

THE
Federated Church
OF SYCAMORE



**A Congregation of the
United Church of Christ &
Unitarian Universalist Association**

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 | August 04, 2024, 10:00 am

Today we will be taking communion. We invite you to participate however you're best able. Feel free to use whatever you have for the "bread and cup"—whether it's bread & grape juice or a cookie & coffee.

God takes our ordinary offerings, whatever they are, and blesses them as we share them together!

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

Prelude "Humble Thyself in the Sight of the Lord" B. Hudson/arr. M. Hayes

Welcome & Passing the Peace

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

Gathering Song "For Everyone Born" vv. 1, 2, 5 (p. 3)

Prayers of the People

Centering Moment

This is your time to center more deeply into the presence of God/Love. We invite you to take a slow, deep breath, read the poem below, and then: ponder the Meditation Question(s); offer a silent prayer; or simply let the music wash over you.

"When you're not sure who you really are, when all you feel is the shape of your scars, and you have more wounds than you can count—open your eyes, look all around, you aren't alone, this is your home. Come and remember who you are here. Come and remember you belong here. All belong here." ~ lyrics from "All Belong Here" by The Many

Meditation

- ◆ What is the hurt, fear, or shame that grips you? What is it that makes you feel unlovable, unsure of yourself, or like you're not enough? As you hold that thought, repeat to yourself: "I'm not alone. I am loved. Welcome home."

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 "All Belong Here" (p. 4)

Scripture [Luke 7:33-50; 1 Corinthians 11:17-29, 33-34](#)

Sermon "Re-membering Jesus' Revolutionary Eating Habits"

Musical Meditation "Christ Be Our Light" B. Farrell

Holy Communion

We practice an “open table”—everyone is welcome to receive God’s gifts. There is no dogma you must first believe. God/Love meets us where we are—amidst our questions, fears, and failures—and offers us nourishment and a blessing on life’s journey.

Invitation & Words of Institution

Sharing Bread & Cup

Feel free to use whatever you have for the “bread and cup.”

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Our Shared Life & Offering

Offering Opportunities

Offertory

“As the Deer”

Martin Nystrom/arr. M. Kim

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

“As We Gather at Your Table” (p. 5)

Benediction

Postlude

“Doxology”

Louis Bourgeois/arr. M. Hayes

Thank you for joining us for worship!

† † †

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:** Sharon McKee

Ushers: Pam Wagener, Chris Borresen, and Skip Schramer

Ushers for August 11: Gip Seaver, Ruth Olle, and Skip Schramer

All music this morning is used with permission: CCLI License #3234671

“For Everyone Born”

Shirley Erena Murray and Brian Mann



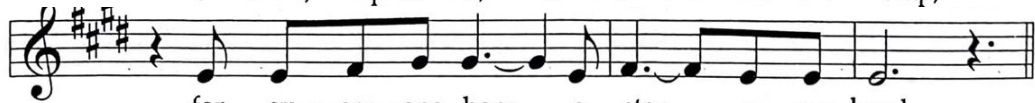
1 For ev - ery - one born, a place at the ta - ble,
2 For wom - an and man, a place at the ta - ble,
4 For just and un - just, a place at the ta - ble,
5 For ev - ery - one born, a place at the ta - ble,



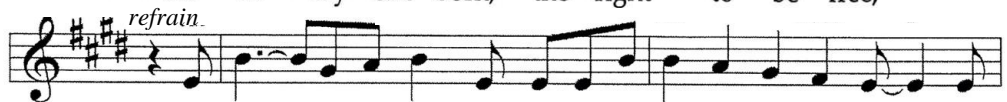
for ev - ery - one born, clean wa - ter and bread,
re - vis - ing the roles, de - cid - ing the share,
to li - sten and mourn, for - give and be changed,
to live with - out fear, and sim - ply to be,



a shel - ter, a space, a safe place for grow - ing,
with wis - dom and grace, di - vid - ing the pow - er,
in an - ger, in hurt, a mind - set of mer - cy,
to work, to speak out, to wit - ness and wor - ship,



for ev - ery - one born, a star o - ver - head,
for wom - an and man, a sys - tem that's fair,
for just and un - just, a new way to live,
for ev - ery - one born, the right to be free,



and God will de - light when we are cre - a - tors of jus - tice and



joy, com - pas - sion and peace: yes,



God will de - light when we are cre - a - tors of jus - tice,



jus - tice and joy!

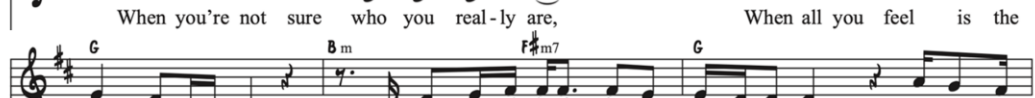
“All Belong Here”

Lenora Rand & The Many

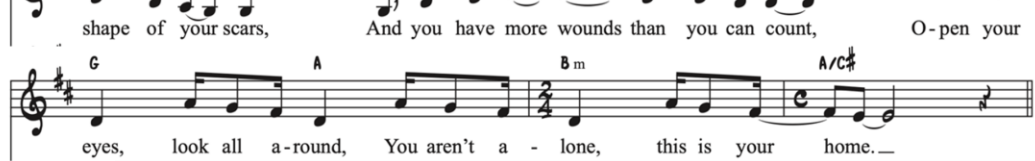
Verse 1



When you're not sure who you real-ly are, When all you feel is the




shape of your scars, And you have more wounds than you can count, O-pen your

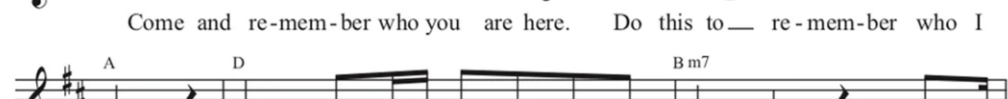


eyes, look all a-round, You aren't a - lone, this is your home. _

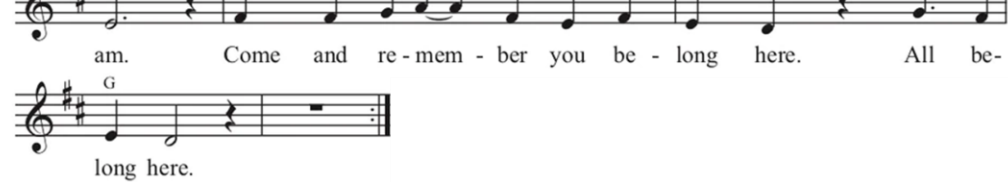
Chorus



Come and re-mem-ber who you are here. Do this to _ re-mem-ber who I



am. Come and re - mem - ber you be - long here. All be-




long here.

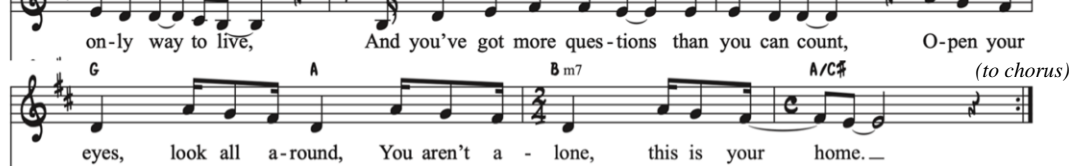
Verse 2



When you don't know how to for-give, _ When locked doors seem like the



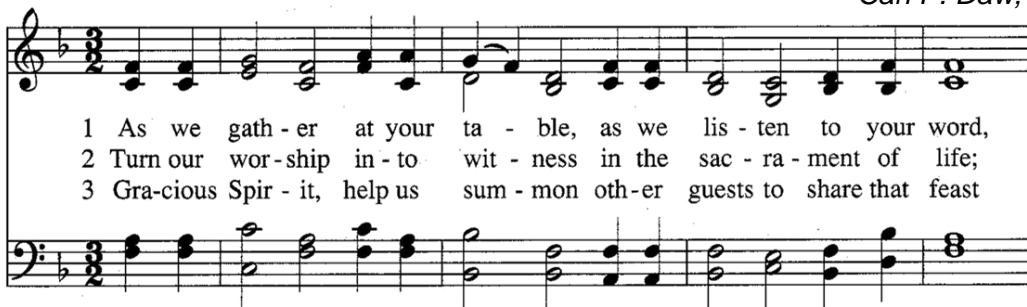
on-ly way to live, And you've got more ques-tions than you can count, O-pen your



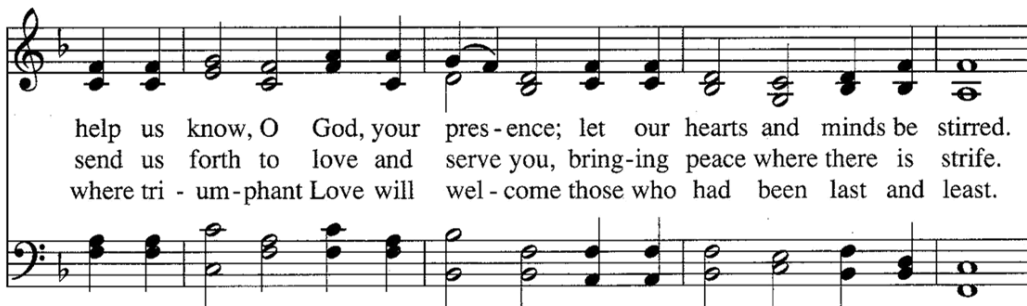
eyes, look all a-round, You aren't a - lone, this is your home. _ (to chorus)

"As We Gather at Your Table"

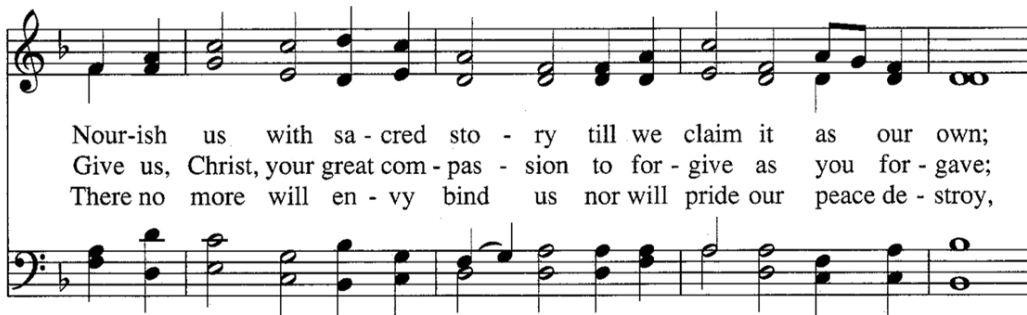
Carl P. Daw, Jr.



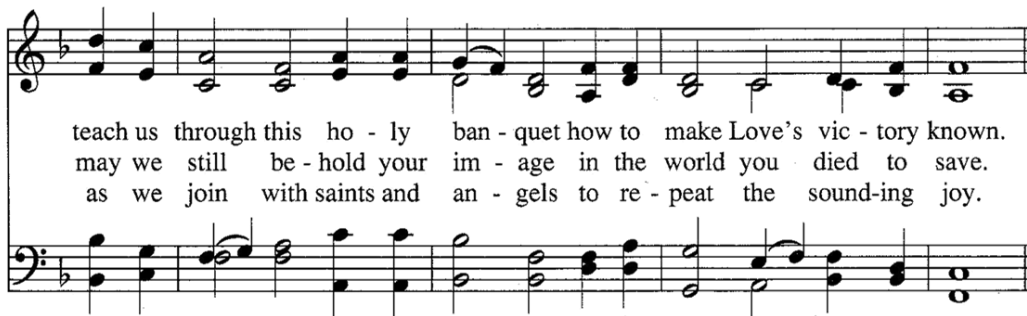
1 As we gath - er at your ta - ble, as we lis - ten to your word,
2 Turn our wor - ship in - to wit - ness in the sac - ra - ment of life;
3 Gra - cious Spir - it, help us sum - mon oth - er guests to share that feast



help us know, O God, your pres - ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.
send us forth to love and serve you, bring - ing peace where there is strife.
where tri - um - phant Love will wel - come those who had been last and least.



Nour - ish us with sa - cred sto - ry till we claim it as our own;
Give us, Christ, your great com - pas - sion to for - give as you for - gave;
There no more will en - vy bind us nor will pride our peace de - stroy,



teach us through this ho - ly ban - quet how to make Love's vic - tory known.
may we still be - hold your im - age in the world you died to save.
as we join with saints and an - gels to re - peat the sound - ing joy.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Filling and Blessing of the Backpacks, *Today following worship*

Following worship today we are filling more than 100 backpacks for students in Hope Haven, Safe Passage, Mason Court Apartments, and under the care of the Department of Children & Family Services. All ages are welcome to help!

August Love Offering | *Meals on Wheels*

The Love Offering for August will help support Meals on Wheels, a local agency which provides hot nutritious meals at home to the elderly, disabled, and the home bound. Meals on Wheels is one of the Voluntary Action Center's Nutrition Programs. The Federated Church has been a long-time supporter of Meals on Wheels (MOW). Our 2023 Love Offering donation to MOW was \$610.

In addition to Meals on Wheels other VAC Nutrition Programs include:

- Lunches for community daycare providers
- 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.
- Club 55-Family Service Agency, 1915 N. 1st St. (Bethlehem Lutheran Church), DeKalb on Wednesday.
- Club 55-Family Service Agency, Malta on Monday and Friday. Call 815/758-8616 for more information about Club 55.

Donations in any amount are welcome and can be placed in the collection plate on Sunday, mailed to the church at The Federated Church, 612 W. State St., Sycamore, IL 60178 (be sure to write "Meals on Wheels" on the memo line), or given online at <https://bit.ly/GiveFCS>.

Get Connected & Serve!

A variety ways are available 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 or scan the QR code at the bottom of the sheet to receive an email reminder of the event!

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.

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*



Follow us on

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