

FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF OAK PARK  
12 MARCH 2017 - LENT TWO



 *Sanctified Art* Illustration by: Lisle Gwynn Garrity | Inspired by: Psalm 51:1-17 | [sanctifiedart.org](http://sanctifiedart.org)

*An open community united in love and justice*

# PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

“The Christian journey is one consumed with finding our place in God's story while also discovering God's presence in our story. This impulse finds convergence in Jesus Christ — the essential mediation between the human and divine. The future of faith communities depends on their capacity to foster an environment where these narratives regularly intersect.”

- Herbert Anderson & Edward Foley, *Mighty Stories, Dangerous Rituals*

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

**GATHERING MUSIC**      *Organ Chorale Prelude: Christ lag in Todesbanden*      Johann Sebastian Bach  
*Sinfonia (from Cantata No. 4)*      Johann Sebastian Bach

**OUR LIFE TOGETHER**      Please sign and pass the red pew pad.      John Cole

## GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE

**\* CALL TO WORSHIP**      Alicia Reese

Come, let us worship and bow down.

**Let us kneel before our God.**

The hour is coming and is now here.

**In spirit and truth, let us worship God.**

**\* HYMN 341**      *Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!*      ASSURANCE  
blue hymnal

**CALL TO CONFESSION**      Alicia Reese

God's love has been poured into our hearts through the gift of the Holy Spirit. Trusting in God's overflowing grace, let us confess our sin.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Gracious God, you know who we are. You know everything we have done. We thirst for things that will never satisfy us. We commit ourselves to things that will never last. We worship things that will never bring salvation. Still you offer us living water. You offer us the gift of eternal life. Forgive us. Give us your living water, so that we may never thirst again. Amen.**

**MUSICAL RESPONSE**      *Tenor Aria (from Cantata No. 4)*      Johann Sebastian Bach  
Jesus Christ, God's son, has come in our place, and has done away with sin,  
thereby taking from death all his rights and power,  
nothing remains but death's form; he has lost his sting. Hallelujah!

SILENCE IS KEPT.

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear the good news! Through we are sinners, Christ died for us. Through we have fallen short, God loves us still. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and made new.

**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

Britt Cox

## SONG OF ILLUMINATION *Soprano/Alto Duet (from Cantata No. 4)*

Johann Sebastian Bach

No one could defeat death among all humanity,  
this was all because of our sins, no innocence was to be found.  
Therefore death came so soon and took power over us,  
held us captive in his kingdom. Hallelujah!

## READING

Exodus 17:1-7 (OT p. 64)

Alicia Reese

## GOSPEL READING

John 4:5-30 (NT p. 94)

## SERMON

Living Water

John Cole

# RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

## \*HYMN 407

blue hymnal

*When a Poor One*  
(sung in English)

EL CAMINO

## 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

*Chorale (from Cantata No. 4)*

Johann Sebastian Bach

Christ lay in death's bonds given over for our sins,  
He has risen again and brought us life;  
therefore we should be joyful,  
praise God and be thankful to Him and sing Hallelujah!

**\*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 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.

**MUSICAL RESPONSE**

*Soprano/Tenor Duet (from Cantata No. 4)*

Johann Sebastian Bach

So we celebrate the high festival with joy of heart and delight, which the Lord radiates upon us,  
He himself is the sun, that through the splendor of his grace illuminates our hearts completely,  
the night of sin has disappeared. Hallelujah!

## GOING FORTH IN DEDICATION AND SERVICE

**\*HYMN 172**

*My Shepherd Will Supply My Need*

RESIGNATION

blue hymnal

**\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

**\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE**

*Final Chorale (from Cantata No. 4)*

Johann Sebastian Bach

We eat and live well on the true Easter bread,  
the old leaven shall not exist next to the word of grace,  
Christ will be our food and nourish the soul alone,  
faith will live in no other way. Hallelujah!

**SENDING MUSIC**

*Quartet (from Cantata No. 4)*

Johann Sebastian Bach

It was a strange battle, that death and life waged,  
life claimed the victory, it devoured death.  
The scripture had prophesied this, how one death gobbled up the other,  
a mockery has been made out of death. Hallelujah!

*Organ Chorale: Christ lag in Todesbanden*

Johann Sebastian Bach

# TODAY AT FIRST UNITED

**THE LENTEN CANTATA** is Johann Sebastian Bach's Cantata No. 4, Christ lag in Todesbanden, and is among the greatest of his over 300 cantatas. Bach's artful treatment of the chorale tune — which he places in various voices in the choruses, and sets in lovely variations in the solos and duets — makes this cantata very special. Thanks to the Sanctuary Choir, plus soloists Martha Reese (soprano), Becki Streit (alto), and Matt Dean (tenor), and our ensemble consisting of Maria Storm and Songhea Sackrider (violins), Vannia Phillips and Charith Premawardhana (violas), Zachary Preucil (cello) and Michael Surratt (organ).



**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

**CONGREGATIONAL BRIDGEBUILDING WORKSHOP** - We are entering a time of abundant opportunity in the life of our church, which, of course, comes with its own set of challenges. In order to prepare ourselves to successfully pursue our opportunities and address our challenges, the Church Council has engaged the services of Dr. Peter Steinke to lead us through a program designed to help congregations make necessary decisions for healthy functioning and carrying out their ministry and mission. Everyone is invited to attend an initial workshop this **Saturday, March 18, from 12:30 –2:30 p.m.** Light refreshments will be provided in the Lounge before Dr. Steinke begins his presentation “The Congregation as an Emotional System” in the Sanctuary.

### **2017 EVENING DIVISION MEMORIAL GRANT**

Applications for the 2017 Evening Division \$1500 Memorial Grant are available on the lounge desk. Please pick one up for any organization that would benefit. Award presentation is June 8.

### **NEXT SUNDAY, MARCH 19 - LENT THREE**

"Seeing Straight" – John 9:1-41

### **ADULT ED NEXT SUNDAY - BIBLICAL LEADERSHIP**

Before there was a bookstore section on leadership development, people looked to two different sources for model leadership: The President and the Bible. Given our current political environment, both sources might seem like strange places to find good leadership values. However, the Bible is full of model leaders that speak to us in a time where many people of faith will be called on to lead differently. Pastor Britt Cox will facilitate this class.

### **THE JULIAN CHIN TRIO IN CONCERT: TRIBUTE TO AHMAD JAMAL**

Join us as Music at First presents an evening of jazz with the Julian Chin Trio in a tribute to Ahmad Jamal, Saturday, March 18 at 7:30 p.m. The trio features Julian Chin on piano, Jarad Kleinstein on drums and Ben Dillinger on bass.

**IT IS TIME TO THINK SPRING!** The Nursery School offers beautiful plants each year and appreciates your support. Order forms may be picked up in the church lounge today and must be returned by March 17. Gorgeous plants will be in Centennial Hall for pick up May 5, in perfect time for planting.

**THE LEGACY OF THE REV. DR. ROBERT WORLEY** will be honored at McCormick Seminary with a dinner gathering on Thursday, April 20, and a Symposium on Friday, April 21 beginning at 9 a.m. and ending by 3:30 p.m. Dr. Worley was Director of the Doctor of Ministry Program and a Vice President of the Seminary. His ideas and initiatives shaped the seminary and led to the multicultural reality that is McCormick today. All are welcome. Contact Pauline Coffman ([p.coffman@sbcglobal.net](mailto:p.coffman@sbcglobal.net)) with questions.

# 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](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.

**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](http://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](http://www.firstunitedoakpark.com) | [facebook.com/firstunitedoakpark](https://www.facebook.com/firstunitedoakpark)

**SUNDAY, MARCH 12 - LENT TWO**

9:30 am Church School and Adult Ed  
 11:00 am Worship  
 3:00 pm Eagle Scout Court of Honor  
 5:00 pm FUSH Youth Board  
 6:00 pm FUJI/FUSH

**MONDAY, MARCH 13**

6:30 pm Pack 16 Meeting  
 6:30 pm Responding to Gun Violence meeting  
 7:00 pm Worship, Music & Arts meeting

**TUESDAY, MARCH 14**

7:30 am FUNS Conferences  
 7:30 am Housing Forward Res. Dev. meeting  
 4:00 pm Pro Musica Youth Chorus  
 6:30 pm Tech committee meeting  
 6:30 pm CAC music rehearsal  
 7:00 pm Finance committee meeting  
 7:00 pm Planned Giving committee meeting  
 7:00 pm Youth committee meeting (away)  
 7:00 pm Newcomers committee meeting  
 7:30 pm Faith in Action committee meeting

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15**

9:00 am FUNS Board meeting  
 11:00 am Wednesday Small Group  
 6:30 pm Early Childhood Prof. Development  
 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir  
 7:00 pm Food Pantry Volunteer Orientation

**THURSDAY, MARCH 16**

1:00 pm CROP Walk Leadership meeting  
 6:30 pm Cluster Tutoring

**FRIDAY, MARCH 17****SATURDAY, MARCH 18**

8:00 am O.W.L. Retreat  
 9:00 am Strategic Planning Task Force meeting  
 12:30 pm Congregational Bridgebuilder  
 Presentation

**SUNDAY, MARCH 19 - LENT THREE**

8:30 am Church School Leader Breakfast  
 9:30 am Kinder Creation Play  
 9:30 am Church School and Adult Ed  
 11:00 am O.W.L. Worship  
 11:00 am Worship  
 6:00 pm FUSH

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

John Cole, Lead Pastor (ext. 101)	jcole@firstunitedoakpark.com
Britt Cox, Associate Pastor (ext. 105)	bcox@firstunitedoakpark.com
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First United Church Nursery School	708.848.4910, www.firstunitedschool.com
Prevail/Housing Forward	708.386.1946, www.housingforward.org
Oak Park River Forest Food Pantry	708.386.1324, www.oprffoodpantry.org
The Kid's Kloset, children's clothing ministry	sjzaruba@yahoo.com