

# The Federated Church

*United Church of Christ + Unitarian Universalist Association*



## A SUMMER SERMON SERIES

# ***What the Faith?!***

## **Get in on the Conversations!**

Have you wanted to read the Bible more, but had no idea where to start? Do you have questions about the Bible that you've always wanted to ask but never felt like you could, like: what do we do with the parts of the Bible that seem to condone violence, or sexism, or xenophobia, or the infamous "clobber" passages used against people who are lesbian, gay, or bisexual?

Federated is a community where your doubts and questions are welcomed as *faithful* expressions of our human and Christian search for meaning and purpose—*not as a lack of faith!*

If that's what you're looking for, this small-group series is a perfect way to connect in an informal setting. In fact, Pastor Eric is curious: *What questions do you have? What topics or themes have you struggled to understand or would like to explore?* Now is your chance to ask! Email them to Pastor Eric at any point during this series (but, the sooner the better!) and Pastor Eric will try to incorporate them into the series.

Each midweek gathering will be in person and outdoors from 6:30-7:45pm. We will finalize the day/location at our first gathering on Thursday, June 30<sup>th</sup>. Together, we will reflect on the scripture, themes, and questions raised by the previous week's sermon. Missed a Sunday? No problem! You can watch each sermon on our website: <https://fedsycamore.org/sermons/>.

Feel free to invite a friend. No need to have a connection to Federated to participate!

**Order of Worship** | July 10, 2022 | 10:00am

All music is from the **Black New Century Hymnal** in your pew back, unless noted otherwise

\* indicates those places where you are invited to rise in body or spirit

## **Prelude**

### **Welcome & \*Passing the Peace**

*We invite you to stand while remaining in your pew as you share a sign of God's peace*

**\*Gathering Hymn** "All Are Welcome" (p.3)

### **Centering Moment**

"And God gives us more grace. That is why scripture says, 'God opposes the proud, but shows favor to the humble.'" ~ *James 4:6* (quoting *Proverbs 3:34*)

"And the Lord said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.' Therefore, I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me." ~ *2 Corinthians 12:9*

### **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 Response** #517 "I Need You Every Hour" verse 1

**Scripture** [Psalm 139:1-16; Numbers 5:11-22; John 10:7-10](#)

**Sermon** "A Bitter Curse and Human Flourishing:  
Beyond Pro-Life vs. Pro-Choice"

## **Musical Meditation**

### **Our Shared Life & Offering**

**Announcements**

**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** "God of Love, We've Known Division" (p.4)

## **Benediction**

## **Postlude**

*While the postlude plays, we invite you to join us in Dutton Hall for Coffee Hour.  
While masks are currently required in the sanctuary, they are optional in Dutton Hall.*

## **WORSHIP NOTES**

*Serving us this morning are:*

**Pastor:** Rev. Eric J. Ogi | **Director of Music:** Gary Mattin | **Liturgist:** Pam Kitterman  
**Ministers:** All of us! | **Ushers:** Roger Jacobson, Gip Seaver, Judy Winter, & Ruth Olle  
*Ushering next Sunday, July 17: Nate & Pam Kitterman, and Linda Mason*

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**We will recycle & reuse** these shell covers over the coming weeks. Please place them in the basket at the bottom of the stairs on your way out. Thanks!

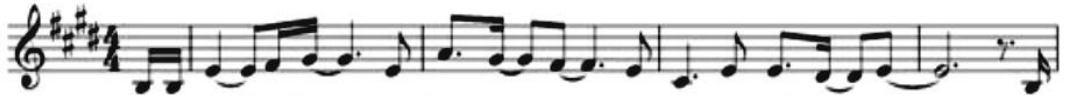
### **July Love Offering is Federated Preschool**

The Love Offering for July will go to The Federated Church Preschool. Typically, our congregation donation is used to fund hardship scholarships to assist families with monthly fees or to purchase learning materials and playground equipment. In 2018 our donation was \$535 and in 2019 it was \$1,124. Due to Covid-19 there were no Love Offerings in 2020 and 2021.

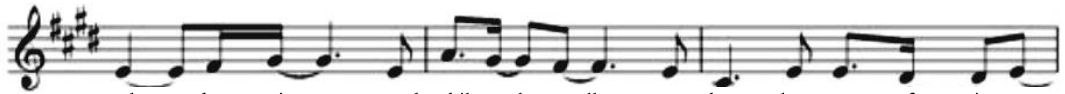
A check donation may be mailed to the church office The Federated Church, 612 W. State St., Sycamore 60178 or dropped off to the church office from 10-12 noon during the week. On Sunday envelopes for donations are on a bell choir table at the back of the sanctuary and can be placed in the collection plate. Any size donation is welcome. The preschool staff can assure you the donations will be put to good use!

# “All Are Welcome”

*Marty Haugen and Mark Miller*



1. Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safe - ly\_\_ live, a\_\_
2. Let us build a house where proph-ets speak, and words are strong and\_ true, where
3. Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the wood and\_ stone to\_\_
4. Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and vi- sions heard and\_\_



place where saints and chil - dren tell how hearts learn\_ to for - give.  
 all God's chil - dren dare\_ to\_\_ seek .o\_\_ dream God's reign a - new.  
 heal and strength - en, serve\_ and\_ teach, ; and\_ live the\_\_ Word they've known.  
 loved and trea - sured, taught and\_ claimed as\_\_ words with - in the Word.



Built of hopes and dreams and vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace;  
 Here the cross shall stand as wit - ness and as sym bol of God's grace:  
 Here the out cast and the strang - er bear the im age of God's face;  
 Built of tears and cries and laugh - ter, prayers of faith and songs of grace,



— All are wel - come, wel-come in\_\_ this place, all in - vit - ed\_\_ to



come and know\_ God's grace, all are wel - come, the love of Christ to feel, \_\_\_\_\_ 'cause

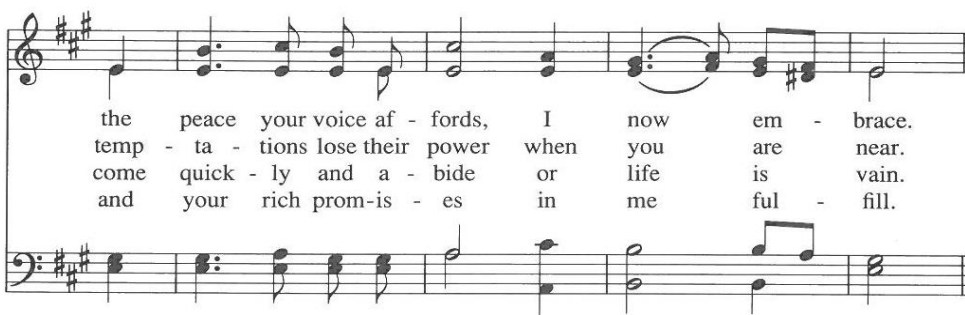


all of us\_\_ are wel- come. here,\_\_ all are wel-come in this place.

# I Need You Every Hour



1 I need you ev - ery hour, O God of grace;  
 2 I need you ev - ery hour, in faith or fear;  
 3 I need you ev - ery hour, in joy or pain;  
 4 I need you ev - ery hour; teach me your will,



the peace your voice af - fords, I now em - brace.  
 temp - ta - tions lose their power when you are near.  
 come quick - ly and a - bide or life is vain.  
 and your rich prom - is - es in me ful - fill.

*Refrain*



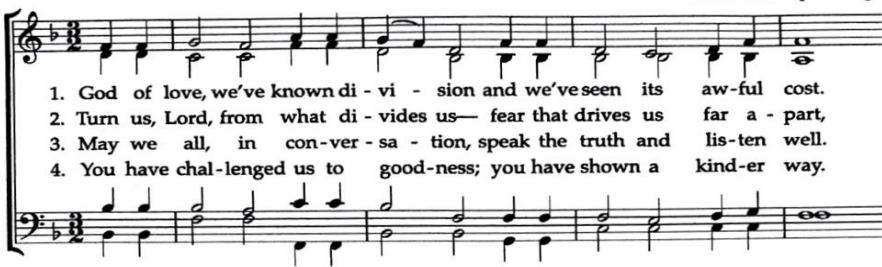
I need you, how I need you! Ev - ery hour I need you;



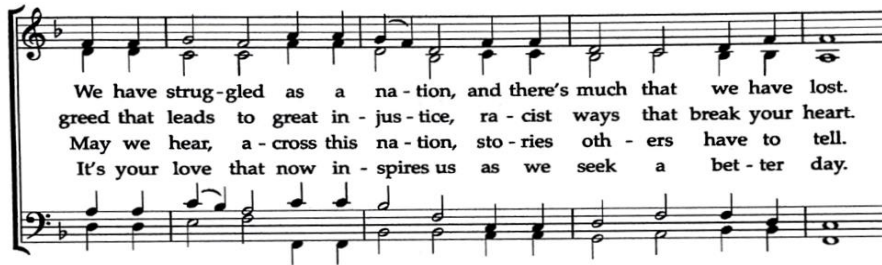
O bless me now, my Sav - ior; I come to you.

# God of Love We've Known Division"

Carolyn Winfree Gillette



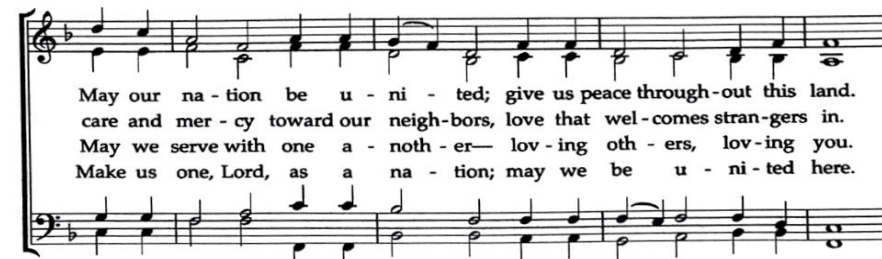
1. God of love, we've known di - vi - sion and we've seen its aw-ful cost.  
2. Turn us, Lord, from what di - vides us— fear that drives us far a - part,  
3. May we all, in con-ver - sa - tion, speak the truth and lis-ten well.  
4. You have chal-lenged us to good-ness; you have shown a kind-er way.



We have strug-gled as a na - tion, and there's much that we have lost.  
greed that leads to great in - jus-tice, ra - cist ways that break your heart.  
May we hear, a - cross this na - tion, sto - ries oth - ers have to tell.  
It's your love that now in - spires us as we seek a bet - ter day.



We have been a house di - vi - ded— and, di - vi - ded, we can't stand.  
May we seek what brings to - ge - ther— hearts that bear each oth - er's pain,  
May we learn from oth - er cul - tures and be blessed by their world - view;  
May we end our harsh di - vi - sion; may we stop the hate and fear.



May our na - tion be u - ni - ted; give us peace through-out this land.  
care and mer - cy toward our neigh-bors, love that wel - comes stran-gers in.  
May we serve with one a - noth - er— lov - ing oth - ers, lov-ing you.  
Make us one, Lord, as a na - tion; may we be u - ni - ted here.

# ***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 and what we do? Would you like to meet Pastor Eric or get connected to others? In your pew-back you will find a yellow bookmark-sized "Connection Card." Fill it out and place it in the offering plate, 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.



# ***“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  
Facebook & Instagram:  
@FederatedChurchSycamore



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