consider and vote on the committee's recommendation. This will be the final step in a year-long national search that attracted 82 applicants for the position of spiritual leader and administrative head of the church.



Thankful for the guidance of the Holy Spirit and the faithful support of the congregation, the nine-member committee has found Rev. Edgerton to be an inspiring preacher, a caring pastoral presence, a capable manager, and a passionate worker for social justice for all God's people. We are deeply moved by his strong spiritual grounding and his collaborative, church-based sense of God's call to ministry. As he wrote in his application:

"It is so much more fun to do the work of the church together. A vibrant church is one where the work is held in common by the people, joyfully contributing to a community in which they know they are loved and valued. A growing church is one where the future is dreamed together by the people courageously taking up hard and holy work that changes lives and builds community."

Raised in Chicago, John Edgerton is a graduate of St. John's College in Santa Fe, New Mexico, and the University of Chicago Divinity School. In 2012, after serving as a Pastoral Resident at Plymouth Congregational Church in Minneapolis, he became Associate Minister at Old South Church in Boston, a historic United Church of Christ congregation now celebrating its 350th birthday.

Old South Church is very similar to First United Church in congregational size and staffing. It has about 675 members, a Senior Minister, two Associate Ministers, and several administrative and building-support staff. Rev. Edgerton served as Acting Head of Staff during the Senior Minister's six-month sabbatical leave, gaining valuable team leadership experience.

John Edgerton's primary focus during his time at Old South Church has been on the way Christians live their faith outside the walls of the church. The Pastor Nominating Committee was strongly impressed by several examples of this work. In 2017, Rev. Edgerton and others led a community response to a real estate development plan for luxury high-rise structures on city-owned land near Old South Church. Concerned that this would overwhelm the area and intensify Boston's shortage of affordable housing, local residents and institutions challenged the developer. They sought help in preserving the neighborhood and launching a new model for affordable housing. This resulted in a \$9 million settlement designed to address these concerns. Rev. Edgerton has also ministered actively to homeless neighbors and to the victims and survivors of the Boston Marathon Finish Line bombing.

John also worked extensively to support Old South Church's first-ever capital campaign. He gained experience in every stage of such an effort. This included participation in congregation-wide visioning, soliciting lead donors, tracking and evaluating the fund-raising effort, and celebrating the campaign's successful conclusion. The campaign was focused on expanding the church's mission, enhancing the physical plant, and improving the church's communication capabilities. It raised over \$3.5 million.

At the same time, as one of his enthusiastic professional references wrote, "John is one of the most exceptional preachers of his generation." Based on our experience of his sermons, the committee agrees. We are confident that his clear conversational style, deep Biblical immersion, and real-world messages will challenge the minds and nourish the spirits of the people of First United Church.

John and his wife Heather, an institutional development professional at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, are parents of Veronica, two years old. They plan to relocate to the Oak Park area by late summer, allowing John to begin his ministry at First United in late August.

Thanks Be to God!

Adjectives Used by John's References



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