


THE
Federated Church
OF SYCAMORE



**Wandering
Heart**

Figuring out faith
with Peter

LENT 2024

***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? Fill out our brief online [Connection Form here](#), 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.

Order of Worship | April 7, 2024

All music can be found at the back of the bulletin.

We invite you to like the video and/or say “Hi!” in the comments to let us know you’re here!

Prelude “You Are My All in All” *Dennis Jernigan/arr. M. Kim*

Gathering For Worship

Welcome

Passing the Peace

Gathering Song “Lead Us From Death to Life” vv. 1 & 3 (p.2)

After singing, children will gather with Ms. Janis in the back for “Children’s Church”

Parents are invited to go pick up their child(ren) during the Postlude

Centering Our Hearts

Prayers of the People

Silent Prayer & The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father who art 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.

Choir Anthem “Daily Prayer” *J. Parker/D. Lantz III*

Scripture [John 21:1-19](#)

Sermon “Resurrecting Peter—and Us”

Sung Response “Alchemy of Healing” (p.3)

***Responding to God’s Invitation: Prayer Stations** (see insert)

Preparing to Live God’s Love

Our Shared Life

***Sending Song** “Come, O Fount of Every Blessing” (p.4)

***Benediction**

Postlude “Hymn of Promise” *Natalie Sleeth/arr. M. Kim*

We invite you to remain seated as the postlude plays; however, Parents may leave during the postlude to gather their kids in “Children’s Church.” Please join us in Dutton Hall afterward for coffee and fellowship!

“Lead Us from Death to Life”

Satish Kumar / Marty Haugen

Refrain C C7 F G C G/B Am

Lead us from death to life, from false-hood to truth, from de -

Dm7 G C Dm7 C7/E C7 Dm7

spair to hope, from fear to trust. Lead us from hate to

G C/E E7 Am Dm7 G

love, from war to peace; let peace fill our hearts, let

Em Am Dm7 C/E Dm/F C/G G7 C

peace fill our world, let peace fill our u - ni - verse.

to Stanzas

Dm7 G Em7 Am

- | | | | |
|---|-----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------|
| 1 | Still all the an-gry cries, | still all the an-gry guns, | still now your |
| 2 | So man-y lone-ly hearts, | so man-y bro-ken lives, | long-ing for |
| 3 | Let jus-tice ev-er roll, | let mer-cy fill the earth, | let us be - |

Dm7 G7 C Am Dm7

peo-ple die,	earth's sons and daugh-ters.	Let jus-tice roll, let
love to break	in - to their an - guish.	Come, teach us love,
gin to grow	in - to your peo - ple.	We can be love,

E7 Am F D7/F# C/G G7 C to Refrain

mer - cy pour down,	come and teach us	your way of com - pas-sion.
come, teach us peace,	come and teach us	your way of com - pas-sion.
we can bring peace,	we can still be	your way of com - pas-sion.

“Alchemy of Healing”

Gilo

1. The cour - age we bor - row, the cour - age we bring
2. Bring grace and bring kind - ness to all that you sing,
3. The dark - ness we ban - ish, the sha - dow we blame
4. Come ga - ther your pow - er with good friends a - round.

shall bind us in strength to the heal - ing we sing.
to heal and to hon - our each fierce ten - der thing.
though hid - den, may help us to find our true name.
To - geth - er we stand in the truth of this ground.

The cour - age to face an - y wound that we fear
Each shame left un - spo - ken may yet shine a light,
So bring all your cour - age that all be made whole,
Our cour - age can make us, can heal and can mend,

shall bind us in beau - ty and bless ev - ery tear.
a place that seemed bro - ken, that place can give life.
trans - form - ing your stor - y in bo - dy and soul.
and a wound can be sa - cred, an - y wound we tran - scend.

† † †

WORSHIP NOTES

Serving us this morning are:

Pastor: Rev. Eric J. Ogi | **Ministers:** All of us! | **Music Director:** Gary Mattin
Children’s Church Coordinator: Janis Schnurr-Trebe | **Liturgist:** Sheldon Turner
Ushers: Pam Wagener, Chris Borresen, and Skip Schramer

Ushers for April 14: Gip Seaver, Ruth Olle, and Skip Schramer

All hymns this morning are used with permission: CCLI License #3234671

“Come, O Fount of Every Blessing”

Robert Robinson



1 Come, O Fount of ev-ery bless-ing, tune my heart to sing your grace;
2 Here I pause in my so - journ-ing, giv-ing thanks for hav-ing come,
3 O to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I am drawn a - new!



streams of mer - cy, nev-er ceas - ing, call for songs of end-less praise.
come to trust, at ev-ery turn - ing, God will guide me safe-ly home.
Let that grace now, like a fet - ter, bind my wan-dering heart to you.



Teach me some me - lo-dious son - net, sung by flam-ing tongues a - bove.
Je - sus sought me when a strang-er, wan-dering from the fold of God,
Prone to wan - der, I can feel it, wan-der from the love I've known:



Praise the mount; I'm fixed up - on it, mount of God's un - fail - ing love.
Came to res - cue me from dan - ger, bless - ed bod - y, pre-cious blood.
Here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for your ver - y own.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Post-service w/ Governance Revitalization/Restructuring Task Force

Sunday, April 14, Dutton Hall, after worship

Join the Governance Revitalization/Restructuring Task Force on Sunday, April 14 following worship for a presentation and conversation, including the latest updates about the process, changes being considered to our organizational structure, and a chance to ask questions and offer feedback. This presentation will build on previous ones, and offer new information as well.

Exploring Community Partnership: Youth Outlook

Sundays, April 21 and May 5, Dutton Hall, following worship

Youth Outlook Executive Director, Nancy Mullen, will be joining us after worship on Sunday, April 21, to share more information about Youth Outlook and the life-saving, life-giving work that they do with LGBTQ+ youth and families, along with how Federated Church might partner with them in this work here in Sycamore. They will then return on Sunday, May 5 to lead us in an “all-church” presentation/conversation around how we as a church can more intentionally create an environment and community that fully welcomes LGBTQ+ individuals and families.

Federated 101, Sunday April 21, 11:20-12:20pm, Settle Room

So... you've started worshipping with us, perhaps receiving the newsletter, and maybe even met with Pastor Eric. But we're guessing you still have questions. Or maybe you're trying to find ways to connect, serve, or further explore your faith. Or maybe you're wondering how one becomes a member—or what the point of membership is.

If this sounds like you, then we invite you to “Federated 101”—a chance to gather around a table for a conversation with Pastor Eric and others in the same boat to meet each other, learn more about who we are, and to finally ask that question you've had.

Don't miss out, these conversations only happen a couple times a year. Participation is needed in order to become a member.

Childcare will be provided. Sign-up with interest in Dutton Hall or in the eNews.

Online Giving

Whether it's a recurring pledge, a one-time donation, or a contribution to a specific fund (e.g. the LOVE Offering, Pastoral Emergency fund, etc.), you can now make them simply and securely through our online platform. Scan (or click) the QR code with your phone camera to get started or see the weekly Enews for a web-browser link! *Contact the church office with questions.*



Get Connected & Serve!

There are a variety of ways to plug into what we do here, to serve others, and to get connected. Various ongoing/additional sign-up sheets are located on the credenza on the far wall in Dutton Hall.

April Love Offering | *School Supplies*

The April Love Offering will be used to purchase backpacks and school supplies for low-income students in the community for the 2024-2025 school year. Under the guidance of Sharon McKee and Sherry Jones, we've made filling the school supply backpacks a local mission for many years. Sharon and Sherry coordinate with DCFS, Hope Haven, Safe Passage, and DeKalb County Housing Authority (Mason Court Apartments), to determine the number of backpacks needed, usually averaging between 100-150.

Since providing these backpacks and supplies is important to helping area low-income children start the year with the right tools, the goal for the April Love Offering is \$1,000.

Donations of any amount are welcome. For checks, please note in the memo "School supplies." Donations should be put in a Love Offering envelope found at the entrance to the sanctuary, mailed to the church, or they can be made [online](#).

The backpacks will be filled by the congregation in early August. We need lots of help with this event! After this they will be distributed to the agencies/students in time for the start of school.

Weekly eNews

Scan (or click) this QR code with your phone camera to see the most recent eNews with all these announcements and more! Subscribe tab is at the top.



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.

We believe 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.

We believe in building authentic community across our differences

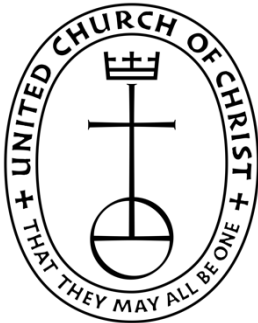
We are an "Open and Affirming" congregation, which is our way of saying that we value diversity. In a time of deep division, we believe it is paramount to gather people from a variety of backgrounds, experiences, and identities in order to build authentic relationships and community. We believe that 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 working for 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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