

The Federated Church

United Church of Christ † Unitarian Universalist Association



Finding God in
'Ordinary Time'

A SUMMER SERMON SERIES

Order of Worship | August 7, 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 rise in body or 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.

Please remain standing as we sing our Gathering hymn.

***Gathering Hymn** "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You" (p. 6)

Centering Moment

"People think the sabbath is antiquated; I think it will save us from ourselves... Rest is not the reward of our liberation, nor something we lay hold of once we are free. It is the path that delivers us there... You don't belong in the catacombs of rest-lessness, wandering from death to death. Lie down with me in the pasture, where life is alive and growing with the unapologetic slowness of a blade of grass. What will become of us?" ~

Cole Arthur Riley, *This Here Flesh*

Silent Prayer & Reflection

How has restlessness led you "from death to death" in your life?

What is the rest that feels like a risk ("but then how will I ever...?!"), that is in fact the means of your restoration?

Breath Prayer

Inhale: "Be still, my soul." | Exhale: "In this quiet, I am renewed."

Inhale: "There is wisdom in this pause." | "I am free to rest."

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 "Be Still My Soul" *verse 1* (p. 7)

Scripture [Genesis 1:1-2, 31-2:3; Ezekiel 34:25-31; Mark 2:23-28](#)

Sermon "Sabbath: Building a Cathedral in Time"

Musical Meditation

Holy Communion

We practice an “open table,” which means that there is no litmus test of membership or beliefs one must pass to be welcome to receive this sacrament. During the “Sharing of Bread & Cup,” all who desire are invited to “eat and drink” of God’s gifts, for this is God’s table, not ours. Jesus didn’t turn anyone away, so neither do we.

Invitation & Sung Response “And the Table Will be Wide” (see below)

Words of Institution

Sharing Bread & Cup

Our Shared Life

Offering Opportunities

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.

Prayers of the People & Prayer of Dedication

***Sending Hymn** “We Cannot Own the Sunlit Sky” (p. 8)

Benediction

Postlude

*While the postlude plays, we invite you to join us in Dutton Hall for Coffee Hour.
Masks are optional in Dutton Hall.*

“And the Table Will Be Wide”

Refrain

*And the table will be wide,
And the welcome will be wide,
And the arms will open wide
To gather us in, to gather us in*

+ + +

WORSHIP NOTES

Serving us this morning are:

Pastor: Rev. Eric J. Ogi | **Director of Music:** Gary Mattin | **Liturgist:** Sharon McKee
Ministers: All of us! | **Ushers:** Dave Wood, Pam Wagener, Chris Borresen, & Bev Whildin

Ushering next Sunday, August 14: Roger Jacobson, Gip Seaver, Judy Winter, Ruth Olle

All hymns this morning come from *The New Century Hymnal* unless noted otherwise, and are used with permission: *CCLI License #3234671*

The quotes used in the Centering Moment come from *This Here Flesh* by Cole Arthur Riley. The Breath Prayer also comes from Cole Arthur Riley, via @BlackLiturgies. For more, follow @Black Liturgies on Instagram or @Cole Arthur Riley on Facebook.

The Communion liturgy is written by Jan Richardson | janrichardson.com. The musical arrangement for the refrain was written by Eric Ogi.

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!

Volunteer Opportunity: Meals on Wheels

As we near the end of the summer, it is almost time for our September delivery of Meals on Wheels.

Sign-up on the calendars in Dutton Hall — Please be sure to include your name and phone number. You can contact Sharon Hollister with any questions at (815) 761-7759. Thank you in advance for your continuing support of this ministry!

Join our Rally Day Planning Team

Fall is fast approaching... in case you needed us to remind you! ;) It's an exciting time for Federated Church, especially as we approach "Rally Day."

For those unfamiliar with this tradition, Rally Day is a day of worship, food, fellowship, and fun that marks the kick-off of a new program year as we return from our various summer adventures.

This year's Rally Day will be on Sunday, September 11 and, like last year, it will take place in glorious outdoors of church members Dave & Suzanne Juday's back yard. But first, we need a team to envision the day: what to include for food and fun, and to plan logistics. **If you would like to be part of this team, please sign up in Dutton Hall or by following the link in the weekly e-mail.**

August Love Offering

The Love Offering for August will benefit VAC (Voluntary Action Center). VAC provides many important nutritional services to seniors and others in our community. The Federated Church has been a long-time supporter of VAC. Our 2019 Love Offering donation to VAC was \$405. Let's top that in 2022!

VAC services include:

- Meals on Wheels provides hot nutritional meals at home to the elderly, disabled, and homebound.
- Provides lunches for community daycare providers.
- MedVAC provides rides to DeKalb County medical appointments, hospitals, and testing services.
- The Senior Lunch Program in DeKalb, Taylor St. Plaza and Fox Valley Older Adults in Sandwich provides nutritious lunches and an opportunity to visit with other seniors.
- Premier Meals Catering offers catering services for any event. Let us cater your next event and in return, you'll be helping provide nutritious meals to the homebound. 100% of all profits from Premier Meals Catering support Meals on Wheels, providing nutritious meals to the homebound in our community for over 20 years.

In addition to making a monetary donation to VAC, our Federated community supports their Meals on Wheels program by providing meal delivery drivers in September and April. See the announcement below for more information and to sign up to deliver!

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

1. Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore Thee, God of glo - ry, God of love;
2. All Thy works with joy sur - round Thee, Earth and heaven re - flect Thy rays,
3. Mor - tals, join the hap - py cho - rus Which the morn - ing stars be - gan;

Hearts un - fold like flowers be - fore Thee, Open - ing to the sun a - bove.
Stars and an - gels sing a - round Thee, Cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
Love di - vine is reign - ing o'er us, Join - ing all in heav - en's plan.

Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness; Drive the gloom of doubt a - way; Giv -
Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, Flower - y mead - ow, flash - ing sea, Chant
Ev - er sing - ing, march we on - ward, Vic - tors in the midst of strife, Joy -

- er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, Fill us with the light of day.
- ing bird and flow - ing foun - tain, Call us to re - joice in Thee.
- ful mu - sic leads us sun - ward In the tri - umph song of life.

Be Still My Soul



1 Be still, my soul: for God is on your side; bear pa-tient-
2 Be still, my soul: for God will un-der-take to guide in
3 Be still, my soul: the hour will soon be here when we shall



ly the cross of grief or pain; Leave to your God to
fu-ture days as in the past. Your hope, your con-fi-
be with God whom we a-dore, with dis-ap-point-ment



or-der and pro-vide; in ev-ery change God
dence let noth-ing shake; all now mys-te-rious
gone, no grief nor fear, sor-row re-placed with



faith-ful will re-main. Be still, my soul: your best e-ter-nal
shall be clear at last. Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still
joy for-ev-er-more. Be still, my soul: when change and tears are



friend through thorn-y ways leads to a joy-ful end.
know how Je-sus' pow-er ruled them long a-go.
past, all safe and bless-ed we shall meet at last.

We Cannot Own the Sunlit Sky

1 We can-not own the sun-lit sky, the moon, the wild-flowers
 2 When bod-ies shiv-er in the night and, wea-ry, wait for
 3 God calls hu-man-i-ty to join as part-ners in cre-

grow-ing, for we are part of all that is with-
 morn-ing, when chil-dren have no bread but tears, and
 a-ting a fu-ture free from want or fear, life's

in life's riv-er flow-ing. With o-pen hands re-
 war-horns sound their warn-ing, God calls hu-man-i-
 good-ness cel-e-brat-ing. That new world beck-ons

ceive and share the gifts of God's cre-a-tion, that
 ty to wake, to join in com-mon la-bor, that
 from a-far, in-vites our shared en-deav-or, that

all may have a-bun-dant life in ev-ery earth-ly na-tion.
 all may have a-bun-dant life in one-ness with their neigh-bor.
 all may have a-bun-dant life and peace en-dure for-ev-er.

***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, what we do, or how to get involved? Would you like to meet with Pastor Eric or get connected to others? In the book rack on the back of the pew toward the center aisle, you will find a green or red "pew pad" with a yellow bookmark-sized "Connection Card" inside. Fill it out and place it in the offering plate as they are passed around during the "Offertory," 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.

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OUR FEDERATED VALUES

We believe in God

At the center of our faith is the surprising, unsettling, and deeply personal God found in the Bible, most profoundly revealed in the life, teachings, death, and resurrection of Jesus. At Federated, our primary interest is not merely talking *about* God, but in *encountering* the Mysterious Force at the heart of the universe. This is a God who comforts us where we need to be comforted and challenges us where we've become complacent. This is a God who will not be confined to dogmatic teachings, nor even to the Bible. We believe that we are invited to encounter this God everywhere: in nature, science, one another, and in other religious traditions as well.

Each person is on a unique spiritual journey

We value faith as a journey rather than a destination. We recognize that each person is at a different place on their journey, so we focus on “testimonies” of faith rather than “tests” of faith; stories of how we are being transformed, rather than dogmas we must affirm. Here, you are welcome to belong, question, explore, and lead whether you grew up in church and loved it, or you've had a painful relationship with Christianity; you are welcome whether you feel your faith is unshakeable or you're not sure if you believe in God at all. You are welcome to join a community of people “on the way”: encouraging and caring for one another, learning and growing together, and serving alongside each other as we build, in some small way, the world we believe God dreams of.

Building authentic community across our differences

We are an “Open and Affirming” congregation, which is our way of saying that we value diversity. In a time of deep division, we believe it is paramount to gather people from a variety of backgrounds, experiences, and identities in order to build authentic relationships and community. We believe that the simple but courageous work of showing up and being together in this way is one necessary element in healing our nation and world's deep divisions.

We believe in peace through justice

In this congregation, conversations regarding racism, sexism, poverty, war, immigration, homophobia, hunger, abuse, and a host of other issues are commonplace, both from the pulpit and around the table. We know that the Realm of God is not being experienced on earth so long as people are being hurt. With Martin Luther King Jr., we believe that we are all “caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny,” and that “none of us can be free until all are free.” Which means that, as a community, we have a God-given responsibility and mission to work for justice and healing in our neighborhood and beyond. Jesus says: “I have come that they may have life and have it abundantly” (John 10:10). This work is defined not merely by what we are against, but the vision we are for—flourishing for *all!*

“Welcoming Any, Loving All”

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



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