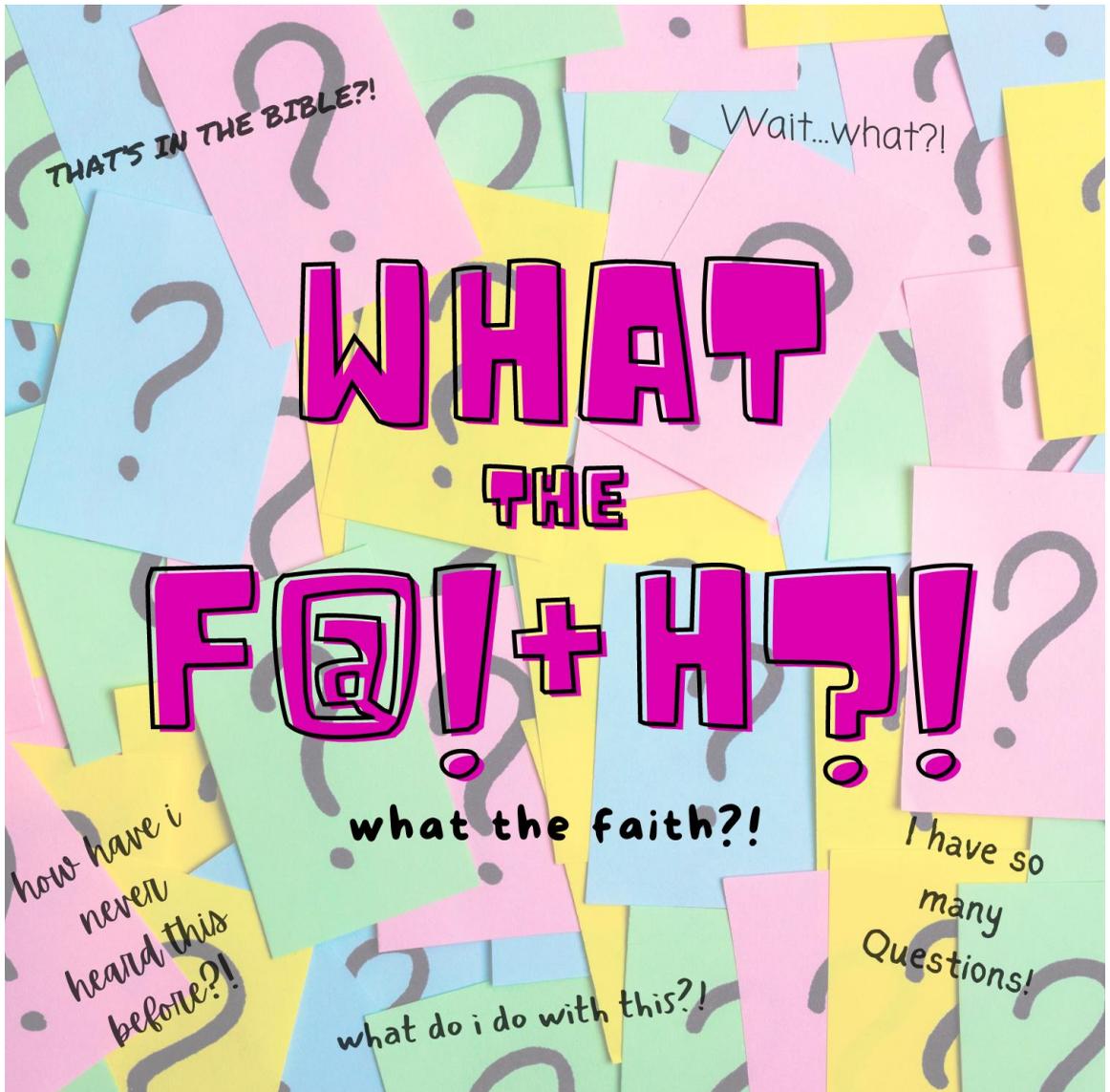


# The Federated Church

*United Church of Christ † Unitarian Universalist Association*



## A SUMMER SERMON SERIES

# ***What the Faith?!***

## **Get in on the Conversations!**

Have you wanted to read the Bible more, but had no idea where to start? Do you have questions about the Bible that you've always wanted to ask but never felt like you could, like: what do we do with the parts of the Bible that seem to condone violence, or sexism, or xenophobia, or the infamous "clobber" passages used against people who are lesbian, gay, or bisexual?

Federated is a community where your doubts and questions are welcomed as *faithful* expressions of our human and Christian search for meaning and purpose—*not as a lack of faith!*

If that's what you're looking for, this small-group series is a perfect way to connect in an informal setting. In fact, Pastor Eric is curious: *What questions do you have? What topics or themes have you struggled to understand or would like to explore?* Now is your chance to ask! Email them to Pastor Eric at any point during this series (but, the sooner the better!) and Pastor Eric will try to incorporate them into the series.

Each midweek gathering will be in person and outdoors from 6:30-7:45pm. We will finalize the day/location at our first gathering on Thursday, June 30<sup>th</sup>. Together, we will reflect on the scripture, themes, and questions raised by the previous week's sermon. Missed a Sunday? No problem! You can watch each sermon on our website: <https://fedsycamore.org/sermons/>.

Feel free to invite a friend. No need to have a connection to Federated to participate!

## **Order of Worship** | July 17, 2022 | 10:00am

All music is from the **Black New Century Hymnal** in your pew back, unless noted otherwise  
\* indicates those places where you are invited to stand, or to rise in spirit

### **Prelude**

### **Welcome & \*Passing the Peace**

*We invite you to stand while remaining in your pew as you share a sign of God's peace*

**\*Gathering Hymn** "Gather Us In" vv. 1, 2, 4 (p.5)

### **Centering Moment**

*"All healthy religion shows us what to do with our pain...*

*what to do with the absurd, the tragic, the traumatic, the nonsensical, the unjust.  
If we do not transform our pain, we will most assuredly transmit it."* ~ Richard Rohr

*"The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end;  
they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness."* Lamentations 3:22-23

### **Silent Prayer & 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.**

**Sung Response** "Come to Me, O Weary Traveler" (p.6)

**Scripture** [Psalm 137; Psalm 37:5-8; Luke 6:27-36](#)

**Sermon** "How to Destroy Your Enemies"

### **Musical Meditation**

### **Our Shared Life & Offerings**

**Announcements**

**Offertory**

**\*Doxology**

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow.  
Praise God all creatures here below.  
Praise God for all that Love has done.*

**Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.**  
**Prayer of Dedication**

**\*Sending Hymn** #423 “Great is Your Faithfulness” (p. 7)

**Benediction**

**Postlude**

*While the postlude plays, we invite you to join us in Dutton Hall for Coffee Hour.  
While masks are currently required in the sanctuary, they are optional in Dutton Hall.*

**WORSHIP NOTES**

*Serving us this morning are:*

**Pastor:** Rev. Eric J. Ogi | **Director of Music:** Gary Mattin | **Liturgist:** Jean Evans

**Ministers:** All of us! | **Ushers:** Nate & Pam Kitterman, Linda Mason

*Ushering next Sunday, July 24: Paula von Ende, Skip & Beverly Schramer*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**We will recycle & reuse** these shell covers over the coming weeks. Please place them in the basket at the bottom of the stairs on your way out. Thanks!

**July Love Offering: Federated Preschool**

The Love Offering for July will go to The Federated Church Preschool. Typically, our congregation donation is used to fund hardship scholarships to assist families with monthly fees or to purchase learning materials and playground equipment. In 2018 our donation was \$535 and in 2019 it was \$1,124. Due to Covid-19 there were no Love Offerings in 2020 and 2021.

A check donation may be mailed to the church office The Federated Church, 612 W. State St., Sycamore 60178 or dropped off to the church office from 10-12 noon during the week. On Sunday envelopes for donations are on a bell choir table at the back of the sanctuary and can be placed in the collection plate. Any size donation is welcome. The preschool staff can assure you the donations will be put to good use!

## “Gather Us In”



1. Here in this place\_\_ new light is stream-ing, now are the shad - ows  
 2. We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the old, who  
 3. Here we will take the wine and the wat - er, here we will take the  
 4. Not in the space of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en,



van-ished a - way, see in this space, our fears and our dream-ings,  
 yearn for your face, we have been sung through-out all of his - t'ry,  
 bread of new birth, here you shall call your chil-dren to - ge - ther  
 light years a - way, but here in this place the new light is shin - ing,



brought here to you in the light of this day.\_\_\_\_ Gath-er us in, the  
 called to be light to the whole hu-man race.\_\_\_\_ Gath-er us in, the  
 call us a-new to be salt for the earth.\_\_\_\_ Give us to drink the  
 now is the kin-dom, now is the day.\_\_\_\_ Gath-er us in, and



lost and for - sak - en, gath-er us in, and free us from shame; call to us now, and  
 rich and the haught-y, gath-er us in, the proud and the strong; give us a heart so  
 wine of com pas-sion, give us to eat the bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and  
 hold us for - ev - er, gath-er us in, and make us your own, gath-er us in, all



we shall a-wak-en, we shall a-rise at the sound of our name.\_\_\_\_  
 meek and so low-ly, give us the cour-age to en - ter the song.\_\_\_\_  
 teach us to fash-ion lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.\_\_\_\_  
 peop-les to-geth-er, fire\_\_ of love in our flesh and our bone.\_\_\_\_

## “Come to Me, O Weary Traveler”

1. Come to me, O wea - ry trav - eler; come to  
2. Take my yoke and leave your trou - bles; take my  
3. Rest in me, O wea - ry trav - eler; rest in

me with your dis - tress; come to me, you hea - vy  
yoke and come with me. Take my yoke, I am be -  
me and do not fear. Rest in me, my heart is

bur - dened; come to me and find your rest  
side you; take and learn hu - mil - i - ty.  
gen - tle; rest and cast a - way your care.

# Great Is Your Faithfulness

1 Great is your faith - ful - ness, O God, Cre - a - tor,\*  
2 Sum - mer and win - ter, and spring - time and har - vest,  
3 Par - don for sin and a peace so en - dur - ing,

with you no shad - ow of turn - ing we see.  
sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove,  
your own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide.

You do not change, your com - pas - sions they fail not;  
Join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness  
Strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row,

all of your good - ness for - ev - er will be.  
to your great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.  
bless - ings all mine with ten thou - sand be - side.

# ***YOU* ARE WELCOME HERE!**

## **A warm WELCOME to those visiting or checking out Federated Church!**

We're glad you're here! Are you looking for more information about who we are and what we do? Would you like to meet Pastor Eric or get connected to others? In your pew-back you will find a yellow bookmark-sized "Connection Card." Fill it out and place it in the offering plate, and we will be in touch with you soon!

**Federated Church is an Open & Affirming Community.** In a time of deep division and vitriolic rhetoric around issues of race, ethnicity, gender, and sexuality, and where the dignity of people living with disabilities or mental health issues are often ignored, demonized, or turned into a joke, we promise to:

*Welcome all people of every age, gender, race, national origin, faith expression, marital status & family structure, sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression, physical ability, mental or emotional condition, economic and social status, and educational background to share in the life, leadership, ministry, fellowship, worship, sacraments, responsibilities, blessings, and joys of our church family.*

**The Rainbow Flag:** We proudly display a rainbow flag at the front of our sanctuary as a visual declaration of God's extravagant and inclusive love, as well as of our own "promise of welcome" to all people. Our prayer is that all can be their truest selves here. This flag serves as a particular signal that our church is a safe and affirming space for LGBTQ persons to be, to belong, to lead, to question, and to grow in faith.

# ***“Welcoming Any, Loving All”***

*The Federated Church is affiliated with two national denominations:  
the United Church of Christ & the Unitarian Universalist Association*



Follow us on

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@FederatedChurchSycamore



**[www.fedsycamore.org](http://www.fedsycamore.org)**

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