



FIRST
UNITED
CHURCH OF
OAK PARK

Sunday, June 28, 2026

www.firstunitedoakpark.com

facebook.com/firstunitedoakpark | Instagram [@firstunitedoakpark](https://instagram.com/firstunitedoakpark)

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 A.M. Worship

Bold text indicates congregation participation – *Indication to stand in body or spirit

Prelude

Bobby Nguyen

Tempo di minuetto by Maria Hester Park

Welcome

Rev. Michael Jones

*Call To Worship

Tom Wolford

In the beginning, God breathed life into our lungs:

Not for silence, but for courage. Not for passivity, but for radical witness. A voice echoing high into the mountains and felt even in the depths of the sea.

God's Spirit dwells within us, in our bodies, in our voices, in every choice we make.

We are not powerless. We are called. We are sent.

So come, bringing your whole selves: your grief and your fire, your questions and your vision. We are the ones we have been waiting for.

For Christ has already come among us, and still calls us forward. Love does not wait.

So we will move, we will follow, we will become.

Let us worship the God who calls us into life, into action, into love.

*Passing the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

*Opening Hymn

God of Many Faces by Amy Cerniglia (Tune: SLANE)

God of many faces, we offer you our praise,
Singing your glory through all of our days.
Hear ever growing voices, once fragile, now strong,
Carrying melodies in expansive new songs.

God of many genders, our world reflects you,
Sunrise and sunset uniting our hues,
Woven into a city with jewels of all shades,
Houses of ruby and walls rowed with jade.

God of many names, we invite you to show
Us the new names that reflect our true souls.
Breathe with your holy spirit to give us the Word
That will in dwell dry bones, granting new life once heard.

God of many bodies, abide within ours,
Shifting more each day through time and through scars.
Come sanctify our bodies, all fashioned by you,
Holier everyday, still becoming more true.

Prayer for Wholeness

God who breathes us out of dust, we so often live as though we have forgotten who we are. We spurn the vision of abundance that invites us to flourish. And still, the Creator who knows us deeply calls us good and invites us to live and grow among the delights of creation. We convince ourselves that surely, the holy welcome is not a fruit we were meant to enjoy. And still, the Liberator draws our sacred imagination into a world where we are loved in the wholeness of who we are and who we are becoming. We cling to the ways of the past even when they harm those around us. And still, the Spirit's whisper, wild, gentle and intimate, calls us to one another and to ourselves. Oh, God who is good and who is good to us, forgive us. Amen.

Assurance of Love

May we rest in the blessed assurance that God does not give us over to that which would keep us from living our calling. God hears our cries, and God answers and becomes our salvation. So, open your eyes to the beauty of all that's around you, and hear this good news: God's steadfast love endures forever. And it is for you. **Thanks be to God: Amen.**

Musical Response #756 (Black hymnal)

Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Gloria, gloria, alleluia, alleluia!

Invitation to the Children

Gathering Response #524 v.1 (Black hymnal)

This Little Light of Mine

Time for Sharing

First United Church of Oak Park Open & Affirming and More Light Statement (1995)

We welcome lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people into the full life and ministry of the church, including ordination, expecting and encouraging them to share their talents and gifts in the life, liturgy, leadership, and employment positions of our congregation, as our ministers, teachers, members, visitors, and friends. Both of our denominations — Presbyterian Church (USA) and United Church of Christ — now welcome LGBTQ members. In PC (USA), the policy is described as being “More Light.” In the UCC, the policy is seen as being “Open and Affirming.” We seek to be an inclusive expression of Christ’s body celebrating our diversity while finding our unity in Christ.

Musical Response #524 v.2 (Black hymnal)

This Little Light of Mine

Everywhere I go...

Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18

I will sing of your steadfast love, O Lord, forever; with my mouth I will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations. I declare that your steadfast love is established forever; your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens. You said, “I have made a covenant with my chosen one; I have sworn to my servant David: ‘I will establish your descendants forever and build your throne for all generations.’” Happy are the people who know the festal shout, who walk, O Lord, in the light of your countenance; they exult in your name all day long and extol your righteousness. For you are the glory of their strength; by your favor our horn is exalted. For our shield belongs to the Lord, our king to the Holy One of Israel.

Gospel Reading Matthew 10:40-42

[Jesus said:] “Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward, and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous, and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward.”

The word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

*Hymn of Illumination (See next pages.)

For All the Children by David Lohman

In Honor of Rev. Ann B. Day and Donna Enberg

For All the Children

Words and Music by
David Lohman

♩ = 102

1. God, we gath - er as your peo - ple to
2. Oh, we sing for all the chil - dren, that
3. Oh, we pray for all the young lives cut
4. God, we're work - ing for the fu - ture when

G/A D G/D

3

raise our song a - bove, and we dare to claim the
one day they be free; and we sing for gen - er -
short by fear and shame so a - fraid of who they
chil - dren far and wide can live their lives with

D G/D D

6

pro-mise of Your love, though the day may not yet
 a - tions yet to be, that they nev - er have a
 are and whom they love. May the mess - age now be
 dig - ni - ty and pride. As they grow in strength and

D/F# Asus A Bm

10

be here, we trust it soon will be, when your
 rea - son to doubt that they are blest. May they,
 ban - ished that Your love is for the few, may their
 sta - ture, may they join us hand in hand, as a -

D/A G D/F#

13

REFRAIN

chil - dren will be free. O, may our
 in Your love, find rest.
 faith in You re - new.
 gainst all hate we stand.

Em7 Asus A7 D G/D D

17
 hearts and minds be o - pened, fling the church doors o - pen wide. May there be

G D/F# G D/F#

21
 room e - nough for ev - 'ry-one in - side. For in

Em D/F# Asus F#7/A#

25
 God there is a wel - come, in God we all be - long. May that

Bm D/A G D/F#

29
 wel - come be our song.

Em Asus A7 D G/D D

Sermon

Sermon Response

Sanctuary Band

One Voice by the Wailin' Jennys

This is the sound of one voice: One spirit, one voice.

The sound of one who makes a choice. This is the sound of one voice (2x).

This is the sound of voices two. The sound of me singing with you.

Helping each other to make it through. This is the sound of voices two (2x).

This is the sound of voices three. Singing together in harmony.

Surrendering to the mystery. This is the sound of voices three (2x).

This is the sound of all of us. Singing with love and the will to trust.

Leave the rest behind, it will turn to dust. This is the sound of all of us (2x).

This is the sound of one voice: One people, one voice.

A song for every one of us. This is the sound of one voice (2x).

Invitation to the Offering

During the offering all are welcome to use the two center aisles to bring offerings to the offering plates and/or pink prayer cards to the basket at the front of the sanctuary on the communion table or at the back of the sanctuary on the table behind the center middle pew. Prayer requests will be lifted up during the Prayers of the People. If you are unable to move to an offering plate, please ask a neighbor in the pew to take it or lift a hand, and we will make sure there is someone to bring it forward for you.

Fourth Sunday Offering

Paul and Leah Beckwith

Build

Offertory

Sanctuary Band

Servant's Prayer by Cathy Pino

*Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ all people here below;

Praise Holy Spirit evermore: Praise Triune God, whom we adore.

Prayer for Gun Violence Awareness

Keely O'Brien Tyson

Adapted from "Antiphonal Prayer Against the Despair of Death" by William James Jennings

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

Our Creator, Our Mother, and 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, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

*Closing Hymn (Nettleton)

Sing a New World into Being by Mary Louise Bringle

Sing a new world into being. Sound a bold and hopeful theme.

Find a tune for silent yearnings. Lend your voice and dare to dream:

Dream a church where all who worship find the lives and loves belong.

Sing a new world into being. Sing as Christ inspires your song!

Sing a new world into being, where each gender, class, and race

Brings its rainbow gifts and colors to God's limitless embrace.

Where the lines that once divided form instead the ties that bind.

Sing a new world into being: risk transforming heart and mind!

Sing a new world into being, where the homeless find a home,

Where no children ever hunger but are filled with God's shalom;

Where all people work for justice, where all hate and vengeance cease.

Sing a new world into being: raise the harmonies of peace!

Sing a new world into being. Join the ancient prophets' cry

For a time of health and plenty when all tears have been wiped dry;

When compassion flows like waters, pouring balm for all who grieve.

Sing a new world into being: live the promise you believe!

*Blessing

*Blessing Response

Go Now in Peace (Sleeth)

Go now in peace, go now in peace.

May the love of God surround you.

Everywhere, everywhere you may go.

Postlude

The Sanctuary Band

Get Together by Chet Powers / The Youngbloods

Today's Liturgist: Tom Wolford grew up in a UCC church and joined First United in 2003. Tom's leadership has touched church school, Church Council, Personnel, Nominating, Planned Giving, Finance and pastoral staffing. His talents are clearly diverse.

Copyrights: Hymns, anthems, & music for choir, handbells, piano, organ, and sanctuary band used and broadcast with permission under ONE LICENSE A-714599 or CCLI License 1298520. All rights reserved.

-Call to Worship, Prayer for Wholeness, and Assurance of Love adapted from the PCU USA More Light Pride Sunday Liturgy.

Events and Updates

Below is just a sampling of the news and events at First United. You can find our full calendar at firstunitedoakpark.com/calendar. Follow us on Facebook (facebook.com/firstunitedoakpark) for our weekly newsletter and lots more.

Annual Meeting, June 28

Please stay after worship today for the annual meeting. We will meet in the Sanctuary and begin as soon as we have a quorum.

Sign Up for Summer Dinners for Eight (or Nine)

Summer Dinners for 8-9, Saturday July 11, 6:00 pm. We are looking for hosts and diners. Interested? Please contact Brenda at brendajm@comcast.net.

First United Closed, July 3

First United will be closed on July 3 in observance of Independence Day.

Stay and Play, July 12

Join the Children's Ministry Team after worship on the lawn for water play, games, and hot dogs!

Welcome to First United!

We are a union church of the Presbyterian Church (USA) and the United Church of Christ, dedicated to sharing Christ's radically inclusive love. We welcome all, regardless of who you love, where you've come from, what religious background you have, or where you are on your faith journey. Visit our website to read our land acknowledgment and open and affirming statement.

Interested in learning more about First United Church? Look for members wearing gold buttons, talk to one of the pastors, or watch for the next Newcomers class.

Assistive Listening System If you are in need of assistance in hearing during the worship service, please speak with one of the greeters.

Adult Education Adult Education takes a variety of forms. Weekly Bible Study and Speaker Series meet at 9:45 a.m. September through May.

Children In Worship & Our Nursery We love to have children in worship! Enjoy the Pray-ground throughout worship or take an activity bag to the pews. Childcare is available for children five and under in our nursery. Ask a greeter for directions.

Church School Church School is for children ages birth through 8th grade. We tell stories of the Bible using a lens of love and justice with singing, praying, and creating. Church School meets Sundays at 9:45 a.m., September through May.

Music Ministries Interested in singing or ringing with our choirs? We rehearse on Wednesdays September through May. Contact Music Director Sally Sloane for more information.

Youth Programs The junior and senior high youth groups meet on Sunday evenings from 5 – 7 p.m. here at the church, September through mid-May.

Transportation Assistance In need of a ride to church? Call or email: 847-801-9459 / FUCOP848@gmail.com.



FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF OAK PARK

Living God's All-Inclusive Love

www.firstunitedoakpark.com | 708-386-5215

facebook.com/firstunitedoakpark | [Instagram @firstunitedoakpark](https://instagram.com/firstunitedoakpark)

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Lead Pastor: | Michael Jones – mjones@firstunitedoakpark.com |
| Associate Pastor: | Lydia Mulkey – lmulkey@firstunitedoakpark.com |
| Church Administrator: | Heather Vanderberg – hvanderberg@firstunitedoakpark.com |
| Financial Administrator: | Patricia Morales – pmorales@firstunitedoakpark.com |
| Music Director: | Sally Sloane – ssloane@firstunitedoakpark.com |
| Organist: | Bobby Nguyen – bnguyen@firstunitedoakpark.com |