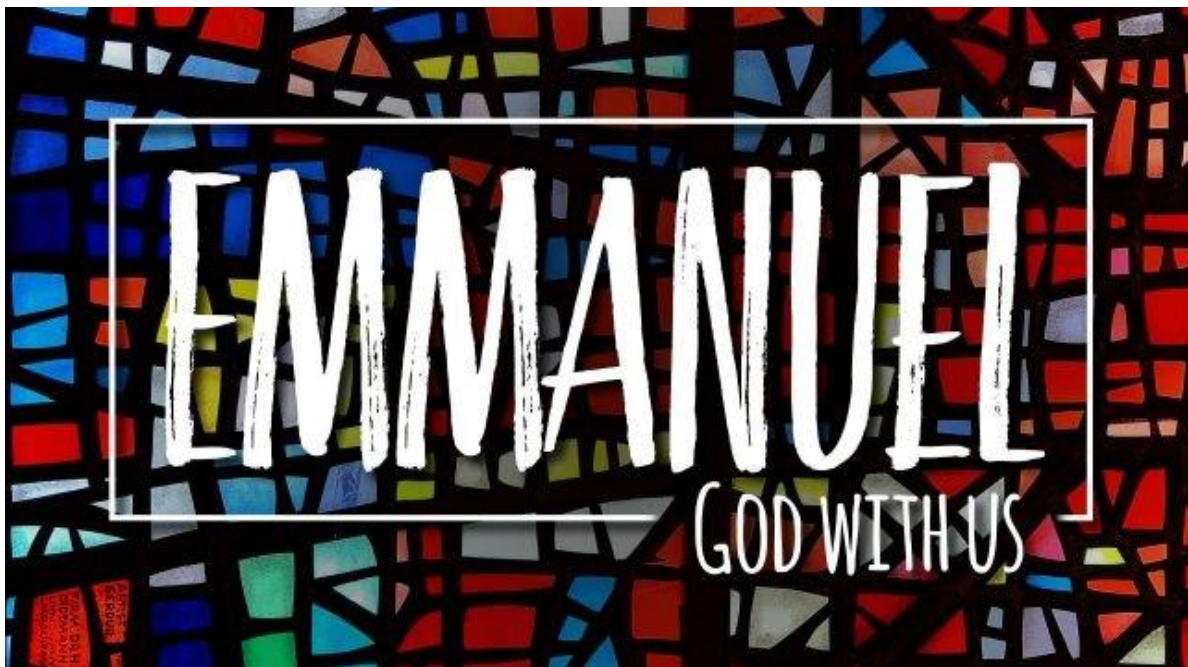


FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF OAK PARK
23 APRIL 2017



An open community united in love and justice

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

"If you look around, you can find a face of God in each thing, because God is not hidden in a church, a mosque or a synagogue, but everywhere."

-Shams Tabrizi

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

GATHERING MUSIC

*My Faithful Heart Rejoices
Prayer*

Johannes Brahms
Léon Boëllmann

OUR LIFE TOGETHER

Please sign and pass the red pew pad.

John Cole

GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE

* CALL TO WORSHIP

John Cole

We have walked a long road, but the journey does not end here.

Walk beside us O God.

We embark on yet another journey toward more truth and more light.

Journey with us, be our guide.

We look for you everywhere.

Open our eyes, help us to see your face.

* HYMN 22

Sing Praise to God, Who Has Shaped

LOBE DEN HERREN

black hymnal

CALL TO PRAYER

James Potts

Friends, beloved children of God, come as you are, come with your brokenness, feel God's embrace. Let us pray.

PRAYER FOR WHOLENESS

God of love and God of peace, our broken world cries out in pain. We feel its hurts burning deep into our souls. It challenges us to make a difference. This world is scarred by grief and tears, ignorance and fear. How will we ever feel whole? O God, create within us a heart for all people, the ability to embrace the brokenness of others and open our eyes to see your face in every person we meet. Amen.

SILENCE IS KEPT.

ASSURANCE OF LOVE

Friends, believe this good news: Nothing can separate you from the love of God!

Thanks be to God!

***PASSING THE PEACE**

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

TIME FOR SHARING

James Potts

SANCTUS 793

Holy, Holy, Holy

black hymnal

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD TO US

SONG OF ILLUMINATION *Alleluia, 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

2. Spread the good news o'er all the — earth:

Je - sus has died and has ri - sen.

EULOGY OF JESUS CHRIST

GOSPEL DRAMA READING

Luke 24:13-25

SERMON

The Face of God

Alicia Reese

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

***HYMN 42**

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

THANK YOU, JESUS

black hymnal

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

John Cole

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

An Alleluia Canon for Easter

David Hurd

Alleluia. Christ is risen; Alleluia!

*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

John Cole

Our Creator, Mother, 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 249

Peace I Leave with You, My Friends

PEACE, MY FRIENDS

black hymnal

*CHARGE

Go out into the world in peace. Have courage! Hold on to what is good. Return no one evil for evil. Strengthen the faint-hearted, support the weak, help the suffering. Honor all people. Love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Halleluja

Caribbean Melody

Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - ja.

Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - ja.


Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - ja. Hal - le -
 lu - ja, hal - le - lu - ja.

SENDING MUSIC

The Heavens Declare the Glory of God

Benedetto Marcello

TODAY AT FIRST UNITED

 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.

EVENTS AND UPDATES

ADULT EDUCATION NEXT SUNDAY - This is for anyone interested in our Church School Program. Join us for a brief conversation on why we do faith formation with our children as well as a time to meet and greet other parents and interested congregants. The Children's Ministry committee will provide refreshments. Join us at 9:30 a.m. in Centennial Hall!

VISIT BUILD CHICAGO!

Congregations Committed to Peace, a group working to address gun violence, invite you to visit BUILD next Sunday, April 30, from 2 to 3:30 p.m. Executive Director and First United Member Adam Alonso will talk about the youth services BUILD provides, and we will explore how we can support their summer activities for at-risk youth. BUILD is located at 5100 W. Harrison in Austin. For more information, contact Celine Woznica (708.383.8619 or woznica.illinois@gmail.com).

FLOWER POWER IS BACK! The Housing Team will supply plants, soil and pots to create Mother's Day gifts for parents served by New Moms. On Sunday, May 7, First United Sunday School Classes will plant the flowers, which are meant to be a symbol of love and hope as the lives of young mothers and their children blossom with potential and promise. Make a Flower Power donation today in the lounge; suggested tax-deductible amount is \$10-\$15.

COUNCIL, DEACONS AND NOMINATING COMMITTEE CANDIDATES

The following First United members are nominated for Church Council, Deacons and the Nominating Committee at the Annual Elections Meeting to be held May 7, 2017.

For Council: Adam Alonso, Gene Armstrong, Melinda Haag, Janet Haisman, Cate Readling

For Youth Council: Matt Aeschelmann, Lily Alter

For two year terms on Nominating: Patricia Feeley, Sue Saliny, Betsy Samore, Brian Shamhart, Art Spooner, Tom Wolford

For Deacons: Rose Buckner, Clara Kearley

GOSPEL CONCERT TO STOP GUN VIOLENCE, FEATURING DEXTER WALKER & ZION MOVEMENT

Saturday, May 6, 2017, 7 p.m. at First United

A free-will offering will support BUILD Chicago in the Austin neighborhood. Challenged by the tragic violence in our neighborhoods, BUILD accomplishes its mission to build lives and futures through violence interruption/prevention, youth development and coalition building.

Come, enjoy and invite your friends!

Our Faith in Action justice team, "WAGING PEACE - Working together to stop gun violence," extends this invitation to you and your friends.

DINNERS-FOR-EIGHT IS OUR ALL-TIME FAVORITE PRIMETIME GATHERING!

Folks 60-plus are invited to gather in a host home for a memorable dinner. Four dinners will be held on May 13 and two dinners will be held on May 20 from 6 p.m.- 9 p.m. This is a shared dinner with guests contributing to the meal. The reservation deadline for both dinners is Friday, May 5. Your quick response is important since seating is limited. Please join us for this special evening that will enhance your appreciation for the people who make this such a wonderful church.

Reservations: annahadowski@gmail.com Questions: marciaashton@msn.com

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 and a gift to take home with you.
- 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 Britt Cox at 708.386.5215 or 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.

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 except the Sanctuary. 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.



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](https://www.facebook.com/firstunitedoakpark)

SUNDAY, APRIL 23

9:30 am Church School and Adult Ed
 11:00 am Worship
 3:00 pm PFLAG
 6:00 pm FUJI/FUSH

MONDAY, APRIL 24

9:00 am CPM Meeting (Presbytery)
 5:00 pm Cub Scout Ceremony
 6:30 pm CMA Justice & Witness meeting
 6:30 pm Pack 16 meeting
 7:00 pm Food Pantry board meeting
 7:00 pm 2017 Hunger Walk team meeting

TUESDAY, APRIL 25

1:30 pm Cooking Matters: Heart Health
 4:00 pm Pro Musica Youth Chorus
 7:00 pm Personnel committee meeting
 7:00 pm Newcomers committee meeting

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26

8:30 am Nursery School staff conferences
 6:00 pm Handbell Choir rehearsal
 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir
 7:00 pm Housing Team meeting

THURSDAY, APRIL 27

6:30 pm Cluster Tutoring

FRIDAY, APRIL 28**SATURDAY, APRIL 29**

9:00 am Strategic Planning Implementation

SUNDAY, APRIL 30

9:30 am Church School and Adult Ed
 11:00 am Worship
 6:00 pm FUJI/FUSH

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

John Cole, Lead Pastor (ext. 101)

Britt Cox, Associate Pastor (ext. 105)

Lydia Mulkey, Director of Christian Education (ext. 103)

Alicia Reese, Coordinator of Youth & Children's Ministry (ext. 104)

William Chin, Director of Music (ext. 108)

Michael Surratt, Organist

Donna Montgomery, Church Administrator (ext. 102)

Amanda Swanson, Administrative Assistant (ext. 100)

LynToya Pate, Financial Assistant (ext. 106)

Keith Liesse, Head Custodian

First United Church Nursery School

Prevail/Housing Forward

Oak Park River Forest Food Pantry

The Kid's Closet, children's clothing ministry

jcole@firstunitedoakpark.com

bcox@firstunitedoakpark.com

lmulkey@firstunitedoakpark.com

areese@firstunitedoakpark.com

bill@firstunitedoakpark.com

msurratt@firstunitedoakpark.com

donnam@firstunitedoakpark.com

office@firstunitedoakpark.com

lpate@firstunitedoakpark.com

kliesse@firstunitedoakpark.com

708.848.4910, www.firstunitedschool.com

708.386.1946, www.housingforward.org

708.386.1324, www.oprffoodpantry.org

sjzaruba@yahoo.com