

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 | November 10, 2024, 10:00 am

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

Prelude

“How Beautiful”

Twila Paris/arr. L. Larson

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 “Sing a New World into Being” (p.3)

Prayers of the People

Stewardship Testimonial

Ann Finseth

Questions for Personal Reflection

- ◆ As part of this community, what do I receive from others sharing their time, talents, passions, and financial gifts? *Offer a prayer of gratitude for the ways their faithfulness blesses you.*
- ◆ What can I pledge in time, talent, passion, and money to bless others and grow this Community of Hope? *Offer a prayer for courage in the year ahead.*

Sung Response “New Patterns of Loving” v. 1 (p.3)

Scripture [Luke 9:1-10 & 10:1-3, 8-10; Galatians 6:1-2, 7-10](#)

Sermon “YOU are called to the Ministry of Hope”

Special Music “A Prayer of St. Francis” *Gary Mattin, soloist*

Our Shared Life & Offering

Offering Opportunities

“What a Friend We Have in Jesus”

Dedicating Our Pledges

Online pledges may be made at [financial pledge](#) and/or [time & talent pledge](#)

Prayer of Dedication

Ever-Creating God, we give thanks that you are always drawing goodness out of chaos, healing out of heartbreak, and justice out of injustice; always, you are drawing life out of death. We give thanks for Jesus, who shows us the Way of Love that leads to true Life. And we give thanks for the invitation to join you in blessing the world. With these pledges, we express our belief that another world is possible, and our commitment to work with you to make it so. Strengthen, sustain, and lead us by your Spirit, we pray. Amen.

Sending Hymn “Will You Come and Follow Me?” (p.4)

Benediction

Postlude “Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying” *Ken Medema/arr. L. Larson*
Thank you for joining us for worship today!

† † †

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: Gip Seaver, Ruth Olle, and Skip Schramer

Ushers for November 17: Pam & Nate Kitterman, Linda Mason, and Allison Stahl
All music this morning is used with permission: CCLI License #3234671

“Sing a New World into Being”

Mary Louise Bringle



1. Sing a new world in - to be - ing. Sound a bold and hope - ful theme.
2. Sing a new world in - to be - ing where each gen - der class and race
3. Sing a new world in - to be - ing where the home - less find a home.
4. Sing a new world in - to be - ing. Join the an - cient proph - ets' cry

Find a tune for si - lent yearn - ings. Lend your voice and dare to dream:
brings its rain - bow gifts and col - ors to God's lim - it - less em - brace;
where no chil - dren ev - er hun - ger but are filled with God's sha - lom;
for a time of health and plen - ty when all tears have been wiped dry;

dream a church where all who wor - ship find their lives and loves be - long.
where the lines that once di - vi - ded form in - stead the ties that bind.
where all peo - ple work for jus - tice, where all hate and vengeance cease.
when com - pas - sion flows like wa - ters, pour - ing balm for all who grieve.

Sing a new world in - to be - ing. Sing as Christ in - spires your song!
Sing a new world in - to be - ing: risk trans - form - ing heart and mind!
Sing a new world in - to be - ing: raise the har - mo - nies of peace.
Sing a new world in - to be - ing: live the prom - ise you be - lieve!

“New Patterns of Loving”

Barbara Hamm



1. New pat - terns of lov - ing make room for new ways,
cre - at - ing new fam - ilies to care for and raise.
All those who have loved us and helped us to grow
are fam - ilies of choice by the car - ing they show.

“Will You Come and Follow Me?” *John Bell & the Iona Community*



1. Will you come and fol - low me if I but call your name?
2. Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but call your name?
3. Will you love the "you" you hide if I but call your name?
- 4 God, your sum - mons ech - oes true when you but call my name.



Will you go where you don't know and nev - er be the same?
Will you care for cruel and kind and nev - er be the same?
Will you quell the fear in - side and nev - er be the same?
Let me turn and fol - low you and nev - er be the same.



Will you let my love be shown, — will you let my name be known, —
Will you risk the hos - tile stare — should your life at - tract or scare? —
Will you use the faith you've found — to re - shape the world a - round, —
In your com - pa - ny I'll go — where your love and foot - steps show. —



— will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?
— Will you let me an - swer prayer in you and you in me?
— through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?
— Thus I'll move and live and grow in you, and you in me.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Eric will be in Phoenix *next Sunday (11/14-11/21)* to attend the annual gathering of the Next Generation Leadership Initiative of the United Church of Christ, "a 6-year, cohort-based leadership development initiative that equips, energizes, and empowers younger UCC pastors to build vibrant congregations that change lives and further God's mission in the world."

We are grateful to welcome back Rev. Joe Gastiger, who will lead us in worship. Pastor Eric will return to worship on Sunday, November 24.

Decorate the Church | *November 24, after worship*

Volunteers are needed following the church service on November 24, to decorate the church. Some of the tasks include: assembling and decorating the large tree in the sanctuary, hanging swags along the side walls, pulpit and doors of the sanctuary, decorating Dutton Hall, assemble and decorate the Angel Tree, and more. Five to six strong volunteers are needed to bring the manger scene components to the front lawn. Sign-up in Dutton Hall to let us know you can help.

November Love Offering | *Neighbors In Need*

Neighbors in Need (NIN) is a special mission offering taken by churches throughout the UCC that supports ministries of justice and compassion in the US. This year's theme is "Mental Health Justice for All!" focusing on Mental Health Justice. 1/3 of the funds raised support Native American ministries/communities and 2/3 support justice ministries in local churches, included church grants for justice-related initiatives. *Special NIN offering envelopes are available on the table as you enter the church.*

Ladies' Annual White Elephant Gift Exchange & Potluck | *December 3, 6PM*

Our annual White Elephant Gift Exchange and Potluck will be held Tuesday, December 3, at 6:00 PM in Dutton Hall. We hope you can join us! Sign-up in Dutton Hall to let us know you will be there.

Recycle/Reuse Bulletin Covers

We will recycle and reuse the bulletin covers. Please place the cover in the basket at the back of the sanctuary on your way out. You are welcome to keep the insides. Thanks!

Weekly eNews

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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