

FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF OAK PARK
2 JULY 2017



An open community united in love and justice

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

“So Hagar named the God who spoke to her, 'You are El Roi [the God who sees].’”
- Genesis 6:13

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

GATHERING MUSIC

Now Thank We All Our God

J.S. Bach

Trumpet Tune

Henry Purcell

Now Thank We All Our God

Sigfrid Karg-Elert

In Honor of Stan and Chris Davis' 57th Wedding Anniversary

OUR LIFE TOGETHER

Please sign and pass the red pew pad.

Britt Cox

GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Britt Cox

What does the Lord require of you?

**To do justice, and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with our God.**

What does God command of us?

**To love God with all our heart,
and all our soul,
and all our mind,
and all our strength,
and to love our neighbor as ourselves.**

God does not call us to ease or to comfort.

**But to presence, and abundance,
and grace in our struggle.**

Let us worship the God who believes in us,
and trusts in us, and abides with us.

**Let us worship the God who will ask much of us,
but will be beside us every step of the way.**

* HYMN 24

The God of Abraham Praise

LEONI

black hymnal

CALL TO CONFESSION

Britt Cox

The idol of our times is personal independence, but in truth, we are bossed around by our faults, our poor choices, the hurts we cause to others. Yet by God's grace, we are set free from all these passions, so let us join in offering our confessions to the One who welcomes each of us with forgiveness and hope.

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

Don't Be Afraid

John L. Bell

*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.**

THE JOYFUL FEAST, THE HEAVENLY BANQUET

THE INVITATION

Lydia Mulkey

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Britt Cox

May the God of steadfast love be with you.

And also with you.

Saints of God, lift your hearts to the One who saves you.

We offer them to God, who sees our hearts and minds.

Sing to the Lord; praise God's name.

We lift our voices to the One who hears our need-felt songs.

Chaos tried to restrain you,

but failed, Glorious God,

as you cried out, "Create!"

and gases spun into galaxies,

rivers rushed to become seas,

flowers danced in summer breezes.

You shaped us in your image, into to all

that had been crafted from your joyous imagination,

and gifting us with all your love.

But we loved sin and death

more than you, and followed them.

You sent prophets, those women and men,

whose hearts burned with your voice,

and called us back to you,

but we kept fooling ourselves,

playing our childish games with temptation.

You sent Jesus to us,

so we might once again walk with you.

With reluctant prophets and fearful followers,

we draw near to you with songs of thanksgiving:

SANCTUS

Santo, Santo, Santo

William Loperna

(repeat each line after the Leader)

Holy, holy, holy, God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

There is no love like you, Steadfast God,
and Jesus Christ is our hope and grace.
Seeing us going down the wrong paths,
 he showed us the streets of the kingdom;
seeing us drowning in pools of seduction,
 he was baptized, so we might be pulled to safety;
seeing us held captive by our worst selves,
 he died and was buried,
 so sin's plans would be destroyed,
 and death would fall flat on its schemes,
and he brought the gift of the resurrection
from the grave.

As we live through these ordinary days,
as we seek to be faithful followers of Jesus,
we speak about that mystery called faith:

**Christ put on death, to set us free;
You clothed Christ in resurrection, so we might believe;
Christ will come, to clothe us in eternity.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Lydia Mulkey

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING THE FEAST

Today we serve communion by intinction. Beginning from the middle pews, we invite everyone to come to the front or rear of the Sanctuary to share in the joyful feast. As you reach the servers, break off a piece of bread and dip it in the cup. Gluten-free bread is available at the station by the baptismal font. Return to your place by the outside rows.

COMMUNION MUSIC

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION AND THE 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 525

Here I Am, Lord

SCHUTTE

blue hymnal

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Let It Breathe on Me



Let it breathe on me, — let it breathe on me, — let the breath of the
Spi - rit breathe on me. Let it breathe on me, — let it
breathe on me, — let the breath of God now breathe on me.

SENDING MUSIC

Variations on America

Charles Ives

TODAY AT FIRST UNITED

LET'S TALK: CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS AVAILABLE FOLLOWING WORSHIP

Do you have thoughts to share after reading the Action Planning Team report that was emailed/mailed? Church Council members will be available after worship today. Additional copies of the report are available on the elder desk.

THIS SUNDAY'S ALTAR FLOWERS are in celebration of Chris and Stan Davis' 57th wedding anniversary.



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

NEXT SUNDAY, JULY 9

The One Who Sees: Rebecca – Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING JULY 9

A congregational meeting to vote on the dissolution of Rev. Dr. John Cole's call will be held after worship on Sunday, July 9, by which time the principal terms of the Separation Agreement will be communicated.

THIS WEEK: GENERAL SYNOD 2017

Please keep General Synod 2017, the 31st biannual gathering of the United Church of Christ, in your prayers when it meets from June 30 to July 4 in Baltimore. Keynote speeches will be delivered by author Glennon Doyle Melton, who spoke at First United a year ago, and by environmental activist Aaron Mair. Among the 14 "Resolutions of Witness" to be considered is one calling for "Participation with the Boy Scouts of America through Inclusive Scouting Programs." First United is one of seven churches who worked together to submit this resolution (a big thank you to Cate Reading!). For more information about General Synod, go to ucc.org/synod; updated news will be posted there throughout the five-day synod.

WANT TO BE A FURST ENGLISH LANGUAGE COMPANION? OF COURSE YOU DO!

The First United Refugee Support Team (FURST) is seeking volunteers who would be willing to be English language companions for the children of the Alsaad family during the summer months. Ideally, we'd like to be able to send two people once a week to work with Banen (7), Mujtaba (8), Abrar (12), and Ayat (13). All four kids are whip-smart and eager to learn and practice English.

If interested, please contact John Chapman-Rienstra (wolverienstra@gmail.com), Charlie Morris (cmorris91120@gmail.com), or Leah Beckwith (leahb44@ameritech.net).

***UNDER THE GUN* MOVIE SCREENING**

Saturday, July 15, 2 p.m. at First United

This movie examines the events and people who have kept the gun debate fierce and the progress slow. Sandy Phillips, mother of Jesse, killed in the Aurora mass shooting, brings this movie as a part of an initiative to work for sensible gun laws. Come, learn and donate support for this work.

For more info on the movie, visit underthegunmovie.com. To learn more about Sandy Phillips' work, visit jessismessage.org/donate. Contact Donna Montgomery or Lois Thiessen Love for info on the screening.



Every Wednesday from 6:30-7:30pm,
BYOP (bring your own picnic) to the
Memorial Garden lawn for
a relaxed service of evening prayer.
We'll sing, pray, reflect, engage in conversation
and connect in spiritual practices
for the whole family!



Dates	Theme
July 5th	Broken
July 12th	Confess
July 19th	Reconcile
July 26th	Friend
August 2nd	Love
August 9th	Sabbath
August 16th	Give
August 23rd	Journey
August 30th	Disciple



If you have any questions or would like
to participate in worship leadership, contact
Pastor Britt Cox bcox@firstunitedoakpark.com

WORSHIP THOUGHTS

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.



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an open community united in love & justice

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

SUNDAY, JULY 2

10:00 am Worship

MONDAY, JULY 3

First United Closed

TUESDAY, JULY 4

First United Closed

WEDNESDAY, JULY 5

6:30 pm Summer Vespers Worship

7:00 pm Woodwind Quintet rehearsal

THURSDAY, JULY 6

FRIDAY, JULY 7

SATURDAY, JULY 8

SUNDAY, JULY 9

10:00 am Worship

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

708.386.5215

Britt Cox, Associate Pastor (ext. 105)

Lydia Mulkey, Minister of Education (ext. 103)

Alicia Reese, Coordinator of Youth & Children's Ministry

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

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