

THE
Federated Church
OF SYCAMORE



Tell me
something
good

Grounding ourselves in
the good news this Lent

Responding to God's Invitation: Prayer Stations

Lent was originally a season for new followers of Jesus to study the heart of Christian faith, the "good news of great joy for all people." These stations are multisensory and experiential ways for us to do that—to deepen our encounter with and reflections on: radical welcome, surprising joy, love for neighbor, care for the vulnerable, nourishment for the hungry, and nonviolence in the face of injustice—to help us go live this good news.

During this time (~10 min), we invite you to freely visit prayer stations placed throughout the front, back, middle, and sides of the sanctuary, and even by staying in your pew.

Take your time. Consider this a mini "pilgrimage of the soul." This works best if you don't try to visit every station each week; linger where your heart feels called and receive the good news you need for today as you journey through the fullness of life.

*Virtual prayer stations indicated in **blue** can be found at [this link](#). Join us in worship to experience the additional prayer stations.*

Prayer Candles: *Light a candle and offer a prayer for a person / place*

Table of Offering: *Place your donation to support our growing ministries or our special Mission Offering on the table. Place donations for our local pantries in the "blessing box"*

What Good News Have You Found Here?: *Write a word or phrase or moment that captures why you are here, or is a glimpse of the "good news" you've experienced here*

Sharing the Good News: *Each week, bring headlines, clippings, and cutouts of good news you've spotted and add them to our growing collage*

Good News in the Wilderness: *Some seasons of life feel like wilderness wandering. Yet even here, God is present. We, too, are invited to be present. In your pew, meditate on the poem inserted in the bulletin. Notice what arises within you*

Divine Seeing: *Pause to look more deeply at the artwork inspired by today's scripture*

Tree of Life: *Write on a leaf how you'll live out the good news this week*

Spiritual Practices for Embodying Good News: *Take these resources home. Rather than an "extra" thing to do, consider how you can integrate a "good news practice" into your daily/weekly rhythm—e.g. as part of a waking, commute, dinner, or bedtime routine. Do them by yourself, with a friend, or as a family*

Building Bridges of Good News: *Use playdough to build an island and a popsicle stick to build bridges between these "communities." On the popsicle stick write one way you will build a bridge between people or communities to help strengthen our bonds*

Waters of Joy & Release: *Take a stone; drop it in the water and release what's burdening you. Pick a flower; float it in the water as a reminder of what brings you joy*

Order of Worship | March 29, 2026 | 10:00 am

*All music can be found at the back of the bulletin. Please join in reading those parts printed in **bold**.*

Prelude “Beneath the Cross” Keith & Kristin Getty/arr. M. Kim

Palm Procession “Hosanna” Craig Courtney
Join the “Palm Procession” by standing and/or waving your palm branches!

Welcome

Scripture [Mark 11:1-2, 7-10](#)

Passing the Peace & Gathering Song “Hosanna in the Highest” (p.2)
We invite you to like the video and/or say “Hi!” in the comments to let us know you’re here

Centering Our Hearts

Prayers of the People

Silent Prayer & The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father/Mother/Creator 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.

Song of Illumination “Two Processions” solo by Ryan Washabaugh

Scripture [Luke 19:41-42 & Matthew 21:10-13](#)

Sermon “The Good News is... A Call to Action”

Sung Response “Will You Come and Follow Me?” vv. 1, 3, 4 (p.3)

Prayer Stations (virtual stations can be found at [this link](#))

Preparing to Live God’s Love

Our Shared Life

Sending Song “Turning Over Tables” (p.4)

Benediction

Postlude “Come Thou Almighty King” F. Giardini/arr. M. Hayes
Thank you for joining us for worship today!

“Hosanna in the Highest” by Joan & Karl Kay

Ho - san - na!

Ho - san - na in the high - est! Ho

san - na! Sing prai - ses to the Lord!

Ho san - na! Ho

13 san - na in the high - est! Ho - san - na!

Sing prai - ses to the Lord! (Last time to Coda)

19 1. Bles - sed is the One, bles - sed is the One, who
2. Glo - ry to our God, glo - ry to our God, re

21 comes in the name of the Lord! Ho
joice

Coda

23 Bles - sed is the One, who comes! Ho - san - na!

ff Shout...

Detailed description: This is a musical score for the hymn "Hosanna in the Highest". It consists of ten staves of music in a treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are written below the notes. The score includes a Coda section starting at measure 23, marked with a forte (ff) dynamic and the instruction "Shout...". The lyrics for the Coda are "Bles - sed is the One, who comes! Ho - san - na!".

“Will You Come and Follow Me?” by 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.

“Turning Over Tables” by J Arndt, D Gungor, M Maher, A Pappas



1. Fear runs deep, spread-ing like a vi - rus; hate is cheap, from a-far



— it costs— you no-thing. Sis-ter take— my hand, bro-ther we—



Chorus

— will stand, O-pen up— your heart and find:— Love is turn-ing o-ver ta-



- bles, break-ing off chains;— when I see you in the



stran-ger, I'm no long - er a slave.— Turn-ing o - ver ta-



End Chorus

- bles, tear-ing down walls,— build-ing up the brid-ges be-tween us all.



2. Let cou-rage be my



will-ing-ness to lis - ten, so I can feel the wound in-side my heart. Let



seeds of peace grow in hearts a-round us,— that trees of hope bring



shade to all— humankind . You can take— my hand, to-ge-ther we—



to chorus

— will stand. O-pen up— your heart and find:— love is turn-ing o-ver ta -

† † †

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 | **Liturgist:** Kristin Bailey

Ushers: Alice Whitney and Bev & Skip Schramer

Ushers for Sunday, April 5: Pam Wagener and Chris Borresen

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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.

CALENDAR: AT A GLANCE

Intergenerational Sign Making | *Today, after worship*

Join the Intergenerational Sign-Making before heading to the Palm Procession together.

Maundy Thursday Meal & Worship | *Thurs. Apr. 2, 5:30 PM*

Tenebrae service including a light Middle Eastern dinner. Help us with our meal planning by letting us know you can attend on the sign-up sheet in Dutton Hall.

Easter Flowers

Help us decorate our altar with daffodils, hyacinths, tulips, and Easter lilies this Easter by sponsoring them—and then taking yours home afterward. Sign up in Dutton Hall. Place your payment in the offering plate indicating “Easter Flowers” on your check/envelope.

Easter Worship | *Sunday, April 5*

Celebrate Easter with us! Bring family and friends! There will be special Easter activities for kids, and an adult pick-up choir of the “Hallelujah Chorus.” Extra copies are available on the piano to take home. Gary will gather for a run-through on Easter at 9:30 am.

Visioning/Listening Sessions | *April 12 & 19 following worship*

The April 12 session will focus on Worship. The April 19 session will focus on Congregational Connections.

Weekly eNews



Scan the code at the left
to see the most recent
eNews & join our email list.

Church Calendar



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

PALM SUNDAY FAITH ACTION

RECLAIMING CHRISTIANITY IN THE PUBLIC SQUARE

**MARCH
29**

On Palm Sunday, join a diverse coalition of Christians across DeKalb County for a Public Palm Procession and Gathering to elevate our faith's call to love God and love our neighbors: healing the sick, feeding the hungry, welcoming the stranger, and being peacemakers.

1:00PM

Palm Procession at the DeKalb Co. Courthouse. Gather at the **Corner of W. State St. and N. Main St.** (across from library)

1:15PM

Worship and Program on the steps of DeKalb Co. Courthouse

This local Action is part of a nation-wide movement bringing thousands of Christians into the streets and public square to reject the authoritarianism, cruelty, and greed of White Christian Nationalism and to boldly stand together to embody our faith's call to do justice and love mercifully; to love our neighbors as ourselves; to wage peace, not violence; to feed the hungry, heal the sick, and welcome the stranger. Join us--and bring your family and friends (even if they're not Christians or active church-goers!). Register now and share the event with others!



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 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.

We believe 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.

We believe in 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 across lines of difference—race, class, culture, citizenship status, gender, sexuality, age, and ability—not merely to tolerate each other, but to build authentic relationships and true belonging. We believe that the simple but courageous work of showing up in this way is one necessary element in healing our nation and world's deep divisions.

We believe in working for peace through solidarity & justice

At Federated, conversations about racism, sexism, transphobia, poverty, immigration, hunger, and a host of other issues are commonplace—from the pulpit and around the table. With Dr. King, we believe 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.” In this spirit, *in 2025 Federated Church discerned a mission priority for the church to act for “immigrant justice,” adopting this covenant to guide us: “As a community of faith, we commit to protecting our migrant neighbors through acts of sanctuary, solidarity, and justice. We will not stand by in the face of unjust enforcement. We will act, love, and speak as our faith commands—with courage and compassion.”*

“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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