



**FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF OAK PARK**  
**16 APRIL 2017**  
**EASTER SUNDAY, 11 AM**

*An open community united in love and justice*

**PREPARING FOR WORSHIP**

“Resurrection hope makes people ready to live their lives in love wholly, body and soul, to say a full and entire yes to life. The resurrection permits no disdain and debasement of bodily life and sensory experiences. It is a hope we share in community with the risen Christ.”

- Juergen Moltmann

\*Please stand if you are able. Please silence cell phones.

**GATHERING MUSIC**

**OUR LIFE TOGETHER**

Please sign and pass the red pew pad.

John Cole

**GATHERING AS GOD’S PEOPLE**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

John Cole

Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia! Let us praise God!**

**\* PROCESSIONAL HYMN 233**

*Christ the Lord Is Risen Today*

EASTER HYMN

black hymnal

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

Alicia Reese

God has opened the gates of righteousness that we may enter through them. Confident of God's love, let us confess our sin.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Alicia Reese

**O God, through the power of the Holy Spirit, we have been raised to share in your glorious resurrection, yet we do not always live as Easter people. We are unsure of your promises, we neglect your will, we allow fear instead of hope to rule our lives. Still, you have called us by name and challenged us to boldly confess our faith in you. Set us free from petty conflicts and turn us toward reconciling love. Forgive us. May our lives testify to your salvation and new life in Christ. Amen.**

SILENCE IS KEPT.

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear the good news! God, who raised Jesus from the dead, has given us hope and new life. I declare to you in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

**Thanks be to God!**

### \*PASSING THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

## LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD TO US

TIME FOR SHARING

Lydia Mulkey

SONG OF ILLUMINATION

*Alleluia, Give Thanks to the Risen Lord*

ALLELUIA NO. 1

Refrain



Al - lel - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give thanks to the ris - en Lord.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - lel - lu - ia! Give praise to His\_\_ Name.

Verse



1. Je - sus is Lord of all the\_\_ earth.



He is the King of cre - a - tion.

GOSPEL READING

John 20:19-31 (NT p.115)

SERMON

Seeing Is Believing

John Cole

# RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

\*HYMN 245

*The Day of Resurrection*

LANCASHIRE

black hymnal

## PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Britt Cox

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.

## OFFERTORY

*Our Risen Lord, Our King of Kings*

Sally Ann Morris

Our risen Lord, our King of kings, earth with your Easter triumph rings; hear how the whole creation sings, Alleluia. O holy child, whose saving Name the angels sang when first you came, let ev'ry tongue your love proclaim, Alleluia.

O Son of Man, your life you gave, and chose for us the cross and grave; we sing with all you came to save, Alleluia.

O Lamb of God, ordained to die, and lifeless in that tomb to lie, immortal praise be yours on high, Alleluia.

O Prince of life who lives again, risen indeed from death's domain, come to our hearts, and rule and reign. Alleluia. - Timothy Dudley-Smith

## \*DOXOLOGY

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;**

**Praise Christ, all people here below. Alleluia, alleluia.**

**Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God whom we adore.**

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

## THE JOYFUL FEAST, THE HEAVENLY BANQUET

### INVITATION TO THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Alicia Reese

The God of every morning be with you.

**And also with you.**

People of Easter morning, lift up your hearts!

**We lift them to the One who has raised Jesus from the grave.**

People of Easter's joy, give thanks to the One who raises us to new life.

**We sing our hallelujahs to the God of everlasting love.**

On this day of joy and hope, we sing our praise to you, Redeemer of the lost. Very early in the morning, your Word shattered the silence of chaos, and grace flowed forth like a river.

**You reached down and gathered up the dust of creation, forming us into your image and breathing life into us.**

Yet the day came when we chose to turn from you, believing our wisdom was superior to your will for us. You sent us the prophets to speak of your gracious hope, but we refused to listen.

When you could have let us remain in the clutches of sin and death, you sent Jesus to be one of us, so we could come home to you.

Therefore, we join our voices this morning with those who stood at the empty tomb, as well as those in every time and place, singing our Easter joy to you:

### SANCTUS

*Holy, Holy, Holy Lord*

arr. Richard Proulx

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, — God of pow - er and might,  
heav'n and earth — are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in — the high - est.  
Bles - sed is the one who comes — in the name of the Lord. — Ho -  
san - na in — the high - est, — ho - san - na in — the high - est.

Music: Richard T. Proulx, © 1984 GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-714599.

Holy are you, God of every day, and blessed is Jesus Christ, Bright Morning Star.

**Creator of all that is good, he entered the shadows of hell to lead us into hope's light.**

Beloved of your Heart, he embraced our sin so we could be forgiven;

**Glorious beyond imagination, he welcomed death so we could enter life eternal.**

Even as we believe what we may not understand, we trust that mystery we call faith:

### AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**Christ has died, but death does not have the final word;**

**Christ is risen, and Easter begins for us**

**When Christ calls us by name.**

**Christ will come again and lead us into God's glory.**

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Lydia Mulkey

### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Britt Cox and John Cole

### PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

Britt Cox

It is here at this Table, Resurrecting God, that we are fed by your love. As you pour out your Spirit upon the Bread and the Cup,

**Fill us with the spirit of Jesus, so we may go forth to be your people.** *Continued on next page*

Feed us with the Bread of Heaven,  
**So we can fill the hunger of the world.**

Touch our lips with salvation's cup,

**So we can proclaim the good news of this day to everyone we meet.**

And when the morning comes when we are united with all the saints gathered around heaven's Table, we will lift our voices to you.

**God in Community, Holy in One, forever and ever. Amen.**

## SHARING THE ELEMENTS

Today we serve communion by intinction. Beginning from the middle pews, we invite everyone to come to the front to share in the joyful feast. As you reach the servers, take a piece of bread and dip in the cup. Gluten free bread is available with the servers at the baptismal font.

## COMMUNION MUSIC

### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

John Cole

Gracious God, we give thanks for bread for the journey, for your wisdom guiding us along the way. May there be friends to share the road as we dare to dream of creation renewed, and hope in the promise of justice for all. May we experience resurrection in our very lives as we pray the prayer you taught us to pray:

### LORD'S PRAYER

**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

### \*HYMN 240

*Jesus Christ Is Risen Today*

LLANFAIR

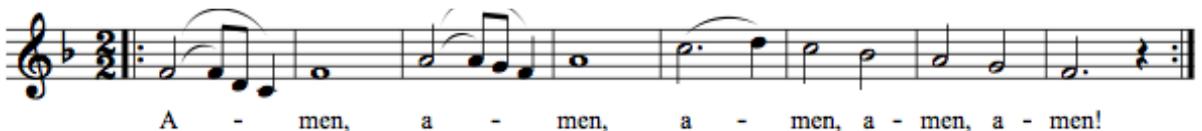
black hymnal

### \*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

### \*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

*Amen, Amen*

African-American Spiritual



### SENDING MUSIC

*Toccata from Symphony No. V*

Charles Marie Widor

# WELCOME!

**PLEASE NOTE** that the First United building will be closed tomorrow, April 17.

**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 pew 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 Britt Cox at 708.386.5215 x105 or [bcox@firstunitedoakpark.com](mailto:bcox@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.

**HEARING AMPLIFICATION DEVICES, LARGE PRINT BULLETINS, BIBLES AND HYMNALS** are available for use during worship. Please talk to a greeter to obtain these items.

## EASTER LILY DEDICATIONS

From the Faust family in memory of Sara's parents, William & May Rickert, and brother David.

From the Faust family in honor of Stan's mother, Julia Faust, and in memory of his father, Carl.

In honor of the ministry of Rev. Marylen Marty-Gentile, love Brett Gentile, Ray Cullen, Liz Gentile and Chase Gentile.

In memory of Leslie Ann Doulens, whose life was centered on the promise of Easter, from Karin and Dan Pietrini.

From Diane Stephenson, in honor of John and Clara Stephenson.

In loving memory of Lawrence H. Hunt, Lawrence H. Hunt, Junior and Douglas H. Hunt, from Margaret Hunt Campbell.

In loving memory of Mary and Gordon Macaulay, from Susan Macaulay.

In honor of Janice Arnold, from the Arnold-Anderson family.

From Gayle Jessen, in loving memory of Louis and Helen Jessen.

In memory of Richard Waichler, from Nancy Waichler.

In celebration of Grace, Emily, Kate, Parker and Meg, from Lee and Mary Lou Anderson.

From Craig and Kelly Bechtel, in memory of Rev. Dr. J. Gordon Bechtel.

**CONTACT THE FIRST UNITED OFFICE MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY 9 AM TO 5 PM**  
**708.386.5215**

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Prevail/Housing Forward	708.386.1946, <a href="http://www.housingforward.org">www.housingforward.org</a>
Oak Park River Forest Food Pantry	708.386.1324, <a href="http://www.oprffoodpantry.org">www.oprffoodpantry.org</a>
The Kid's Kloset, children's clothing ministry	<a href="mailto:sजारuba@yahoo.com">sजारuba@yahoo.com</a>



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