

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 | June 8, 2025

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

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship

Leader: Amazing God, who created us as one people,
not as warring tribes—move among us and reunify us.

**People: On the first Pentecost, there were surprises—
violent wind and tongues of flame.**

Leader: We come to celebrate the first day of the church,
the gift of the Holy Spirit, the restless, burning mystery of Pentecost.

**People: We tremble before the power of your Spirit.
What will happen if we let the Spirit in?**

Leader: On this day of Pentecost, let us receive the surprises of God.

**People: May the Spirit blow new life through us all.
God of all nations, we rejoice in all of the languages
that convey your word and deeds.**

Leader: We thank you for all of our efforts to speak,
to paint and sing your presence in our lives.

People: We thank you for music too beautiful to bear.

Leader: We give thanks for the movement of your Spirit, alive in your people,
churches, and temples across the world.

**All: In your wisdom and kindness, you bring a message
each one needs to hear.
Guide us as we stumble into prophesy and power.**

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 Hymn

“Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness” (p.3)

Prayers of the People

Sharing Prayers of Joy & for Healing

Pastoral Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father/Mother/Parent who is in heaven, hallowed be your name.
Your kin(g)dom come, your 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from
evil. For yours is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

Sung Response “Won’t You Let Me Be Your Servant?” (p.5)

Scripture [Acts 2:1-21](#)

Sermon

Musical Meditation

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 “Tú has venido a la orilla” (p.4)
 (“You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore”)

Benediction

Postlude

Thank you for worshiping with us today!

WORSHIP NOTES

While Pastor Eric is on vacation, we are so grateful to have the Rev. Joe Gastiger leading us in worship! In addition, those serving us this morning are:

Pastor: Rev. Eric J. Ogi | **Ministers:** All of us! | **Director of Music:** Gary Mattin
Children's Church Director: Bill O'Hagan | **Childcare Support:** Janis Schnurr-Trebe
Liturgist: Karen Hamingson | **Ushers:** Gip Seaver, Ruth Olle, and Skip Schramer
Ushers for Sunday, June 15: Pam & Nate Kitterman, Linda Mason, and Allison Stahl

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“Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness” by James K. Manley

Spir - it, spir - it of gen - tle-ness, blow through the
wil - der-ness, call - ing and free,
Spir - it, spir - it of rest - less-ness, stir me from
plac - id-ness, wind, wind on the sea.

1 You moved on the wa - ters, you called to the
2 You swept through the des - ert, you stung with the
3 You sang in a sta - ble, you cried from a
4 You call from to - mor - row, you break an - cient

deep, then you coaxed up the moun - tains from the
sand, and you goad - ed your peo - ple with a
hill, then you whis - pered in si - lence when the
schemes, from the bond - age of sor - row the

val - leys of sleep; And o - ver the e - ons you
law and a land; When they were con-found - ed by their
whole world was still; And down in the cit - y you
cap - tives dream dreams; Our wom-en see vi - sions, our

called to each thing, "A - wake from your slum -
i - dols and lies, then you spoke through your proph -
called once a - gain, when you blew through your peo -
men clear their eyes. With bold new de - ci -

bers and rise on your wings."
ets to o - pen their eyes.
ple on the rush of the wind.
sions your peo-ple a - rise.

“Tú has venido a la orilla” (“You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore”)

By Cesáreo Gabaraín, Transl. Madeleine Forell Marshall

1 Tú has ve - ni - do a la o - ri - lla, no has bus -
 2 Tú sa - bes bien lo que ten - go: en mi
 1 You have come down to the lake - shore seek - ing
 2 You know full well my pos - ses - sions. Nei - ther

ca - do ni a sa - bios, ni a ri - cos, tan só - lo
 bar - ca no hay o - ro ni es - pa - das; tan só - lo
 nei - ther the wise nor the wealth - y, But on - ly
 trea - sure nor weap - ons for con - quest, Just these my

Estribillo (Refrain)
 D7

que - res que yo te si - ga. Je -
 re - des y mi tra - ba - jo.
 ask - ing for me to fol - low. O
 fish - nets and will for work - ing.

sús, me has mi - ra - do a los o - jos;
 Je - sus, you have looked in - to my eyes;

son - ri - en - do, has di - cho mi nom - bre;
 kind - ly smil - ing, you've called out my name.

en la a - re - na he de - ja - do mi bar - ca;
 On the sand I have a - ban - doned my small boat;

jun - to a ti bus - ca - ré o - tro mar.
 now with you I will seek oth - er seas.

3. Tú ne-ce-si-tas mis ma-nos,
mi can-san-cio que a o-tros des-can-se,
a-mor que quie-ra se-guir a-man-do.
Estribillo

4. Tú, Pes-ca-dor de o-tros ma-res,
an-sia e-ter-na de al-mas que es-pe-ran.
A-mi-go bue-no, que a-sí me lla-mas.
Estribillo

3. You need my hands, my ex-haus-tion,
work-ing love for the rest of the
wea-ry—
A love that's will-ing to go on lov-ing.
Refrain

4. You who have fished oth-er wa-ters;
you, the long-ing of souls that are
yearn-ing:
As lov-ing Friend, you have come
to call me.
Refrain

"Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant?" by Richard Gillard

1 & 6 Won't you let me be your ser-vant, let me be as Christ to you?
2 We are pil-grims on a jour-ney, we are trav-ellers on the road;
3 I will hold the Christ-light for you in the shad-ow of your fear;
4 I will weep when you are weep-ing; when you laugh, I'll laugh with you.
5 When we sing to God in heav-en we shall find such har-mo-ny,

Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my ser-vant, too.
We are here to help each oth-er go the mile and bear the load.
I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.
I will share your joy and sor-row till we've seen this jour-ney through.
Born of all we've known to- geth-er of Christ's love and ag-o-ny.
(repeat stanza 1)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Eric on sabbatical | May 1-July 31

Pastor Eric is away on sabbatical through July 31. If you're new or visiting during this time, *welcome!* Worship will be a little different than usual during this time. If you have any questions about our community, our ushers handing out bulletins in the back are great folks to reach out to—they'd love to talk with you!

During Pastor Eric's sabbatical, if there is a specific prayer request or concern, please reach out to one of the leaders of our **Caring Ministry**: Suzanne Juday, Karen Hamingson, Linda Babcock, Pam Kitterman, and Malorie Nelson. They will do their best to connect people to a support person and make sure every care need gets met.

In case of **Pastoral Emergency**, including any funeral arrangements, please reach out to Rev. John Dorhauer, Pastor at First Congregational UCC in DeKalb (602-402-6171; 1stdekalbpastor@gmail.com). You can also reach out to the Caring Ministry, who will then follow up with Pastor John. *Should a memorial service be needed and you would prefer to have me do it, I will of course do so when I return from my leave.*

For other questions, please reach out to either Darlene in the church office or Chris Borresen, our 2025 Church Moderator (cborresen@gmail.com).

June Love Offering | Strengthen the Church

The Strengthen the Church (STC) Offering in June reflects the shared commitment of people across the United Church of Christ to cooperatively build up the UCC. The funds raised support leadership development, new churches, youth ministry, and innovation in existing congregations. By your generosity to this offering, you build up the Body of Christ.

Donations in any amount are welcome and can be placed in the "offering" plate, mailed to the church office, or given online at <https://bit.ly/GiveFCS>—select the fund: Love Offering. Special STC offering envelopes are available at the back of the sanctuary.

Federated Book Sale | June 12-15

We'll be setting up tables in Dutton Hall following worship today. Table set up takes about 20 minutes. Please join us!

Volunteers needed to sort books, Mon-Wed, 6/9-6/11; cashiers for the sale, Thurs-Sat, 6/12-6/14; and tear down after the sale, Sat, 6/14. See sign-up sheets in Dutton Hall for available time slots.

Pride Fest Poster Making | Sunday, June 15, following worship

We will create posters on June 15 following worship to carry with us during the Pride March. All supplies will be provide...bring your imagination!

Pride Fest | Saturday, June 21, 1:00-4:00 PM, Van Buer Plaza, DeKalb

We will be participating in DeKalb County's Pride Fest. In our booth we will proudly proclaim that we are a church where all God's LGBTQIA+ children are beloved, affirmed, celebrated, and supported. Pride Fest kicks-off with the Pride March at 1 pm, from the corner of 2nd & Locust Sts. Sign up in Dutton Hall to let us know you can join Bill & Ryan at the booth or participate in the Pride March.

Children's Church will not be held on Sunday, June 22. Children's bulletins and activity boxes will be available.

Recycle/Reuse Bulletin Covers

We will recycle and reuse these bulletin covers. Please place them in the basket at the back of the sanctuary on your way out. 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.



Church Calendar: Coming up at Federated!

Did you know there is a Master Calendar of church/building related activities? Scan this QR code to see what's going on!

Our Guest Worship Leader, Rev. Joe Gastiger

We are blessed to have Rev. Joe Gastiger leading us in worship most Sunday's during Pastor Eric's sabbatical.

Pastor Joe served as the Pastor of First Congregational UCC in DeKalb from August 2001 until his retirement in October 2020.

Having grown up in New York, he attended S.U.N.Y Stony Brook and the University of Iowa before completing graduate work at Colorado State University. He came to DeKalb in 1980 to teach English at Northern Illinois University, where he later earned his doctorate.

Ministry was a second-career path for Joe. He first joined First Congregational UCC as a member in July of 1994, noting that he was led to this church by his son, Michael, whose own innocent and profound spiritual questions—which came up while he was playing with toys, or while he and Jean would read to him at night—had reawakened deeply felt concerns in himself. He turned to ministry as a quest for a greater challenge in life and a growing interest to learn more about Christianity and the Bible.

Pastor Joe has served the wider community in numerous ways and at a variety of levels over the years, doing what he can to make DeKalb County a place of greater love, justice, and belonging for all, especially the vulnerable and marginalized.

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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