# **The Federated Church**

United Church of Christ † Unitarian Universalist Association



## April 10, 2022 | 10:00

#### Order of Worship | April 10, 2022

#### Prelude

#### Welcome & Passing the Peace

Joining the Palm Procession Matthew 21:1-11

Gathering Hymn "Hosanna in the Highest" (p. 4)

#### **Centering Moment**

"And the people cried out, "Hosanna!" (which means "Save us!") ~ Matthew 21:9 We sat around a six-person table, for don't most holy moments happen around a table? Six women, six heartbeats, six names and identities. We gathered there once every twelve days, to read and pray, to learn each other's names. It was nothing more than a burger bar, and we were nothing more than the truths we shared, So sitting around a basket of fries, I assumed I knew everyone there. But then the woman directly to my right said quietly to the group of six that night: "I had an abortion when I was young." And my heart stopped. And my heart sunk. For she had kept this wilderness in. She had carried this weight alone. She had grieved and prayed for peace, and I had never known. She went on to speak of hurt and grief, of a prayer to end the suffering. She went on to tell us her most vulnerable truth. And in an instant that small leather booth became Church. For in naming the wilderness, that space became Not only the place of her greatest pain, but also the place where we became One. In an instant, she became her own light. And in an instant, we were changed. For in that instant, we saw her wilderness walk, So in that instant, we became six names, six united identities, one heartbeat. I think the wilderness does that. Sometimes you walk it alone. And sometimes you tell that story, And a booth becomes home.

~ "The Wilderness is a Place of Isolation. It Is Also a Place of Connection" by Sarah Are

#### Silent Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, Thy kingdom come, thy 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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

| Sung Assurance     | "Come Healing" (p. 5)                                 |
|--------------------|---|
| Scripture          | Luke 19:41-42; Matthew 21:12-15                       |
| Sermon "Disrup     | ting an Undignifying Order: God's Wilderness Journey" |
| Musical Meditation |   |
| Our Common Life    |   |
| Sending Hymn "C    | come, O Long Expected Jesus" (p. 5)                   |
| Benediction        |   |
| Postlude           |   |
|                    | <i>t t t</i>  |

### **WORSHIP NOTES**

Those serving us this morning are:

**Pastor:** Rev. Eric J. Ogi | **Ministers:** All of us! | **Director of Music:** Gary Mattin **Ushers:** Roger Jacobson, Gip Seaver, Judy Winter & Ruth Olle — Those scheduled for next Sunday, April 17<sup>th</sup>: Nate & Pam Kitterman & Linda Mason

*The poem, "The Wilderness is a Place of Isolation. It is Also a Place of Connection" is* by Sarah Are | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org. "Come Healing" is written by Leonard Cohen and Patrick Leonard © 2012 Old Ideas LLC. All are used with permission. *CCLI License* #3234671

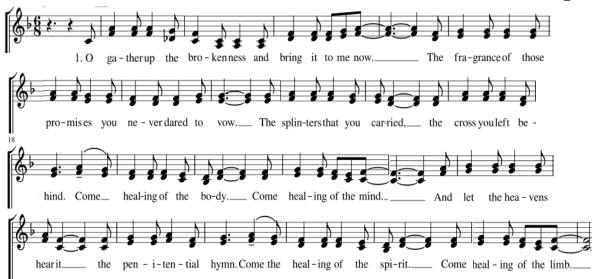
### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**April's LOVE Offering** *is for our Fall Backpack & School Supplies Drive* for lowincome students in DeKalb County. Under the leadership of church members Sharon McKee and Sherry Jones, we have made this a local mission of the church for many years. Sharon and Sherry work with DCFS and other local agencies to determine what is needed. The congregation then volunteers to help fill the backpacks in August. Monetary support to purchase the supplies comes from the congregation as well. *Envelopes are available by the bulletins.* For checks, please note in the memo "School supplies."



Hosanna in the Highest

#### **Come Healing**





# **YOU** ARE WELCOME HERE!

**Federated Church is an Open & Affirming Community**: This means that in a time of deep division and vitriolic rhetoric around issues of race, ethnicity, gender, and sexuality; a time when 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+ people to be, to belong, to lead, to question, and to grow in faith.

"Welcoming Any, Loving All"

The Federated Church is affiliated with two national denominations: the <u>United Church of Christ</u> & the <u>Unitarian Universalist Association</u>







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