

**FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF OAK PARK  
27 OCTOBER 2019**



*An open community united in love and justice*

# PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

“Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for God’s good pleasure.”

-Philippians 2:12-13

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

**GATHERING MUSIC**

*Chaconne in E minor*

Dietrich Buxehude

**WELCOME**

Please sign and pass the black Connections pad.

John Edgerton

**\*PASSING THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

**\*OPENING SONG**

*God Welcomes All*

THEMBA AMEN

God wel - comes all, strang - ers and friends;

The first line of musical notation is in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The melody is primarily in the treble clef, with accompaniment in the bass clef. The lyrics are written below the notes.

God's love is strong and it nev - er ends.

The second line of musical notation continues the piece in the same 4/4 time and key signature. It also consists of two staves (treble and bass clef). The melody continues in the treble clef, and the bass clef provides accompaniment. The lyrics are written below the notes.

# GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE

## \*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Hear this, O elders, give ear, all inhabitants of the land!

**Many: Has such a thing happened in your days, or in the days of your ancestors?**

One: Sanctify a fast, call a solemn assembly.

**Many: Gather the elders**

One: Gather all the inhabitants of the land

**Many: Come to the house of the Lord your God,**

One: Come and cry out to the Lord.

## \*HYMN 316

*Breathe on Me Breath of God*

TRENTHAM

Blue hymnal

## CALL TO PRAYER

Lydia Mulkey

Yet even now, says the Lord, even now return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; Return...for God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, giving up on any thoughts of punishment.

## PRAYER FOR WHOLENESS

**God of holy wholeness, I long for your healing. For myself, my family, my community and nation, my people and so many others, this world of brokenness and pain. I see so much violence and suffering, as unhealed wounds fester into hostility, anger clung to for vindication snarls and hardens to bitterness, fear and pride and greed and envy compete for first place among the idols of our hearts, warning us of scarcity, triggering survival instincts, drawing lines and boundaries that must not be crossed, or else. Yet when I turn to you, I hear your still small voice whisper...**

SILENCE IS KEPT.

## ASSURANCE OF LOVE

Hear the still small voice whisper...

*Peace.*

*Take heart.*

*In this world you will know suffering.*

*But have courage. I have overcome the world.*

*You are my own beloved child, precious in my sight.*

*Children, please come forward while we sing.*

*Alleluia*

Jerry Sinclair

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -  
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

TIME FOR SHARING

Alicia Reese

## LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD TO US

SONG OF ILLUMINATION

*Let It Breathe on Me*

Magnolia Lewis-Butts

Let it breathe on me, — let it breathe on me, — let the breath of the  
 Spi - rit breathe on me. Let it breathe on me, — let it  
 breathe on me, — let the breath of God now breathe on me.

SCRIPTURE READING

Joel 2:22-32, OT p. 848

John Edgerton

SERMON

*Anytime, Anywhere*

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

**\*HYMN 322**

*Spirit of the Living God*

LIVING GOD

Blue hymnal

WELCOME AND PRESENTATION OF NEW MEMBERS

Lydia Mulkey

Nancy Ball  
 Erin Cottingham  
 Steve Cottingham  
 Don Lennie

Joan Lennie  
 Eleanor (Ellie) Marquez  
 Darold McCalla  
 Judy McCalla

## MEMBERSHIP QUESTIONS

Do you believe in God and trust in God's grace and love? **I do.**

Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world? **I do.**

Will you be a disciple of Jesus, learning from him, obeying his Word and showing his love? **I will, with the help of God.**

Do you promise to worship with us, serve with us, pray with us and contribute to the support of Christ's ministry and mission in this place? **I do.**

## MEMBER COVENANT

The Church of Jesus Christ is a covenant people. The faith of those in the Old and New Testaments, as well as those throughout the history of the Christian Church, is deeply rooted in a covenantal relationship with God and one another. The Christian covenant is a symbol of binding commitment between a people of faith and God, the creator and renewer of the Church. Members of this Church covenant together to:

- follow the way of Jesus, the Christ
- search for an honest expression of faith
- care for and support each other
- share in the life and worship of the Church
- contribute to its support and benevolences
- be advocates for the poor and oppressed
- seek peace and understanding in the world
- nurture and educate our members in the Christian faith
- include people of all races, nationalities, sexual orientations and disabilities in all aspects of our congregational life.

## CONGREGATIONAL COVENANT

**We welcome you into this community and promise to journey together with you in faith. We offer ourselves as sisters and brothers in Christ, committing ourselves to care for one another. We offer ourselves as partners in ministry and mission, working to further God's work everywhere. We offer ourselves as companions, joining each other as the Body of Christ, growing together in Christian faith and practice. By God's grace we share this covenant in the name of Jesus Christ who calls us to gather in God's name.**

## FOURTH SUNDAY OFFERING AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Leah Beckwith

## OFFERTORY

*How Lovely Is Thy Dwelling Place*

Johannes Brahms

How lovely is thy dwelling place, O Lord of Hosts!  
For my soul, it longeth, yea fainteth, for the courts of the Lord.  
My soul and body crieth out, yea for the living God.  
Blest are they that dwell within thy house,  
They praise thy name evermore.

\*DOXOLOGY

OLD HUNDREDTH

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

Alicia Reese

\*HYMN

*We Are One in the Spirit*



1. We are one in the Spir - it, We are one in the Lord. We are  
2. We will walk with each oth - er, We will walk hand in hand. We will  
3. We will work with each oth - er, We will work side by side. We will



one in the Spir - it, We are one in the Lord, And we  
walk with each oth - er, We will walk hand in hand, And to -  
work with each oth - er, We will work side by side, And we'll



pray — that all u - ni - ty may one day be re - stored,  
ge - ther we'll spread the news that God is in our land, And they'll  
guard each oth - er's dig - ni - ty and save each oth - er's pride,



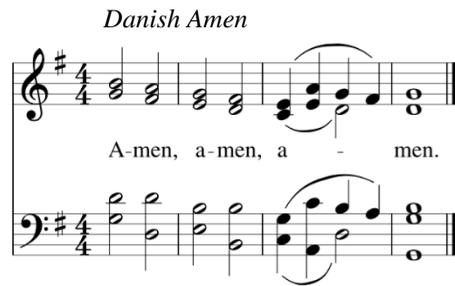
know we are Chris - tians by our love, by our



love, Yes, they'll know — we are Chris - tians by our love.

\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

*Danish Amen*



A-men, a-men, a - men.

SENDING MUSIC

*Tocatta and Fugue in D minor*

J. S. Bach

## TODAY AT FIRST UNITED

**FOURTH SUNDAY OFFERING** - Partnering with the homeless so that they can achieve sustainable housing is the great work of Housing Forward. Through programs of Permanent Supportive Housing, Rapid Rehousing, Employment Readiness and Case-management, households prepare to move into their new home and furnish it with a "House to Home Kit". Please give generously to help the homeless achieve housing stability.



**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: Nancy Pennington, Debby Preiser and Susan Saliny; Lead Usher: Ted Despotes and the on-call ushers; Sanctuary Guild members: Cindy Palombi and Nina Roher; the Sound Board crew including Pete Todd, Mark Breen, Ezra Broughton and Carl Nauert; and the 7th and 8th grade 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.

**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!

## EVENTS AND UPDATES

**SAVE THE DATE:** John Edgerton's installation as Lead Pastor is scheduled for November 10, 3:00 p.m.

**IT'S SPONSOR-A-FAMILY TIME!** The Holiday Food and Gift Basket Program needs sponsors to buy Christmas presents for needy families. Sign up on November Sundays and pick a gift tag for one individual or a family. Gifts are due on Sunday, December 8. Look for Sher Watts Spooner by the little Christmas tree in the lounge, starting November 3; call 708-383-4408; or e-mail [sandaspooner@comcast.net](mailto:sandaspooner@comcast.net).

**DINNER & A MOVIE** - Friday, November 8 – *Colette* After marrying a successful Parisian writer known commonly as "Willy", Sidonie-Gabrielle Colette is transplanted from her childhood home in rural France to the intellectual and artistic splendor of Paris. Soon after, Willy convinces Colette to ghostwrite for him. She pens a semi-autobiographical novel about a witty and brazen country girl named Claudine, sparking a bestseller and a cultural sensation. After its success, Colette and Willy become the talk of Paris and their adventures inspire additional Claudine novels. Colette's fight over creative ownership and gender roles drives her to overcome societal constraints, revolutionizing literature, fashion and sexual expression. Dinner at 6:00 p.m. (\$5 donation); movie at 6:30 p.m. (free). Sign up in the Lounge or call Cynthia Collazo 708-383-9228.

**PRIMETIME HARVEST FEAST – Y'ALL COME!** PrimeTimers (60+) will gather at the home of Bob and Marilyn Giles, 1035 N Grove, in Oak Park, on Saturday, November 9, from 5 to 8 p.m. We will be sharing yummy food and stories about Illinois - our birthplace and/or the place we chose to call home. Please RSVP to Anna Sadowski at [annahsadowski@gmail.com](mailto:annahsadowski@gmail.com) or 708-386-7896 by November 7. Please bring a dish to share, \$5 per person, and wine if you wish to imbibe! Hope to see you there for a fun-filled evening!

**1619 PROJECT DISCUSSION GROUP:** The 1619 Project, a special issue of The New York Times Magazine, marks the 400th anniversary of the arrival of the first enslaved Africans to Jamestown, Virginia with a series of essays, images, stories and poems that challenge readers to reframe their understanding of US history by considering 1619 as the foundational beginning of our nation's story. Our discussion group meets Tuesdays from 6:30-8 p.m. until November 19. On Tuesday October 29, we'll discuss two essays by Matthew Desmond and Khalil Gibran Muhammad. Paper copies are available in the Lounge. Come to one meeting or all. Please email [Katharine.thurman@comcast.net](mailto:Katharine.thurman@comcast.net) for the full schedule and links to articles.

**AN EVENING WITH MARTY ROSENBLUTH,** The Chicago Religious Leadership Network invites you to a free program with immigration attorney Marty Rosenbluth speaking about providing legal counsel to undocumented migrants and asylum seekers held in one of the worst detention centers in the nation. To attend, you must register at [bit.ly/MartyRosenbluth](http://bit.ly/MartyRosenbluth). October 29, 6 – 8 p.m., Loyola University Chicago School of Law.

**HOMELESS PEOPLE TAKE OVER THE LIBRARY!** Join the Oak Park Homelessness Coalition, Housing Forward, and the Oak Park Library for a special screening of *The Public*, followed by a discussion. *The Public* is the story of an act of civil disobedience that turns into a standoff with police when homeless people in Cincinnati take over the public library to seek shelter. October 27, 1:30 – 4:30 p.m.

**IMMIGRATION UPDATE: BRING THE BORDER BACK TO ILLINOIS** - October 28, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Unity Temple. Faith leaders and community advocates who recently visited the Southern Border in Matamoros, Mexico will share photos and experiences about the humanitarian crisis created by the Migrant Protection Protocols.

**MAKE A NOTE:** Daylight Savings Time ends next weekend. Turn your clocks **BACK** one hour.

# 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, OCTOBER 27

9:15 am Quest Connect Session #2  
9:30 am Education for All Ages  
11:00 am Worship - Fourth Sunday Offering  
Noon Prayer & Anointing  
3:00 pm PFLAG  
4:00 pm Organ Spooktacular  
6:00 pm JR.HI. Youth Group  
6:00 pm SR.HI. Youth Group

### MONDAY, OCTOBER 28

6:00 pm Monday Bible Study  
6:00 pm PADS Emergency Shelter  
7:30 pm CMA Justice & Witness

### TUESDAY, OCTOBER 29

4:00 pm Pro Musica Youth Chorus  
6:30 pm 1619 Project Discussion

### WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30

11:00 am Wednesday Small Group  
3:30 pm Beyond Hunger Distribution  
6:00 pm Handbells Rehearsal  
7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

### THURSDAY, OCTOBER 31

8:15 am Mission Partner meeting  
6:30 pm Cluster Tutoring

### FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1

9:00 am Mental Health Professional  
Workshop

### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2

9:00 am Beyond Hunger Distribution  
9:30 am Cluster Tutoring Volunteers

### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3

Daylight Savings ends!  
9:30 am Education for All Ages  
11:00 am Worship and Communion  
All Saints Day  
Noon Prayer & Anointing  
12:15 pm Spiritual Life Team  
5:00 pm SR.HI. Youth Board  
6:00 pm JR.HI. Youth Group  
6:00 pm SR.HI. Youth Group

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

708.386.5215

Gene Armstrong, Council Moderator

Carl Nauert, Council Clerk

John Edgerton, 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

geneann1113@yahoo.com

chnauert@gmail.com

jedgerton@firstunitedoakpark.com

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

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

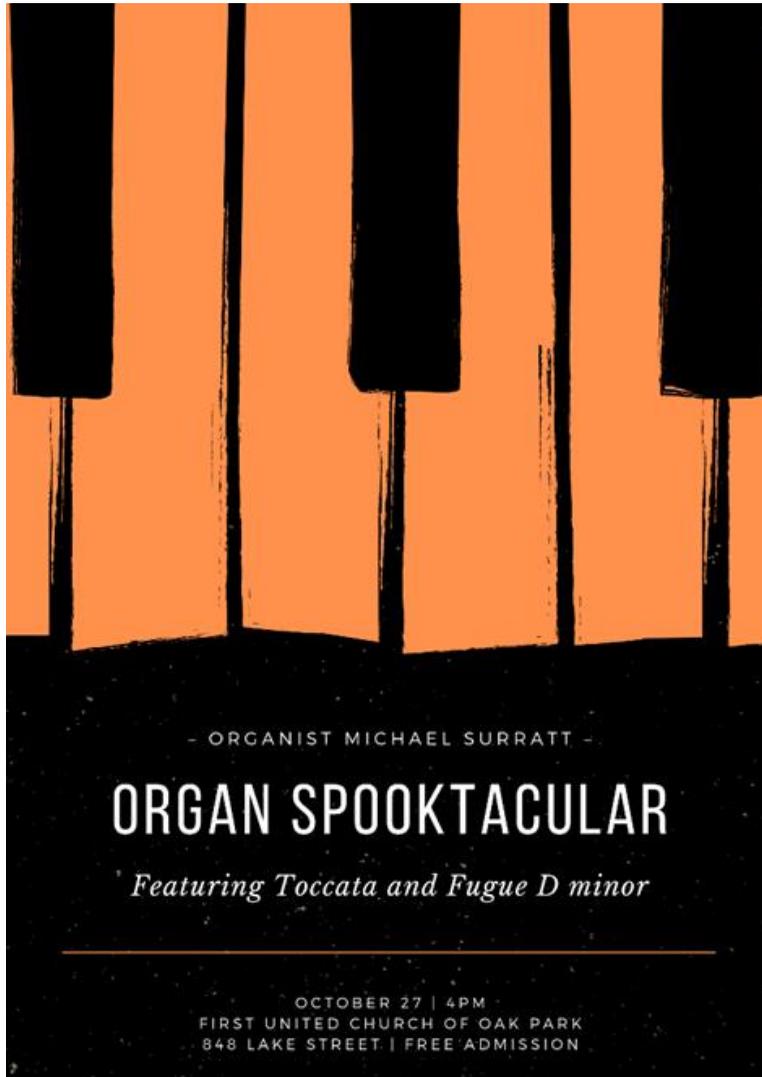
708-386-1324, [www.oprffoodpantry.org](http://www.oprffoodpantry.org)

[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)

Join us in the Sanctuary this afternoon!



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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