

FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF OAK PARK  
Outdoor Worship  
June 19, 2022



*An open community united in love and justice*

# PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

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PRELUDE

Michael Surratt

WELCOME

Lydia Mulkey

## \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Let our hearts be open,

**let our minds be at peace.**

God comes to dwell with all who welcome Her.

**When we speak the truth from our hearts,**

when we seek the well-being of our neighbors,

**when we turn from all that sets us against each other,**

the Divine abides with us.

**Come, Holy Spirit! Make your home among us.**

Spirit of Christ, in the midst of our worries, you meet us compassionately with a challenge: to trust you, to trust Love, to trust that this faith can hold us.

Make us like trees firmly planted by streams of water, able to weather the difficulties of life while still bearing fruit that nourishes and sustains. Nurture our generosity and encourage us in the strength of being together. **Amen**

## \*PASSING THE PEACE

## \*OPENING HYMN

*Standing in the Need of Prayer*

**Not my brother, nor my sister, but it's me, O God,  
standing in the need of prayer;**

**Not my brother, nor my sister, but it's me, O God,  
standing in the need of prayer.**

**Refrain: It's me, it's me, O God,  
standing in the need of prayer;**

**It's me, it's me, O God,  
standing in the need of prayer.**

**Not the preacher, nor the deacon, but it's me, O God  
standing in the need of prayer; . . . R/**

**Not my father, nor my mother, but it's me, O God,  
standing in the need of prayer; . . . R/**

**Not the stranger, nor my neighbor, but it's me, O God,  
standing in the need of prayer; . . . R/**

#### PRAYER FOR WHOLENESS

Alicia Reese

God of love and justice,

**We long for peace within and peace without.**

We long for harmony in our families, for serenity in the midst of struggle, and for commitment to each other's growth.

**We long for the day when our homes will be a dwelling place for your love.**

Yet we confess that we are often anxious; we do not trust each other. And we harbor violence.

**We are not willing to take the risks and make the hard choices that love requires.** Look upon us with kindness and grace. Rule in our homes and in all the world; show us how to walk in your paths.

-- *Ruth Duck*

*Silence is kept.*

#### ASSURANCE OF LOVE

#### MUSICAL RESPONSE

*Spirit of the Living God*

**Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me;**

**Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.**

**Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.**

**Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.**

# LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD TO US

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TIME FOR SHARING

Alicia Reese

SCRIPTURE READING – 1 KINGS 19:1-8

Lydia Mulkey

SERMON – A NAP AND A SNACK

\*SERMON RESPONSE

*Creator God, Creating Still*

**Creator God, creating still, by will and word and deed,  
Create a new humanity to meet the present need.**

**Redeemer God, redeeming still, with overflowing grace,  
Pour out your love on us, through us, make this a holy place.**

**Sustainer God, sustaining still, with strength for every day,  
Empower us now to do your will. Correct us when we stray.**

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

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CALL TO THE OFFERING

Lydia Mulkey

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Bill Chin

*Jesus I Am Resting* by David B. Hampton

Chorus: Jesus, I am resting, resting  
in the joy of what Thou art.

I am finding out the greatness  
of Thy loving heart.

Thou hast bid me gaze upon Thee,  
and Thy beauty fills my soul.

for by Thy transforming power  
Thou hast made me whole. C/

Oh, how great Thy loving kindness;  
vaster, broader than the sea.

Oh, how marvelous Thy goodness  
lavished all on me.

Yes, I rest in Thee, Beloved,  
know what wealth of grace is Thine;  
know Thy certainty of promise,  
And have made it mine. C/

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Alicia Reese

*That We May Enlarge Our Hearts* by Larry Rasmussen

*Blessing of Hope* by Jan Richardson

**Our father, who welcomes the prodigal and lovingly cares for all, turn us,  
so that we may hold your name holy above worldly powers,  
that your reign of justice and peace may finally come to earth,  
And that your will may be done here as in heaven.**

**Give us daily nourishment that we may be strengthened in your service.**

**Forgive the wrongs we have done & help us to forgive those who have  
wronged us.**

**May enmity and violence cease,  
and all persons and communities know your reconciling grace.**

**Keep us from those temptations and trials we cannot bear,  
and deliver us in our struggles with evil.**

**For the kingdom of righteousness, the power of reconciliation,  
and the glory of all creation are yours this day and forever.**

**Amen.**

--Alternate version of the Lord's Prayer by Douglas F. Ottati

# GOING FORTH IN DEDICATION AND SERVICE

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## \*CLOSING HYMN

*I've Got a Feeling*

**I've got a feeling, everything is gonna be all right.**

**O I've got a feeling, everything is gonna be all right.**

**O I've got a feeling, everything is gonna be all right,  
be all right, be all right, be all right.**

**Jesus already told me, everything is gonna be all right . . .**

**The Spirit has confirmed it, everything is gonna be all right . . .**

## \*BLESSING

Lydia Mulkey

## \*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

*Every Time I Feel the Spirit*

**Every time I feel the Spirit moving in my heart I will pray.**

**Yes, every time I feel the Spirit moving in my heart I will pray.**

## POSTLUDE

Michael Surratt

# EVENTS AND UPDATES

*Below is just a sampling of the news and events at First United. We invite you to subscribe to receive our monthly "Messenger Bell" newsletter and our weekly "News & Events" eblast by visiting [firstunitedoakpark.com](http://firstunitedoakpark.com). Follow us on Facebook ([facebook.com/firstunitedoakpark](https://facebook.com/firstunitedoakpark)) where we share our weekly newsletter and lots more!*

## NEARING THE GOAL

First United members have made \$599,636 in pledge commitments for 2022-2023. This is a strong affirmation of how important our church is in our lives. To reach our goal, we need an additional \$29,000 in pledges. If you have not confirmed your pledge, please act today. You may register your pledge directly by logging into your Realm account and making a pledge. Perhaps you already made a pledge and now realize that you can increase your giving. Registering (or adjusting) your pledge is easy with the support of Kelly Pollock ([pledgeregistrar@firstunitedoakpark.com](mailto:pledgeregistrar@firstunitedoakpark.com)) or Shirley Kyle ([skyle@firstunitedoakpark.com](mailto:skyle@firstunitedoakpark.com); 708-386-5215). Please act before June 30. Your generosity will assure that Blessings will overflow to our church community and beyond.

## FIRST UNITED IS HIRING: PART-TIME ORGANIST

Last Sunday, our wonderful organist Michael Surratt announced his retirement effective at the end of August. With this news, First United is now accepting applications for a part-time organist to begin this fall. We are advertising the position with our denominations, various professional musicians' organizations, local music schools, and through social media and our website. We'd also like the help of our very best resource: our people! The position description and application information are available on our home page at [firstunitedoakpark.com](http://firstunitedoakpark.com). Please take a look and forward the information to anyone you know who might be interested and qualified.

## CURVE BALLS FROM MOTHER NATURE: ONE MORE WEEK!

Our parking lot is slowly curing, but the high temperatures that Mother Nature has thrown at us this week are not helping. To ensure that our new parking lot lasts as long as possible and serves everyone who uses it, we ask that you please continue to find street parking for another week. We hope that with improved weather forecast for the end of next week, we can open the lot on Sunday, June 25th. Thank you for your continued patience and grace!

# WELCOME TO FIRST UNITED!

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 LGBTQ people in membership & ministry.

## ADULT EDUCATION

Faith formation doesn't end after Church School. Adult Education takes a variety of forms, from small, group Bible studies to Sunday morning speaker series. We are currently on break for summer, but look forward to starting back up in September.

## CHILDREN IN WORSHIP & OUR NURSERY

We love to have children in worship! Age-appropriate worship activities and books are available as you enter the sanctuary. We also offer safe, quality childcare and quiet play for children five and under in our nursery. Ask an usher for directions.

## CHURCH SCHOOL

Church School is for children ages birth through 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Meeting most Sundays at 9:45 a.m. (September through May), we tell stories of the Bible using a lens of love and justice with singing, praying, and creating. Visit [firstunitedoakpark.com/youth-education](http://firstunitedoakpark.com/youth-education) or speak with Lydia Mulkey ([lmulkey@firstunitedoakpark.com](mailto:lmulkey@firstunitedoakpark.com)) to learn more.

## MUSIC MINISTRIES

We hope you enjoy the music of our Sanctuary Choir and soloists in worship. Choir rehearsals will begin again in September. For more information, visit [firstunitedoakpark.com/music-ministries](http://firstunitedoakpark.com/music-ministries) or contact Bill Chin ([bill@firstunitedoakpark.com](mailto:bill@firstunitedoakpark.com)).

## YOUTH PROGRAMS

Youth Groups: FUJI (First United Junior High, 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade) and FUSH (First United Senior High, 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade). Watch the eblast for special summer activities.

Quest: Confirmation Class (9<sup>th</sup> grade) will begin again in September 2022.

For more information, please contact Alicia Reese ([areese@firstunitedoakpark.com](mailto:areese@firstunitedoakpark.com)).



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