

FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF OAK PARK
25 AUGUST 2019



An open community united in love and justice

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

I see my light come shining
From the west unto the east
Any day now, any day now
I shall be released
- Bob Dylan

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

GATHERING MUSIC

Cantabile

César Franck

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**

Come, All You People

Zimbabwe

The musical score is written on three staves in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and a 2/2 time signature. The melody features several triplet markings. The lyrics are: "Come, all you peo-ple, come and praise your Ma-ker, come, all you peo-ple, come and praise your Ma - ker, come all you peo - ple, come and praise your Ma-ker, come now and wor-ship the Lord."

GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Loving God, we have come to worship you as sinners in need of your forgiveness.
We come tired from our work, in need of refreshment and re-creation.
We come with worries, in need of your guidance.

But first, please lift us out of our preoccupation with our own needs.
Allow us to see you with the eyes of faith, and to hear with ears of understanding.
Make us thankful for all the good we have received from you.
Awaken in us a longing to do what is right.
And make us aware of that great cloud of witnesses, past, present, and future,
with whom we worship you.

*HYMN 281

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

CWM RHONDDA

Blue hymnal

CALL TO PRAYER

Alicia Reese

PRAYER FOR WHOLENESS

Eternal God, in whom we live and move and have our being,
whose face is hidden from us by our sins,
and whose mercy we forget in the blindness of our hearts:
Cleanse us, we pray, from all our offenses,
and deliver us from proud thoughts and vain desires,
that with reverent and humble hearts we may draw near to you,
confessing our faults, confiding in your grace,
and finding in you our refuge and strength,
through Jesus Christ your son.

SILENCE IS KEPT.

ASSURANCE OF LOVE

To all who turn to God in sorrow, to all who turn to God in hope, this is God's word of grace:
We are accepted, we are forgiven, we are loved. This gift we have from God.
Thanks be to God. Amen.

TIME FOR SHARING

Blessing of the Backpacks

Lydia Mulkey

Children are invited to come forward as we sing.

Stayed On Jesus

AFRICAN-AMERICAN SPIRITUAL

Woke up this morn - in' with my mind stayed on Je - sus.

Woke up this morn - in' with my mind stayed on Je - sus.

Woke up this morn - in' with my mind stayed on Je - sus. Hal - le -

lu, hal - le - lu, hal - le - lu - jah.

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four staves of music. The first three staves are vocal lines with lyrics underneath. The first staff has a whole note rest in the second measure. The second staff has a whole note rest in the second measure. The third staff has a whole note rest in the second measure. The fourth staff is a piano accompaniment line with a melodic line and a bass line. The lyrics are: 'Woke up this morn - in' with my mind stayed on Je - sus. Hal - le - lu, hal - le - lu, hal - le - lu - jah.'

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD TO US

SONG OF ILLUMINATION

Listen to the Word

Iona Community

Lis-ten to the Word that God has spo-ken, Lis-ten to the One who is close at hand;

Lis-ten to the Voice be-hind cre - a-tion, Lis-ten ev-en if you don't un-der-stand.

The musical score is written in B-flat major (two flats) and 3/4 time. It consists of two staves of music. The first staff has four circled numbers (1, 2, 3, 4) above the first four measures. The lyrics are: 'Lis-ten to the Word that God has spo-ken, Lis-ten to the One who is close at hand; Lis-ten to the Voice be-hind cre - a-tion, Lis-ten ev-en if you don't un-der-stand.'

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 13:10-20, NT p. 26

Deborah Kapp

SERMON

The Posture of Freedom

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

*HYMN 376

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

HYFRYDOL

Blue hymnal

FOURTH SUNDAY OFFERING

Sher Spooner

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Lydia Mulkey

OFFERTORY

Be Thou My Vision

arr. James Biery

Summer Choir, with Susan Buchanan (*violin*) and Julie O'Shea (*cello*)

*DOXOLOGY

TALLIS' CANON

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

Alicia Reese

THE LORD'S PRAYER: HYMN 589

WEST INDIAN FOLK MELODY

Blue Hymnal

(The congregation is invited to sing the response)

GOING FORTH IN DEDICATION AND SERVICE

LITANY OF DEPARTURE

Gene Armstrong and Deborah Kapp

Let us pray for the saving presence of our living Lord:
In your world,
Be present, God.
In this congregation,
Be present, God.
In this community,
Be present, God.
In our association, our presbytery, and the wider church,
Be present, God.
In the homes and hearts of all your people,
Be present, God.

Let us pray for God's help and guidance:

As we work together to reach our goals,

Bless us, God.

As we forgive each other for offenses or mistakes,

Bless us, God.

As we accept forgiveness from one another,

Bless us, God.

As we support each other in the journey of discipleship,

Bless us, God.

Let us give thanks for our journey together in this place:

For friendships made, for joys celebrated

and for times of nurture and growth,

Thanks be to God.

For wounds healed, expectations met,

gifts given and promises kept,

Thanks be to God.

For our fellowship in Jesus Christ,

and for the love of God that has sustained us,

Thanks be to God.

DISSOLUTION OF THE INTERIM PASTOR RELATIONSHIP

The Rev. James Olson

Do you, the members and friends of First United Church,
release Deborah Kapp from service as your interim pastor?

We do, with thanks to God.

Do you, Deborah, recognize and accept the completion of your ministry in this congregation?

I do, with thanks to God.

Loving God, Alpha and Omega, you are both beginning and end.

Let our time together end with your blessing.

Touch all memories with your grace and peace.

Help us to live with courage and gladness in the future you present us.

In every time and place, may we offer you our highest and our best,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Representing the Chicago Metropolitan Association,

I witness these words of thanksgiving, forgiveness, and release.

The Association rejoices with you in the ministry you have shared.

With God's help and love may our lives be blessed and your labors fruitful
as you continue to offer yourselves gladly in the service of Christ our Lord.

***HYMN 438**

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

DENNIS

Blue hymnal

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

Deborah Kapp

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE**

The Peace of the Earth
(soloist sings through, then all repeat)

Guatemalan tune, arr. John Bell



The peace of the earth be with you, the peace of the heav-ens too; the peace of the riv-ers



be with you, the peace of the oc-eans too. Deep peace fall - ing ov - er you.
God's peace grow - ing in - you.

A TIME OF RECOGNITION AND THANKS

Gene Armstrong and Friends

SENDING MUSIC

Prelude and Fugue in C

J. S. Bach

TODAY AT FIRST UNITED

TODAY'S FOURTH SUNDAY OFFERING will be received on behalf of Cluster Tutoring. First United was one of the founding congregations for this one-on-one tutoring program that has helped so many kids achieve academic success. Please give generously!

WELCOME, JULIAN! If you see a new, helpful face around First United during the week or on Sundays, please introduce yourself and welcome Julian Klytta, our new custodian. While we expect him to eventually have set hours, Julian is currently working weekends and evenings to train with Keith.



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 Dave and Joy Marshall, Debby Preiser and Susan Saliny; Lead Usher Ted Despotes and the on-call ushers; Sanctuary Guild members Cindy Palombi and Nina Roher and the Sound Board crew including Pete Todd, Mark Breen, Ezra Broughton and Carl Nauert. We ask forgiveness for any omissions. We need more people for this work! 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

NEXT SUNDAY: We will worship outside with Blessing of the Animals. Bring your pets or a picture!

CLUSTER TUTORING NEEDS YOU! Looking for a great opportunity to make a difference in the life a child?! Come to the new volunteer information session for the Cluster Tutoring Program on Thursday, September 12 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. in Centennial Hall. For the past 29 years, we have offered one-to-one tutoring to students in grades K through 12 who primarily come from the Austin neighborhood. Hope to see you there!

THE TASK FORCE FOR THE FUTURE OF FUSH needs your help! Please take a few minutes to answer the survey. Hard copies are available at the elder desk if you have not already taken it online. EVERYONE is encouraged to complete this survey, no matter how closely or distantly you are involved with the program. The link to the survey can be found in the weekly e-blast and on the church website. **Deadline is Sunday September 1.**

JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP ADVISORS! Have you ever considered being a mentor to our youth? We are looking to put together a dynamic group of advisors to volunteer their time to be leaders of our 7th and 8th grade youth. If you are interested or know someone who would make a great youth advisor, please contact Alicia Reese! areese@firstunitedoakpark.com

FUSH TASK FORCE FOCUS GROUPS - The task force continues their work of evaluating and making recommendations! As a part of their process, they will be hosting two focus groups. The goal for all participants will be listening. These will not be focused so much on discussion or decisions, but rather engaging in thoughtful, active listening. The groups should include both youth and adults. Anyone, parent, non-parent, advisor, any congregation member, active youth, inactive youth, are encouraged to submit their name for a focus group! The first will be held this coming Tuesday, August 27, from 7 to 8 p.m. The second will be held Sunday, September 8, from 4:50 to 5:50 p.m. Both will meet in the chapel. To sign up, please email Dennis Cobb, dcobb@firstunitedoakpark.com or call the church office (708.386.5215) to have your name added to a roster. You will receive a confirmation email about whether you will be in a focus group, as spots are limited, when they are finalized.

FIRST UNITED CHURCH YOUTH GROUPS REGISTRATION: If you have a youth in grades 7-12 and are interested in having them attend youth group, please go to this link to register them: bit.ly/YouthGroupRegistration. **Parent & Family Orientation for Junior High** was held last week. If you were unable to attend, talk to Alicia Reese. **Parent & Family Orientation for Senior high** is Thursday, August 29 from 7 – 8:30 p.m. **Youth Groups Kick-Off** is Sunday, September 8 from 6 - 8 p.m. with food and fellowship for all youth! Please contact Alicia Reese with any questions or concerns. areese@firstunitedoakpark.com

THE SANCTUARY CHOIR WILL BE BACK IN TWO WEEKS! Our adult choir is one of the main musical leaders of worship during the church year. This year, why don't you join this group of friendly, fun, dedicated, and musical people? Rehearsals are on Wednesdays 7 - 8:30 p.m. in the choir room. Talk to a choir member (you probably know one already!) for more info or contact Bill Chin at bill@firstunitedoakpark.com.

PRO MUSICA YOUTH CHORUS OPEN HOUSE – Pro Musica is an independent chorus of kids who love to sing with their friends. We rehearse at First United Tuesdays and Wednesdays during the school year in Oak Park. This season we will go on a weekend retreat, have an Open Mic Night, perform a Broadway Cafe, sing at the Nutcracker with the Joffrey Ballet, and sing with the Symphony of OPRF at Orchestra Hall! Get started by coming to our OPEN HOUSE on August 27 or 28. Missed the Open House? No problem! Just call 708.406.9597, or email pmyouthchorus@gmail.com and we will help you get started.

LEAVING A LEGACY - Please consider making a legacy gift to First United through your will by designating the church as a beneficiary of your IRA, life insurance, or pension plan. When you make such a gift, please let the church know. We want to thank you and add you to our list of Kindred Spirits (those who have let the church know they have included a gift to First United in their estate plans). Questions? Contact Gene or Ann Armstrong (geneann1113@yahoo.com or 708-657-4484) or any of the pastors (708-386-5215).

GIVE AWAY ITEMS AND LOST AND FOUND - We are cleaning house! Please check the tables set up under the coat rack across from the washrooms for anything you would like to take home with you. After September 1, items will be donated to Goodwill or Salvation Army.

DO YOU HAVE A NAMETAG? Please check to see if you have a nametag on the nametag rack in the lounge. If not, please request one on the clipboard on the lounge desk. It would be great if everyone had a nametag and wore it while our new lead pastor is getting to know us!

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, AUGUST 25

- 10:00 am Worship with
Fourth Sunday Offering
and Blessing of Backpacks
- 11:00 am Reception
Celebrating Deborah Kapp
- 12:00 pm Youth Ministry/FUSH Circle
- 3:00 pm PFLAG
- 6:30 pm PADS Summer Shelter

MONDAY, AUGUST 26

- 5:30 pm Church School Leader Training
- 6:30 pm PADS Summer Shelter
- 6:30 pm CMA Justice and Witness Ministry

TUESDAY, AUGUST 27

- 3:45 pm Pro Musica Youth Chorus
- 5:30 pm New Elder training
- 6:30 pm PADS Summer Shelter
- 7:00 pm Finance Committee meeting
- 7:00 pm Future FUSH Focus Group

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 28

- 3:30 pm Beyond Hunger
Food Pantry Distribution
- 4:45 pm Pro Musica Youth Chorus
- 6:30 pm PADS Summer Shelter

THURSDAY, AUGUST 29

- 6:30 pm PADS Summer Shelter
- 7:00 pm Senior High
Youth Group Orientation

FRIDAY, AUGUST 30

- 6:30 pm PADS Summer Shelter

SATURDAY, AUGUST 31

- 9:00 am Beyond Hunger
Food Pantry Distribution
- 6:30 pm PADS Summer Shelter

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

- 10:00 am Worship with
Communion and
Blessing of Animals
- 11:30 am Youth Ministry/FUSH Circle
- 6:30 pm PADS Summer Shelter

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

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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

A Farewell to Deborah Kapp

By the Golden Tones

[Sung to the tune of *Sophisticated Swing*, music by Will Hudson]

[Sung to the congregation]

Pull up a chair and get comfy. Come gather 'roun'
We're gonna sing you a story 'bout what's goin' down.
Maybe you've heard about Deborah, the venerated, Deborah Kapp?

We've really learned and we've listened, the best we can
Working to make this world better, and hand in hand.
Grateful for all of the wisdom, we owe so much to Deborah Kapp.

Me, oh, my - now she's leaving. Say Goodbye.
Blessed to know that we - are in - a better place, dear.

Put away all of your worries, and all the fuss
Welcome the preacher who's coming - to be with us,
Grateful for all of the wisdom, we owe so much to Deborah Kapp.

[Sung to Deborah]

Now is the time for our parting - Your next chapter is starting.
We bless and wish you well, with cheer, my dear!



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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