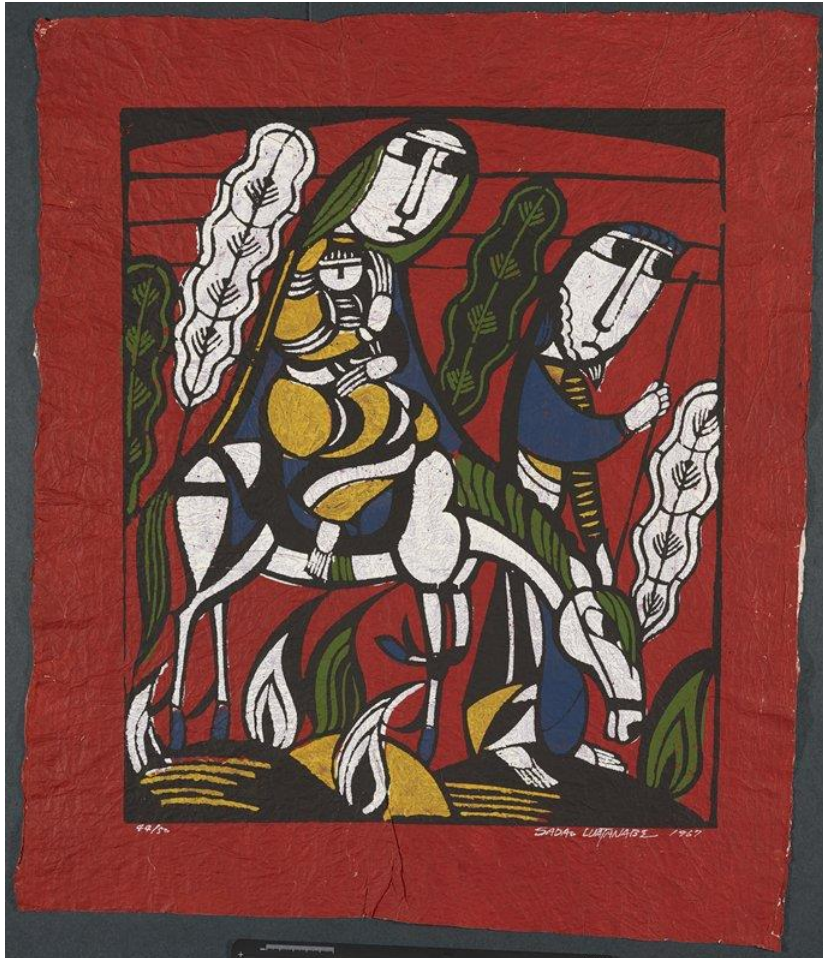


FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF OAK PARK
22 DECEMBER 2019
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



An open community united in love and justice

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

“Your young ones shall see visions and your elders dream dreams.”
- Joel 2:28

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

GATHERING MUSIC

Pastorale

J. S. Bach

WELCOME

Please sign and pass the black Connections pad.

Lydia Mulkey

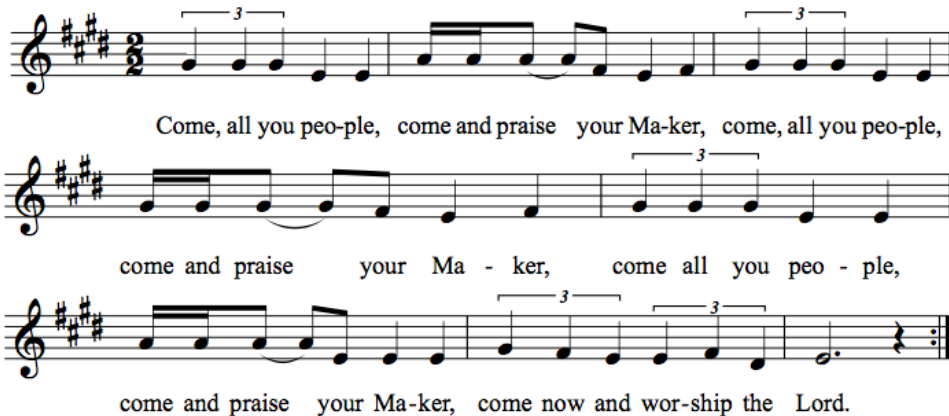
*PASSING THE PEACE

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

*OPENING SONG

Come, All You People

Alexander Gondo



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

*ADVENT WREATH

Hickok-Fletcher family

We wait still for the coming of Christ.

There is not long to wait; the hour is upon us, when love will be born into the world.

We light this candle today because love is from God;

We light this candle today because everyone who loves is born of God.

We light this candle today because God is love.

With hope, peace, joy, and love, we await the coming of God's salvation.

***HYMN 2**
Blue hymnal

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

HYFRYDOL

CALL TO PRAYER

Alicia Reese

SUNG PRAYER FOR WHOLENESS

O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!

SILENCE IS KEPT.

SUNG ASSURANCE OF LOVE

Children, please come forward as we sing.

How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts the glorious love of heaven.
No one discerns God's coming, but in this world of sin,
Where yearning souls long to be whole, the dear Christ enters in.

TIME FOR SHARING

Lydia Mulkey

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD TO US

SONG OF ILLUMINATION

Be Still and Know

John L. Bell

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 4/4 time signature. It contains the melody for the first line of the song: "Be still and know that I am God." The notes are: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (half), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (half). The second staff continues the melody for the second line: "Be still and know that I am God." The notes are: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (half), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (half). Both staves end with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Words and Music: John Bell, © 1989 GIA/Iona Community/WGRG.
All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-714599.

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 1:18-23, NT p. 1

Brian Shamhart

SERMON

Dreams and Visions

John Edgerton

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

*HYMN 38

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

CAROL

Blue hymnal

SUNG PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Alicia Reese

Offerings are a sacred act of worship. We invite you to use the green giving cards in the pew rack to celebrate what you've already given or to make an additional donation.

Our offerings will now be received. In gratitude for the gifts of God, please join in singing as we joyfully pray over the offerings you have brought today.

These Gifts We Joyfully Bring to You

GREENSLEEVES

These gifts we joy - ful - ly bring to you, — to fill the world with mean - ing; our hearts and minds — are long - ing for — the life — of which you are dream - ing. These, these are the gifts we bring, our lives we share, your praise we sing; show us — your vis - ion, Lord, — for hope, — and peace, — and car - ing.

Text by Rev. Scott Cervas, Meadowthorpe Presbyterian Church (Lexington, KY)

OFFERTORY

And the Glory of the Lord (from *Messiah*)

George Frideric Handel

And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,
And all flesh shall see it together:
For the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

***DOXOLOGY**

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

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

Alicia Reese

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 48**

Lo How a Rose E'er Blooming

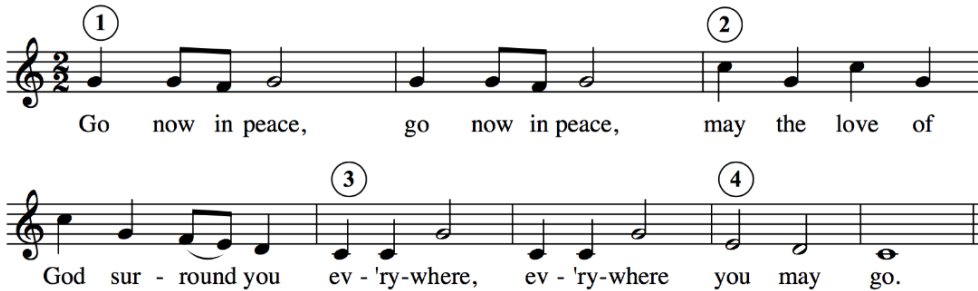
ES IST EIN' ROS'

Blue hymnal

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

John Edgerton

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE**



Go now in peace, go now in peace, may the love of
God sur - round you ev - 'ry-where, ev - 'ry-where you may go.

Words and music: Natalie Sleeth, Sunday Songbook © 1976 Hinshaw Music, Inc.
All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-714599.

SENDING MUSIC

In Dulci Jubilo

J. S. Bach

TODAY AT FIRST UNITED

COVER ART: *The Flight into Egypt*, 1967, by Watanabe Sadao, courtesy Minneapolis Institute of Art.

REHEARSAL FOR THE CHRISTMAS PAGEANT is today immediately following the service. Parents and children, please remain in the sanctuary for our run through. Thank you! The pageant is on Christmas Eve at 5 p.m.



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: Marge Lyon, Judy McCalla and Susan Saliny; Lead Usher: Gene Armstrong 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 1st and 2nd 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 or 708-209-1377.

EVENTS AND UPDATES

THE ALTERNATIVE CHRISTMAS STORE closes today! Be sure to shop for the rest of your Christmas gifts following worship.

WE NEED YOUR HELP to make Sticky Church work! Next week we will gather for worship in Centennial Hall for a time of fellowship, singing, and breakfast! Please go to the sign up genius at bit.ly/StickyChurch and volunteer to help with set up, serving, or clean up!

NEW PICTURE DIRECTORY - January 7-18, 2020 – have you reserved your session yet? Sign up for your photography session today before Christmas is here and you forget! Find the Elder on duty to help you sign up or visit the church website or Facebook page to sign yourself up. No purchase is necessary to have your picture taken to be included in the directory. Just for reserving your spot and coming in for your photo session, you will get one FREE 8x10 picture AND a FREE copy of the new directory!

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!

PLAN AHEAD – The First United Church Office will be closed from noon, December 24 through December 27 and December 31 - January 1. Merry Christmas!



Siena Retreat Center in Wisconsin

**January 31, 6 p.m.
through
February 2, 1:30 p.m.**

For all the details, please go to
bit.ly/FUCOPWomensRetreat



CHRISTMAS EVE

5PM SERVICE
CHRISTMAS PAGEANT,
TRADITIONAL CAROLS,
AND CANDLELIGHT

8:30PM SERVICE
TRADITIONAL CAROLS,
JAZZ, AND
CANDLELIGHT

 **First United Church of Oak Park**
848 Lake St., Oak Park, IL 60301
www.firstunitedoakpark.com



***Sticky* CHURCH**

FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF OAK PARK
DECEMBER 29, 2019
11 A.M. | CENTENNIAL HALL

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, DECEMBER 22

9:00 am Alternative Christmas Store
9:15 am Quest Connect Session #4
9:30 am Education for All Ages
11:00 am Worship
Fourth Sunday Offering
Noon Prayer & Anointing
3:00 pm PFLAG

MONDAY, DECEMBER 23

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

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24

Church Office closes at noon
5:00 pm Christmas Eve
Pageant Service
8:30 pm Christmas Eve
Traditional/Jazz Service

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25

Merry Christmas!
Church Office Closed

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26

Church Office Closed

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27

Church Office Closed

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28

9:00 am Beyond Hunger
Food Pantry Distribution

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29

11:00 am Worship – Sticky Church
Centennial Hall

**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

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



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