

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 | October 05, 2025, 10:00 am

Today we will be taking communion. We invite you to participate how ever 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. Please join in reading those parts printed in **bold**.*

Prelude "The Perfect Wisdom of Our God" Townsend, Getty/arr. 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 "Come, O Fount of Every Blessing" (p.3)

Prayers of the People

Stewardship Moment

Testimonial

Bill O'Hagan

Questions for Personal Reflection

- ♦ How has being a part of Federated helped you to "wade into the waters" of life and move through difficult circumstances with hope?
- ♦ What will you commit in terms of time, passion, or/and finances to help grow this community of hope, faith, justice, and love so we can deepen our impact?

Sung Response "For Everyone Born" vv. 1 (p. 4)

Scripture

[Exodus 16; John 6:1-14](#)

(as told in the *Just Love Story Bible*)

Sermon

"Getting Egypt Out of Us"

Sung Response "Broken Body of Christ" (p.5)

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

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 Song “All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly” (p.6)

Benediction

Postlude

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”

Beethoven/arr. Larson

Thank you for joining us for worship today!

† † †

WORSHIP NOTES

Serving us this morning:

Pastor: Rev. Eric J. Ogi | **Ministers:** All of us! | **Music Director:** Gary Mattin

Children’s Church Director: Bill O’Hagan | **Childcare Support:** Janis Schnurr-Trebe

Liturgist: Sheldon Turner | **Ushers:** Pam Wagener, Chris Borresen, and Skip Schramer

Ushers for Sunday, Oct. 12: Gip Seaver, Ruth Olle, and Skip Schramer

All music is used with permission: CCLI Copyright: #3234671; CCLI Streaming: #22467093

***The scripture story retelling used this morning comes from *The Just Love Story Bible*, and is written by Rev. Dr. Shannon Daley-Harris and Rev. Dr. Jacqui Lewis*

CONGREGATIONAL NOTES

Church Leadership for August 2025 – August 2026:

Moderator: Gip Seaver | **Assoc. Moderator:** Bill O’Hagan | **Past Moderator:** Chris

Borresen. | *Should you have any questions concerning the church, how to get*

involved, or who to contact about something, please reach out to one of them or Pastor

Eric, and they will get you the information you need or connect you to someone who can.

"Come, O Fount of Every Blessing" *by 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.

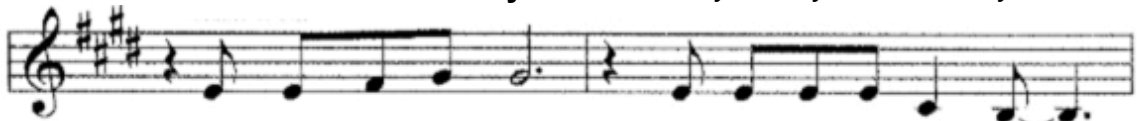


Teach me some me - lo-dious son - net, sung by flam-ing tongues a - bove.
Je - sus sought me when a strang-er, wan-dering from the fold of God,
Prone to wan - der, I can feel it, wan-der from the love I've known:



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.

"For Everyone Born" by Shirley Erena Murray/Brian Mann



1 For ev - ery - one born, a place at the ta - ble,
5 For ev - ery - one born, a place at the ta - ble,



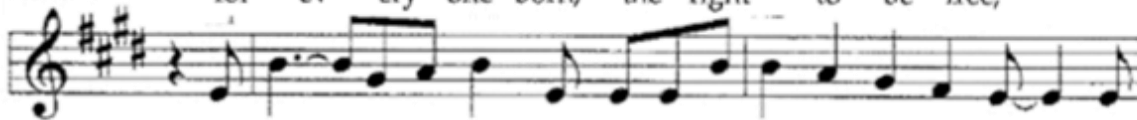
for ev - ery - one born, clean wa - ter and bread,
to live with - out fear, and sim - ply to be,



a shel - ter, a space, a safe place for grow - ing,
to work, to speak out, to wit - ness and wor - ship,



for ev - ery - one born, a star o - ver - head,
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!

“Broken Body of Christ” by Lenora Rand/Gary Rand



1. We are the wand - 'ring _____ we are the seek - ing _____ We are the ones _____
2. We are the thir - sty _____ look - ing for mer - cy _____ We have _____ all _____



_____ left out to dry _____ We are the bleed - ing _____ Our hearts are weep - ing _____
 _____ been kicked a - side _____ We are the stum - bling _____ Our hands are fumb - ling _____



Chorus

_____ We are the bro - ken _____ bod - y of Christ _____ And when we eat, _____



_____ we are fed _____ the love that God has giv - en _____ And when we drink _____



we take it in _____ this love, _____ this earth - ly hea - ven. _____

"All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly" by Sylvia G Dunstan



- 1 All who hun-ger, gath-er glad - ly; ho - ly man-na is our bread.
- 2 All who hun-ger, nev - er strang-ers, seek-er, be a wel-come guest.
- 3 All who hun-ger, sing to - geth - er; Je - sus Christ is liv - ing bread.



Come from wil-der-ness and wan-dering. Here, in truth, we will be fed.
Come from rest-less-ness and roam-ing. Here, in joy, we keep the feast.
Come from lone - li - ness and long - ing. Here, in peace, we have been led.



You that yearn for days of full - ness, all a-round us is our food.
We that once were lost and scat-tered in com-mu-nion's love have stood.
Blest are those who from this ta - ble live their days in grat-i - tude.



Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church Office Closed | Fri., Oct. 10, & Mon. Oct. 13

The church office will be closed on Friday, October 10, while Darlene takes vacation day. Please note that Pastor Eric observes Sabbath on Fridays. The office will also be closed on Monday, October 13, in observance of Indigenous Peoples' Day.

Federated Church 101 | Sun., Oct. 12, after worship (note date change)

Are you looking to get more connected? Are you looking to learn more about who we are and how to be more involved? Do you have questions you'd like answered? Then we invite you to "Federated 101"—a chance to gather around a table for a conversation with Pastor Eric and others as you get to know those in the same boat. *Participation in a Federated 101 is needed to become a member. Don't miss out, these conversations only happen a couple times a year.* Sign-up in Dutton Hall. See Pastor Eric with any questions.

All Church Conversations | Oct. 19 & Nov. 2, following worship

October 19: We invite you to learn about the work of the "**Worship Vitality Task Force**," which our Church Council formally commissioned at the end of 2024 (just before becoming the Leadership Board). The charge of this team is: *"To ensure the worship service on Sunday mornings is meeting the spiritual needs of the congregation (the whole body of Christ).*

November 2: We invite you to engage in another round of conversation about our congregation's engagement in "immigration justice." The Leadership Board is working to approve a covenant to guide us as a congregation, as well as a process that helps clarify the ways that we can more intentionally live into this covenant. You will be invited to co-create this ministry through active engagement: by sharing your feedback, expressing your own passions/concerns, and by committing to participate in this covenant.

Fall Church Summit | Oct. 30 – Nov. 1, First Congregational UCC of DeKalb

Many of you joined us last fall at Federated Church for the Fall Summit gathering of the "Thriving Pastors in Revitalizing Congregations" initiative. This Fall, join Pastor Eric and others at First Congregational UCC in DeKalb for another round of inspiring worship and meaningful workshops. This is also a great chance to get to know others in the "wider church" and experience the diversity of our denomination. *Cost is \$50 to attend. If you're interested in participating, let Pastor Eric know; if needed, the church can help offset the cost!*

Ladies' Night Out | Tues., Oct. 28, 6PM, Florentino's Charhouse

Our Ladies' Night Out for this month will be at Florentino's Charhouse (where Keg & Kernel used to be) 106 E. Lincoln Hwy, DeKalb, on Tuesday, October 28, at 6:00 PM. Florentino's menu includes Italian pasta dishes, fish & seafood, steaks, burgers & sandwiches, plus wine & drinks. We hope you will join us for good food, and good conversation.

Save the Dates | Sun., Nov. 9 & Sun., Nov. 23 | watch for more details

Nov. 9: We will welcome new members during worship and have a Thanksgiving Potluck following worship.

Nov. 23: We will decorate the church for Advent following worship.

Feed My Starving Children | Sun., Nov. 16, 3-5PM, Suter Company

Federated Church is getting a group together to help with FMSC. Sign-up in Dutton Hall. For more information see Sue McCue or Linda Babcock.

Weekly eNews



Scan the code at the left
to see the most recent
eNews & to subscribe.

Church Calendar



Scan the code at the right
to see the church's
Master Calendar of events.

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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