

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 | February 02, 2025, 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

"I Stand in Awe"

Mark Altrogge/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** "Dream God's Dream" vv. 1 & 2 (p.3)

Prayers of the People

Centering Moment

*This is your time to center more deeply into the presence of God/Love.
Take a slow, deep breath. Open your heart and mind to receive this meditation. Notice the feelings and sensations it brings up in you. Don't judge or even try to understand them. Just try to stay present to the moment and let yourself experience them.*

Visual Meditation

*New Earth Flourishing**

Silent Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

Alternative words from the New Zealand Anglican Prayer Book

Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,

Source of all that is and that shall be,

Father and Mother of us all,

Loving God, in whom is heaven:

The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!

The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world!

Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!

Your commonwealth of peace & freedom sustain our hope & come on earth.

With the bread we need for today, feed us.

In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.

In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.

From trials too great to endure, spare us.

From the grip of all that is evil, free us.

For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and for ever. Amen.

Sung Response "We Cannot Own the Sunlit Sky" (p. 4)

Scripture

[Matthew 6:9-10 & 12:46-50, 13:31-33, 44-50](#)

Sermon “On Earth as in Heaven: Your Kin(g)dom Come, Your Will Be Done”

Musical Meditation

Holy Communion

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

Invitation & Words of Institution

***Sharing Bread & Cup**

“Canon of Praise”

arr. Hal Hopson

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Our Shared Life & Offering

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.

***Prayer of Dedication**

***Sending Hymn** “Sing a New World into Being” (p.5)

***Benediction**

Postlude

“Alleluia with the Majesty of Your Name”

arr. Mark Hayes

Thank you for joining us for worship today!

† † †

WORSHIP NOTES

Also 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 February 9: Gip Seaver, Ruth Olle, and Skip Schramer

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

The Visual Meditation this morning is written by Phuc Luu and produced by The Work of the People | theworkofthepeople.com

“Dream God’s Dream” Bryan Sirchio

Chorus: Dream God's

Dream! Ho-ly Spir - it help us dream of a world where there is

jus - tice and where ev - ry one is free to build and grow and love, and to

Last time to Coda

sim - ply have e - nough the world will change, when we dream God's Dream.

Verses: 1. I'm dream-ing of a world, where the
2. I'm dream-ing of the call God is
3. I'm dream-ing of the way that I

col - or of one's skin will mean less than what's with - in the per - son's
of - fer ing to me how to use my en - er - gy and my best
25 want my life to go. I've got hopes and I've got goals I'd like to

heart. A world where wa - ter's clean and where air is safe to
gifts; to do the work of Christ to say God please use my
29 meet. I'm reach - ing for the stars, but I won't for - get the

to chorus

34 breathe. And ev - ry chi - ld born has e - nough to eat...
life to spread Your heal - ing love and to live Your Truth...
scars of Christ who died to show that the Dream's for all...

"We Cannot Own the Sunlit Sky" *Ruth Duck*



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.

“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 year - 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!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church Library Open House | *Sunday, February 9, after worship*

Save the date! The Library Committee will be hosting an open house on Sunday, February 9, following worship. Come and see all we have to offer

Intro to the Bible | *Tuesday, February 11, 6-7:30 PM, Settle Room*

Class will not be held this Tuesday. Prepare for class on February 11 by reading chapter 3 and reflecting on the question prompts.

Ladies' Night Out | *Tues., Feb. 25, 6PM, Crooked Horn Bar & Grill, Sycamore*

We hope you can join us on Tuesday, February 25, at 6:00 PM, for our first Ladies' Night Out of 2025! We will meet at Crooked Horn Bar & Grill, 1470 S. Peace Rd., Sycamore. Sign up in Dutton Hall or through the link in the eNews.

All-Church Chili Potluck & Board Games | *Saturday, March 1, 4:30-8:30 PM*

We hope you can join us on Saturday, March 1, for a Chili Potluck and Board Games. We ask those who can to bring a dish to share (chili, chili toppings (shredded cheese, diced onions, sour cream, oyster crackers, etc.), cut-up vegetables, or dessert). If you have a favorite board game, bring that along, too! Sign-up in Dutton Hall!

Names for God

During a recent Sunday, Pastor Eric invited you to submit your most cherished names for God. Use this QR code to share yours. Pastor Eric will share them on a future Sunday as part of this series.



Recycle/Reuse Bulletin Covers

We recycle and reuse the bulletin covers. Please place them in the basket at the back of the sanctuary on your way out. You are welcome to keep the worship order with music & announcements. Thanks!

Weekly eNews

Scan 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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