

First United Church of Oak Park

September 29, 2019



PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me;
I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.
-Matthew 3:11

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

GATHERING MUSIC

Allegretto

Nicholas Charles Bochsa

Rowan Zdziarski-West, harp

WELCOME

Please sign and pass the black Connections pad.

Lydia Mulkey

*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, G major. The treble clef staff contains a series of chords: G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F5, G5. The bass clef staff contains a series of chords: G2, A2, B2, C3, D3, E3, F3, G3.

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

The second line of musical notation is in 4/4 time, G major. The treble clef staff contains a series of chords: G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F5, G5. The bass clef staff contains a series of chords: G2, A2, B2, C3, D3, E3, F3, G3.

GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Come to us, O God!

Come as wind and inspire,

Come as fire and empower,

Come as dove and bring us peace,

Come as water and cleanse our hearts

So that we might know your presence and walk more closely with you.

*HYMN 22

Sing Praise to God Who Has Shaped

LOBE DEN HERREN

Black hymnal

CALL TO PRAYER

I was afraid that if I told others of my weaknesses, they would think less of me.

But the opposite is true; in vulnerability there is strength that is a marvel to all who see it.

Help us to be vulnerable, O tender God.

In our praying to You, may we make a new start.

PRAYER FOR WHOLENESS

SILENCE IS KEPT.

ASSURANCE OF LOVE

Children, please come forward as we sing.

Alleluia

Jerry Sinclair

Musical notation for the Alleluia. It consists of two staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and repetitive, with lyrics written below the notes. The first staff contains the lyrics: "Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -". The second staff continues with: "lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia." The music is written in a clear, accessible style suitable for children's singing.

TIME FOR SHARING

John Edgerton

THE BAPTISM OF GUNNAR MAGNUSON

Lydia Mulkey

Pastor: Members and friends in Christ, we gather now to celebrate the gift of grace in the sacrament of baptism for Gunnar Magnuson, who is here with his parents Ben and Adie, his brother Thor, and his godmother and aunt, Sarah Severson.

Council Member: On behalf of the Church Council, I present Gunnar Magnuson to receive the sacrament of Baptism.

QUESTIONS TO THE FAMILY AND COMMUNITY

Pastor: Do you desire to have your child baptized into the faith and family of Jesus Christ?

Parents: We do.

Pastor: Relying on God's grace, do you promise to live the Christian faith, and to teach this faith to your children?

Parents: We do.

Pastor: Do you promise, with the help of God, to be followers of God, to resist oppression and evil, to show love and justice, and to witness to the work and word of the Holy as best you are able?

Parents and Godparent: We do, with the help of God.

Council Member: Jesus Christ calls us to make disciples of all nations, and to offer them the gift of grace in baptism. Do you who witness and celebrate this sacrament promise your love, support and care to the one about to be baptized, as he lives and grows in Christ? If so, please join me in the 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, Gunnar, to our common journey. Trusting God, we offer you our support and care.

THE BAPTISMAL CANDLE IS LIT

God of new life and of old, of our going out and our coming in, we present to you this child and ask that he be always yours. Today is the day he receives his light, his unique flame, his call.

May this light guide his journey his whole life long. Amen.

BLESSING THE WATERS

The Children of First United

BAPTISM

WELCOME

Council Member: Gunnar has been received into the church through baptism. God has made him a member of the household of God. Let us welcome our newest sibling in Christ.

With joy and thanksgiving, we welcome you into Christ's church to share with us in ministry, for we are all one in Christ.

PRESENTATION

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD TO US

SONG OF ILLUMINATION

Let It Breathe on Me



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

Exodus 2:23-3:12, selections, OT p. 50

Steve Pederson

SERMON

Just One Question

John Edgerton

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

*HYMN 351

Black hymnal

I was There to Hear Your Borning Cry

BORNING CRY

FOURTH SUNDAY OFFERING — THE INCLUSIVE COLLECTIVE

Rich Havard

OFFERTORY

Allegro from Sonata in D Major
Rowan Zdziarski-West, harp

John Parry

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all people here below.
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God whom we adore. Amen.

OLD HUNDREDTH

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

John Edgerton

*HYMN 64

Fire of God, Undying Flame

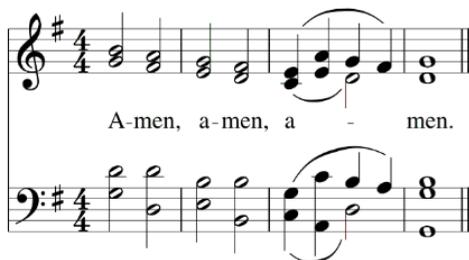
NUN KOMM DER HEIDEN HEILAND

Black hymnal

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Danish Amen



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

SENDING MUSIC

Andante from Sonata in D Major

John Parry

Rowan Zdziarski-West, harp

TODAY AT FIRST UNITED

TODAY'S FOURTH SUNDAY OFFERING (received today, the Fifth Sunday!) will support the Inclusive Collective, and its pastor and Executive Director, Rich Havard, in a ministry to students on the UIC campus. ALL loose cash in the offering plate and any checks with "4th Sunday Offering" or "Inclusive Collective" on the memo line will go to this ministry. If you're giving cash and want acknowledgement, please use the pew donation envelope and note "4th Sunday" or "Inclusive Collective" on the line "Other" and note the amount. Please be sure to write the name of the donor clearly and completely.

DEACONS – SPIRITUAL CARE GIVERS - Following Worship you will find two deacons in the chapel, and their mission is to care for you. You are invited to use this time to share any joys or concerns on your heart or mind or just sit quietly. The deacons will listen, they may offer to pray with or for you, and offer to anoint you, a blessing with oil, which you can decline if you choose. We are a community that values caring for one another and we hope that if you need it, you will take this opportunity to allow us to care for you.

CHURCH YARD WORK DAY - The Building and Grounds committee has set a Grounds Work Day for TODAY from 2 – 5 p.m. Please help us with the important task of making our grounds beautiful!



PLEASE RECYCLE your bulletin in one of the bins near the Sanctuary exits.

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 the 3rd and 4th Grade Church School Acolytes; Greeters: Marge Lyon, Emory Mead, Joanne Despotes and Marilyn Kauffmann; The Lead Usher Team members: Gene Armstrong, Susan Buchanan, Ted Despotes, Bob Larson, Nell Lurain and Bonnie Mize; 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. 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.

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

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE REGISTERS! This past Friday, Don and Delores Register were honored with this year's Ulyssean Award. Presented by the Senior Citizens' Center of Oak Park and River Forest, the Ulyssean Award celebrates people who have shown exceptional community leadership and lifelong learning. Dolores Register was the director of District 97's Multicultural Education Center for 12 years. Rev. Don Register's career was one committed to fairness and justice, in California, St. Louis, and here locally in his service to the Presbytery. Make sure to congratulate Don and Delores for this well-deserved honor!

FALL PEACE VIGIL - Seek peace and pursue it. We will stand for peace in our neighborhoods, our country, and the world at the Fall Peace Vigil. Take a stand against gun violence and pray for protection from violence for our neighbors near and far. Join us on First United front steps on Sunday, October 6 at 7 p.m.

ADULT EDUCATION SPEAKER SERIES - Sundays 9:30-10:45am in Centennial Hall

Coming over the next three weeks: "Storytelling," October 6, 13, and 20 Join Lizzy Bortoto, member of Gilead Church Chicago, for two weeks of storytelling training followed by an opportunity to tell your story! Storytelling is the way our faith has been passed down from generation to generation. We are a people of stories! Since God is present in our ordinary, everyday lives, every story is a God story. Come to hone your skills for spotting the Divine in your everyday life, and your skills for sharing those experiences. All are welcome for any or all sessions, but those who wish to tell their story will need to be present for all three.

BIBLE STUDY—Looking for a Bible study? Bible studies meet Mondays from 6 - 7:30 p.m. in the library and Wednesday from 11 a.m. -12:30 p.m. in the conference room. No need to RSVP, just show up and dive in! Questions? Contact lmulkey@firstunitedoakpark.com

ALTERNATIVE CHRISTMAS STORE NEEDS YOUR HELP - Mary Sue Voth and Teri Omert are managing the Alternative Christmas Store and need your help to make it work. We need help planning, developing a brochure, and ordering for the sale. We also need day of sale help: set up, collecting money, and assisting customers on 1 to 4 days. Contact: tomert@comcast.net.

FIRST UNITED NURSERY SCHOOL PARENT WORKSHOP – Thursday, October 24, 9 – 11 a.m. Learn easy, healthy, family-friendly meals through a food demo, nutritional information, and recipes to take home! Workshops are FREE and open to the public, however registration is required. To register, visit www.brownpapertickets.com and enter "Oak Park Preschool Parenting Workshops" in the Find an Event search.

DINNER & A MOVIE - Friday, October 11: *Paris to Pittsburgh* (2018) The movie brings to life the impassioned efforts of individuals battling the most severe threats of climate change in their own backyards. Set against the national debate over the United States' energy future - and the Trump administration's explosive decision to exit the Paris Climate Agreement - the film captures what's at stake for communities around the country and the inspiring ways Americans are responding. Dinner at 6 p.m. (\$5); movie at 6:30 p.m. (free). Sign up in the Lounge or call Cynthia Collazo 708-383-9228.

HOUSE TO HOME KITS - There are still plenty of items needing a donor as we work to complete five House-to-Home kits. The list is on the inside back cover of the bulletin. These kits help furnish five apartments for Housing Forward clients moving out of homelessness. Sign up today in the Lounge or online, bit.ly/HousetoHome, and bring your donated items to church on Sunday, October 13. Can't shop? We welcome your donation and we will do the shopping.

THE MOSAIC OF PEACE CONFERENCE: Witnessing for Peace and Wholeness in a Land called 'Holy' will be happening March 15-28, 2020 in Israel/Palestine. Can you go? Contact Pauline Coffman for details and travel assistance: p.coffman@sbcglobal.net. Online applications are due October 15, 2019.

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, SEPTEMBER 29

9:30 am Education for All Ages
11:00 am Worship
Noon Prayer & Anointing
12:30 pm FUSH Task Force
6:00 pm JR.HI. Youth Group
6:00 pm SR.HI. Youth Group

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

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

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1

4:00 pm Pro Musica Youth Chorus
6:00 pm Nursery School Ice Cream Social
7:00 pm Children's Ministry meeting
7:30 pm Faith in Action meeting

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2

11:00 am Wednesday Small Group
6:00 pm Beyond Hunger
Food Pantry Distribution
7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3

6:30 pm Cluster Tutoring

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4

Have a Great Weekend!

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5

9:00 am Beyond Hunger
Food Pantry Distribution

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6

9:30 am Education for All Ages
11:00 am Worship with Communion
Noon Prayer & Anointing
12:30 pm FUSH Task Force
5:00 pm SR.HI. Youth Board
6:00 pm JR.HI. Youth Group
6:00 pm SR.HI. Youth Group
7:00 pm Fall Peace Vigil

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

lmulkey@firstunitedoakpark.com

areese@firstunitedoakpark.com

bill@firstunitedoakpark.com

msurratt@firstunitedoakpark.com

aswanson@firstunitedoakpark.com

dcobb@firstunitedoakpark.com

mwheeler@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

HOUSING FORWARD'S HOUSE TO HOME KIT LIST

Sign up in the Lounge or online at bit.ly/HousetoHome
and bring your item(s) to church on
Oct. 6 or Oct. 13

Thanks for the great response so far! These are the items we still need.

Kitchen

Glasses (set of 4-8)
Food Storage Containers
Kitchen Towels
Pots and pans

Small Appliances/Electronics

Toaster
Microwave
Coffee Pot
Vacuum
Fan (table or floor model)
Television* See note below
Digital Antenna for flat screen TVs

Bedroom

Bed Sheet set - Queen - (top & bottom sheets
& 2 pillow cases)
Bed Pillow (set of 2)
Blanket - Queen
Bedbug mattress protectors – Queen
Alarm clock radio

Bathroom

Non-slip mat for shower/tub
Shower curtain and hooks
Bath mat and rug

Cleaning Supplies

All-purpose cleaning spray
Sponges (non-scratch/scrubbing type)
Bucket
Mop
Trash can and bags
Paper towels (package of 10 or more)
Dusting spray
Toilet bowl cleaner
Laundry soap and fabric softener sheets

Personal Hygiene

Tissues (3 boxes)
Toilet paper (package of at least 10 rolls)
Shampoo and conditioner
Toothbrush and toothpaste
Shave gel or cream
Comb or brush

Miscellaneous

Envelopes and Stamps

Housing Forward's donation policy requests that **all soft items (bedding, towels, rugs, etc.) be purchased new**. While we accept gently used items, donating new items helps convey the message of new belongings, and that "this is home."

Note: Televisions are important "House to Home" items because they help clients transition back to living alone in an apartment, often after congregant living in the PADS Shelter. Watching television is one way they can re-establish their connections to the community and world around them.



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