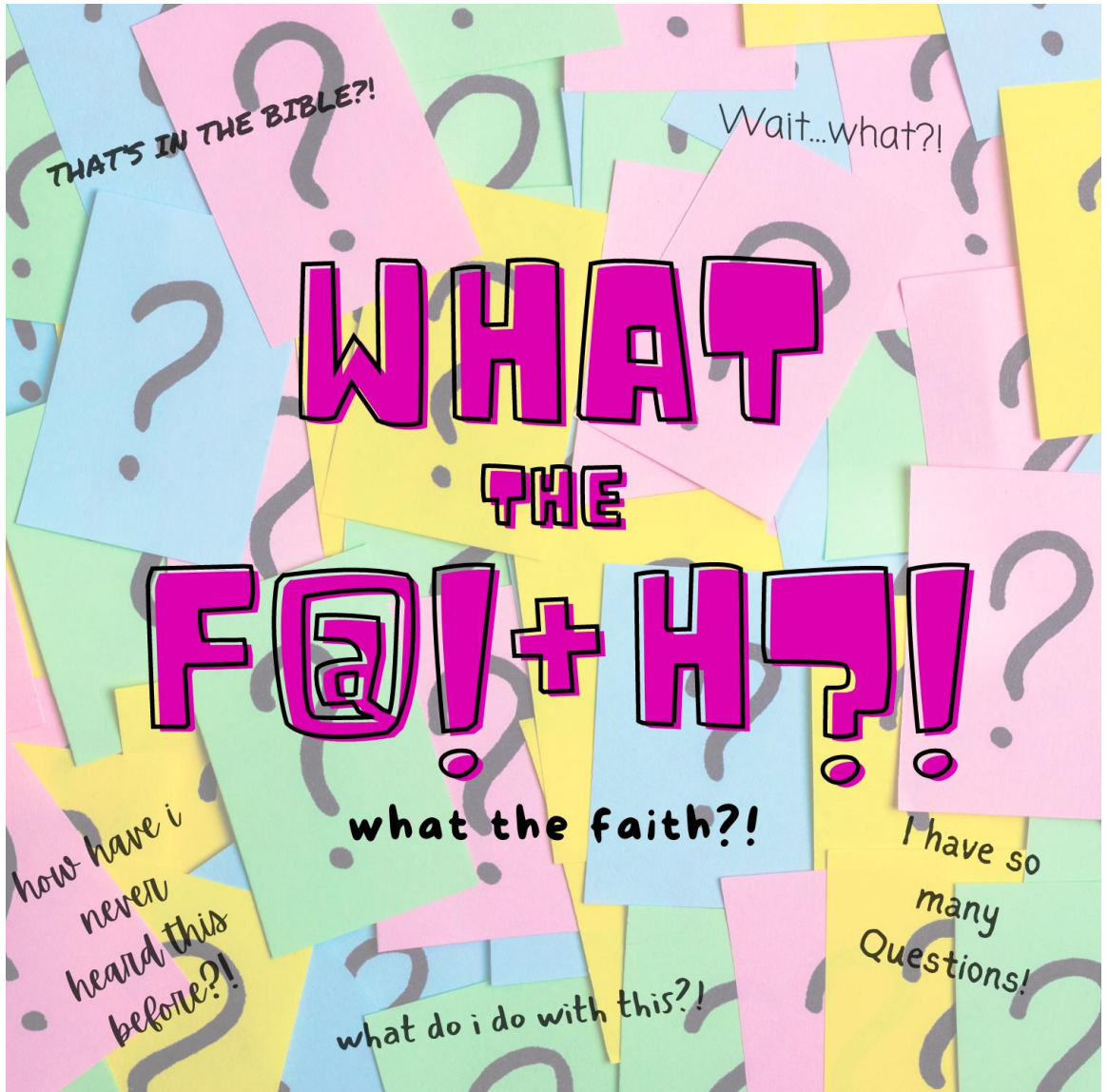


# The Federated Church

*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 24, 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.  
Please remain standing as we sing our Gathering hymn.*

**\*Gathering Hymn** “My Heart Sings Out with Joyful Praise” (p.6)

### **Centering Moment**

“I put all my hope in the LORD.  
He leaned down to me;  
he listened to my cry for help.  
He lifted me out of the pit of death, out of the mud and filth,  
and set my feet on solid rock.  
He steadied my legs.  
He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise for our God.  
Many people will learn of this and be amazed;  
they will trust the LORD.”  
~ Psalm 40:1-3 (CEB)

Think of a time when you were in “the pit of death,” stuck in the “mud and filth” of life. Who drew near to you? How were you “lifted out”? What would it look like to trust that no such season will last forever, but that one day you will again find a new song in your mouth?

### **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** #476 “My Life Flows on in Endless Song” vv. 1 & 4 (p. 7)

**Scripture** [Joshua 11:1-15; Jonah 1:1-3, 3:1-5, 10:4-5](#)

## **Sermon**

“Genocide in the Name of God?  
Scripture and the Language of the Unheard”

## **Musical Meditation**

### **Our Shared Life & Offerings**

**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.*

**Prayers of the People & Prayer of Dedication**

**\*Sending Hymn** #593 “Lift Every Voice and Sing” (p. 8)

## **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:** Sharon McKee

**Ministers:** All of us! | **Ushers:** Paula von Ende, Skip & Beverly Schramer

*Ushering next Sunday, July 31: Tony & Alice Whitney, Skip & Beverly Schramer*

All hymns this morning come from *The New Century Hymnal* unless noted otherwise, and are used with permission: CCLI License #3234671

## **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: 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 it was \$1,124 in 2019. 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.

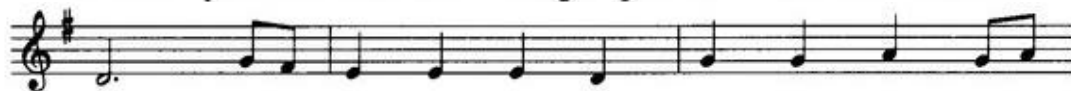
On Sunday, envelopes for donations are on a bell choir table at the back of the sanctuary and can be placed in the collection plate. Any size donation is welcome. The preschool staff can assure you the donations will be put to good use!

# My Heart Sings Out with Joyful Praise (Song of Mary)

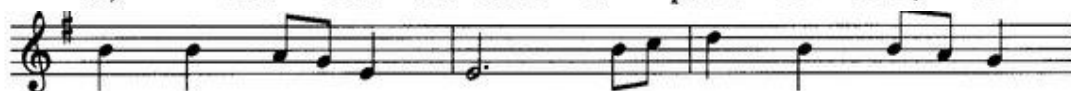
*Ruth Duck*



1. My heart sings out with joy - ful praise To God who rais - es
2. The arm of God is strong and just To scat - ter all the
3. The prom - ise made in a - ges past At last has come to



me, Who came to me when I was low And  
proud. The ty - rants tum - ble from their thrones And  
be, For God has come in pow'r to save, To



changed my des - ti - ny. The Ho - ly One, the  
van - ish like a cloud. The hun - gry all are  
set all peo - ple free. Re - mem - b'ring those who

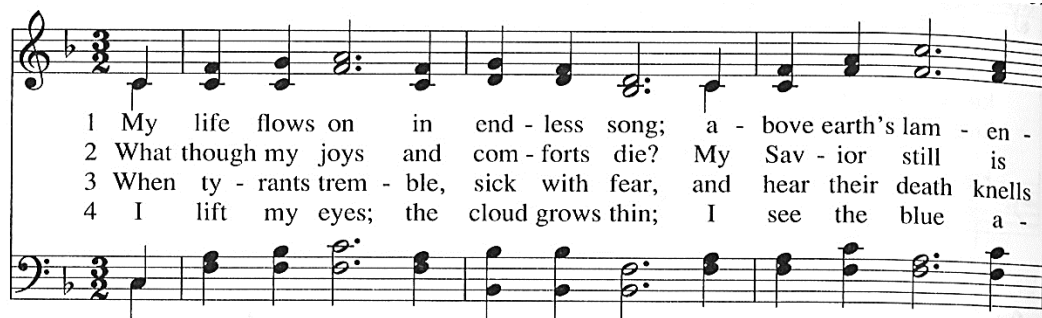


Liv - ing God, Is al - ways full of grace To those who  
sat - is - fied; The rich are sent a - way. The poor of  
wait to see Sal - va - tion's dawn-ing day, Our Sav - ior

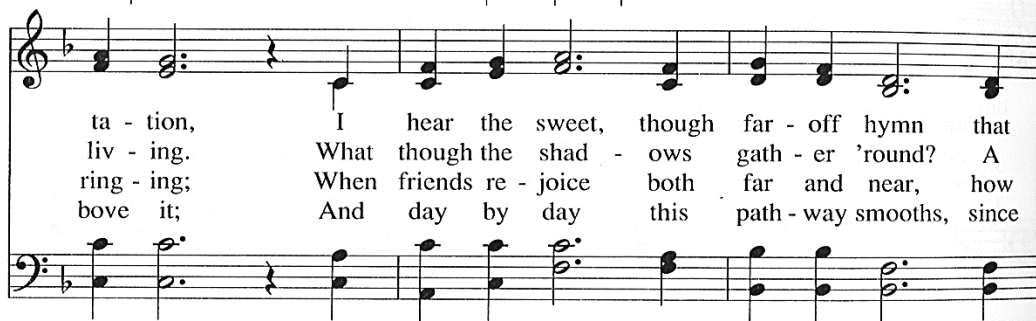


seek their l er's will In ev - 'ry time and place.  
earth who sur - fer long Will wel - come God's new day.  
comes to all who weep To wipe their tears a - way.

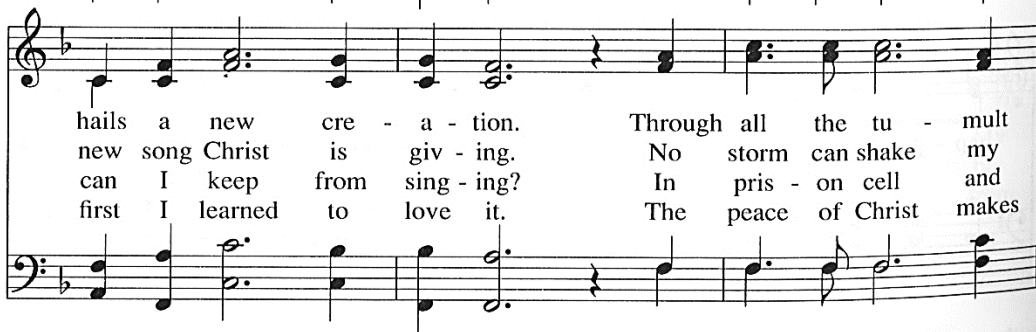
# My Life Flows on in Endless Song



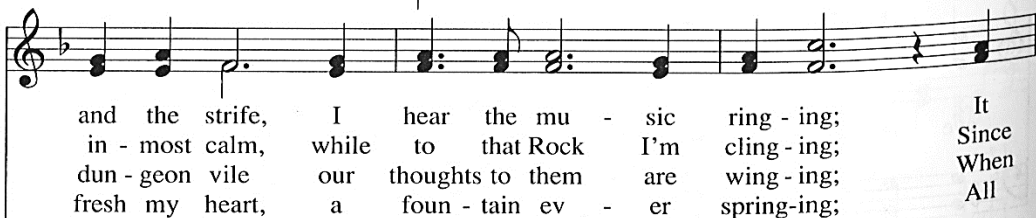
1 My life flows on in end - less song; a - bove earth's lam - en -  
 2 What though my joys and com - forts die? My Sav - ior still is  
 3 When ty - rants trem - ble, sick with fear, and hear their death knells  
 4 I lift my eyes; the cloud grows thin; I see the blue a -



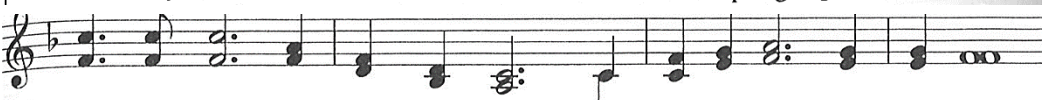
ta - tion, I hear the sweet, though far - off hymn that  
 liv - ing. What though the shad - ows gath - er 'round? A  
 ring - ing; When friends re - joice both far and near, how  
 bove it; And day by day this path - way smooths, since



hails a new cre - a - tion. Through all the tu - mult  
 new song Christ is giv - ing. No storm can shake my  
 can I keep from sing - ing? In pris - on cell and  
 first I learned to love it. The peace of Christ makes



and the strife, I hear the mu - sic ring - ing; It  
 in - most calm, while to that Rock I'm cling - ing; Since  
 dun - geon vile our thoughts to them are wing - ing; When  
 fresh my heart, a foun - tain ev - er spring - ing; All



finds an ech - o in my soul— how can I keep from sing - ing?  
 Love com - mands both heaven and earth, how can I keep from sing - ing?  
 friends by shame are un - de - filed, how can I keep from sing - ing?  
 things are mine since I am Christ's— how can I keep from sing - ing?

# Lift Every Voice and Sing



1 Lift ev-ery voice and sing, till earth and heav - en ring, ring with the  
 2 Ston-y the road we trod, bit-ter the chas-tening rod, felt in the  
 3 God of our wea - ry years, God of our si - lent tears, God who has



har - mo - nies of lib - er - ty; Let our re - joic - ing  
 days when hope un - born had died; Yet with a stead - y  
 brought us thus far on the way; God, who by your



rise, high as the lis - tening skies, let it re - sound loud as the  
 beat, have not our wea - ry feet, come to the place for which our  
 might, led us in - to the light, keep us for - ev - er in the



roll - ing sea. Sing a song full of the  
 peo - ple sighed? We have come o - ver a  
 path, we pray. Lest our feet stray from the



faith that the harsh past has taught us, Sing a song full of the  
 way that with tears has been wa - tered, We have come, tread - ing our  
 plac - es, our God, where we met you, Lest our hearts, drunk with the



hope that the pres - ent has brought us; Fac - ing the  
 path through the blood of the slaugh - tered, Out from the  
 wine of the world, for - get you; Shad - owed be -



ris - ing sun of our new day be - gun, let us march  
 gloom - y past, till now we stand at last where the white  
 neath your hand, may we for - ev - er stand, true to our



on till vic - to - ry is won.  
 gleam of our bright star is cast.  
 God, true to our na - tive land.



# ***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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