



FIRST
UNITED
CHURCH OF
OAK PARK

Sunday, May 31, 2026

www.firstunitedoakpark.com

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First Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 A.M. Worship

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

Prelude

Eloise Loveless-Mancuso

Écossaise by Hummel

The Happy Farmer by Schumann

Welcome

Rev. Michael Jones

*Call To Worship

Chris Damon

Power Who Affirms Life—

You long for us to live unfurling, ample, spacious lives.

Power Who Affirms Life—

You dream of collaboration and care. You dream of wide-open fields of consent.

Power Who Affirms Life—

We long to live in your legacy of freedom and joy.

*Passing the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

*Opening Hymn #23 (Black hymnal)

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

Prayer for Wholeness

Lydia Mulkey

Holy Presence, we toss and turn with fear. We weep and shake our fists. We gather in protest in the halls of power. We grieve because it doesn't have to be like this. We do what we can to get through the day. We find beauty and make community amidst chaos and sorrow. Be with us now, Oh God. Accompany us boldly, Power Who Affirms Life.

Assurance of Love

Michael Jones

Hear the good news: the powers of love and life are rascally and stubborn. They will pursue you to the ends of the earth and beyond. Rest in the knowledge of a love that never gives up. Amen.

Musical Response #59 v.1 (Black hymnal)

Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling

**Holy Spirit, ever dwelling in the holiest realms of light;
Holy Spirit, ever brooding o'er a world of gloom and blight;
Holy Spirit, ever raising earth-bound souls to glory high;
Living, life-imparting Spirit; you we praise and magnify.**

Invitation to the Children

Michael Jones

Musical Response #524 v.1 (Black hymnal)

This Little Light of Mine

Time for Sharing

*Hymn of Illumination #478 (Black hymnal)

I've Got Peace Like a River

Hebrew Bible/Old Testament Reading

Chris Damon

Genesis 1:26-30

Then God said, "Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth." So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth." God said, "See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to

everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.” And it was so.

Gospel Reading – Matthew 28:16-20

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Sermon

Lydia Mulkey

Musical Response #286 (Black hymnal)

Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness (Refrain & Verse 1)

**Spirit, spirit of gentleness, blow through the wilderness,
calling and free,**

**Spirit, spirit of restlessness, stir me from placidness,
wind, wind on the sea.**

**You moved on the waters, you called to the deep,
then you coaxed up the mountains from the valleys of sleep;**

And over the eons you called to each thing,

“Awake from your slumbers and rise on your wings.”

Invitation to the Offering

Michael Jones

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.

Offertory

Mack Loveless-Mancuso

Harry's Wondrous World by Williams/Coates

*Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Christ all people here below;

Praise Holy Spirit evermore:

Praise Triune God, whom we adore.

Commissioning our FUSH Youth

When asked which commandment in the law is the greatest, Jesus replied, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the first, and the second is like it. You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” As you embark on this mission trip, you will live out both of these statements. As you travel to be fully physically, spiritually, and mentally present with others in a different place and in different circumstances than your own, you express God’s love with your whole self. As you learn and grow, your neighbor’s life becomes entwined with yours.

FUSH Youth and Advisors: We go to be present with one another and with those who host us.

Go with our blessing to love God and your neighbor.

FUSH Youth and Advisors: We go to make a change for good in our own lives and in the lives of others.

Go with our blessing to love God and your neighbor.

FUSH Youth and Advisors: We go to experience the Holy in new and powerful ways.

Go with our blessing to love God and your neighbor.

FUSH Youth and Advisors: We go so we can come back empowered to work for a just world for all.

As you go, we go with you: awed by God’s wonder, present with our prayers, changed by your commitment, and empowered to work together upon your return for a just world for all.

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer Michael Jones

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 #355 (Black hymnal)

God the Spirit, Guide and Guardian

Invitation to the Circle

Lydia Mulkey

*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

Bobby Nguyen

Toc-cat-a from Cat Suite by Denis Bédard

Today's Liturgist: Chris Damon is a long-time First United member and retired association executive. His service history includes several church teams, Oak Park River Forest History Museum and broadcasts to the visually impaired (Chicago Lighthouse).

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- Kossowski, Adam. Veni Sancti Spiritus, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=56946> [retrieved May 12, 2026]. Original source:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/paullew/8750321716> - Fr Lawrence Lew, O.P..

-Prayer for Wholeness adapted from www.enfleshed.com and from a prayer written by the Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay, Minister for Worship and Theology for the United Church of Christ.

-Assurance of Love adapted from assurance written by the Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay, Minister for Worship and Theology for the United Church of Christ.

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.

Seeking Holy Rollers to support FUSH Mission trip

On June 7, First United youth and advisors will travel to Asheville, NC, to be of service to that local community. Can you be a “Holy Roller” so support the trip? Use the QR code to make a donation. Select “YM Mission Fund” from the drop-down fund menu.



Limited Office Hours, June 1-5

Due to staff vacations and leaves, office hours will be limited the week of June 1. Please call to make sure the building is accessible prior to stopping by. If you need to get in and no staff is available, you may also go to the Beyond Hunger door for assistance.

Chicago Sky Outing, June 5

Come cheer on the Chicago Sky at Wintrust Arena as they take on the Connecticut Sun on June 5. We'll meet at church at 4:30 p.m. and carpool to Wintrust in time for the 6:30 game. Use the QR code to purchase your tickets.



Wear Orange to Church on June 7.

Why orange? Orange is the color hunters wear to warn others to not shoot. Don't have orange? We'll have some orange ribbons to share. Every Sunday in June we will pray about gun violence.

Graduation Sunday, June 14

We will be honoring First United graduates on June 14 at 10 a.m. in worship. If you are graduating or your child is graduating, please let us know by completing the graduate form available in the eblast.

Memorial Service for Marion Hogenboom, June 20

There will be a memorial service celebrating the life of Marion Hogenboom on Saturday, June 20 at 2 p.m.

Budget Breakfast, June 21

We will hold our annual meeting at the end of June (more details coming soon). In preparation for the meeting, there will be a BYOB(reakfast) budget breakfast on June 21 at 8:30 a.m. in Centennial Hall.

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

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Lead Pastor:	Michael Jones – mjones@firstunitedoakpark.com
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Financial Administrator:	Patricia Morales – pmorales@firstunitedoakpark.com
Music Director:	Sally Sloane – ssloane@firstunitedoakpark.com
Organist:	Bobby Nguyen – bnguyen@firstunitedoakpark.com

Hymn Supplement: May 31, 2026

Opening Hymn – There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

There's a wideness in God's mercy, like the wideness of the sea;
There's a kindness in God's justice, which is more than liberty.
There's no place where earthly sorrows are more felt than in God's heaven;
There's no place where earthly failings have such kindly judgement given.

For the love of God is broader than the measures of our minds;
And the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.
If our love were but more faithful, we would gladly trust God's word;
And our lives would show thanksgiving for the goodness of our God.

Musical Response After the Invitation – This Little Light of Mine

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine. Let it shine. Let it shine.

Hymn of Illumination – *I've Got Peace Like a River*

I've got peace like a river in my soul.

I've got joy like a fountain in my soul.

I've got love like an ocean in my soul.

I've got faith like an anchor in my soul.

Closing Hymn – *God the Spirit, Guide and Guardian*

God the Spirit, guide and guardian, wind-sped flame and hovering dove,
Breath of life and voice of prophets, sign of blessing, power of love:
Give to those who lead your people fresh anointing of your grace;
Send them forth as bold apostles to your church in every place.

Christ our Savior, sovereign, shepherd, Word made flesh, love crucified,
Teacher, healer, suffering servant, friend of sinners, foe of pride:
In your ending may all pastors learn and live a shepherd's care;
Grant them courage and compassion shown through word and deed and prayer.

Great Creator, life bestower, truth beyond all thought's recall,
Fount of wisdom, womb of mercy, giving and forgiving all:
As you know our strength and weakness, so may those the church exalts
Oversee its life steadfastly yet not overlook its faults.

Triune God, mysterious being, undivided and diverse,
Deeper than our minds can fathom, greater than our creeds rehearse:
Help us in our varied callings your full image to proclaim,
That our ministries uniting may give glory to your name.