

Federated Church

OF SYCAMORE

United Church of Christ + Unitarian Universalist Association



EASTER

CHRIST IS RISEN!



A SEASON OF
RESURRECTION

***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 | April 30, 2023, 10:00 am

All music can be found at the back of the bulletin.

We invite you to say "Hi" in the comments and like the video to let us know you're here.

*Please join in reading those parts printed in **bold**.*

Prelude

Welcome

Passing the Peace

Gathering Hymn "Sing a New World into Being" (p.3)

Centering Moment

Sharing Prayers of Joy & For Healing

*"The church Called Out Ones are the Body of Christ,
the fullness of the One who fills all in all" ~ Ephesians 1:23*

"Christ has no body now but yours. No hands, no feet on earth but yours. Yours are the eyes through which he looks compassion on this world. Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good. Yours are the hands through which he blesses all the world. Yours are the hands, yours are the feet, yours are the eyes, you are his body. Christ has no body now on earth but yours." ~ Teresa of Avila (16th century)

How does being "called out" to be "the Body of Christ" — reaching out to bless, listen to, love, and walk/work for justice alongside others as an extension of Jesus' very body — change the way you think about "church" or what it means to "be the church"?

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 "Christ Has No Body Now But Yours" (p.3)

Scripture

[John 10:1-10](#); [Acts 2:42-47](#)

Sermon

“I Believe in the Resurrection of the Body”

Musical Meditation**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 Hymn

“Community of Christ” (p.4)

Benediction**Postlude**

Thank you for joining us for worship today!

† † †

WORSHIP NOTES

Serving us this morning are:

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

Liturgist: Sheldon Turner | **Ushers:** Alice Whitney and Nate & Pam Kitterman.

Ushers for Sunday, May 7: Pam Wagener, Chris Borresen and Skip Schramer.

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

“Sing a New World into Being”

Mary Louise Bringle



1. Sing a new world in - to be - ing. Sound a bold and hope - ful theme.
2. Sing a new world in - to be - ing where each gen - der class and race
3. Sing a new world in - to be - ing where the home - less find a home.
4. Sing a new world in - to be - ing. Join the an - cient proph - ets' cry



Find a tune for si - lent year - ings. Lend your voice and dare to dream:
brings its rain - bow gifts and col - ors to God's lim - it - less em - brace;
where no chil - dren ev - er hun - ger but are filled with God's sha - lom;
for a time of health and plen - ty when all tears have been wiped dry;



dream a church where all who wor - ship find their lives and loves be - long.
where the lines that once di - vi - ded form in - stead the ties that bind.
where all peo - ple work for jus - tice, where all hate and vengeance cease.
when com - pas - sion flows like wa - ters, pour - ing balm for all who grieve.



Sing a new world in - to be - ing. Sing as Christ in - spires your song!
Sing a new world in - to be - ing: risk trans - form - ing heart and mind!
Sing a new world in - to be - ing: raise the har - mo - nies of peace.
Sing a new world in - to be - ing: live the prom - ise you be - lieve!

“Christ Has No Body Now but Yours”

David Ogden



Christ has no bo - dy now but yours. No hands, no feet on earth but yours.



Yours are the eyes with which He sees. Yours are the feet with which He



walks. Yours are the hands with which He bles - ses all the world. Yours are the hands.

“Community of Christ”

Shirley Erena Murray



1 Com - mu - ni - ty of Christ, who make the Cross your own,
2 Com - mu - ni - ty of Christ, look past the church's door
3 Com - mu - ni - ty of Christ, through whom the word must sound—
4 When men-ace melts a - way, so shall God's will be done,



live out your creed and risk your life for God a - lone:
and see the ref - u - gee, the hun - gry, and the poor.
cry out for jus - tice and for peace the whole world 'round:
the cli - mate of the world be peace and Christ its Sun;



The God who wears your face, to whom all worlds be - long,
Take hands with the op - pressed, the job - less in your street,
Dis - arm the powers that war and all that can de - stroy,
Our cur - ren - cy be love and kind - li - ness our law,



whose chil - dren are of ev - ery race and ev - ery song.
take towel and wa - ter, that you wash your neigh - bor's feet.
turn bombs to bread, and tears of an - guish in - to joy.
our food and faith be shared as one for ev - er - more.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

April's Love Offering is for *The Federated Church Preschool*, which will be adding a fourth classroom in fall 2023 in order offer full-time childcare here in Sycamore. There is a huge shortage of full-time, full-day childcare. We want to support our local families so that they can work knowing their children are safe in our care. We already have 15 kids (out of 32 openings) signed up and the additional spots will fill up quickly!

Now, we need furniture for this fourth classroom: tables, chairs, shelves, dramatic play items, an art easel, and a sand and water table. These items are required by DCFS, our state licensing body. **We need to raise \$10,000 more to fully supply/open this.** We cannot thank Federated Church enough for all your assistance as we venture into going to full-time care!

Donations in any amount are welcome and can be placed in the "offering" plate or mailed to the church office. Be sure to write "preschool" in the memo section of checks. Or, we encourage you to give through Give DeKalb County, which will be taking place on Thursday, May 4. Donation forms can be found in Dutton Hall and can be returned anytime next week before the 4th, or you can give online on the 4th.

— *Bobbi Clough, Director of Federated Preschool*

Thrift Sale | *Donation drop-off: 5/14–5/19 | Set-up: Fri, 5/19 | Sale: Sat. 5/20, 9am-1pm*

The Thrift Sale and concurrent plant sale are just around the corner! Please Note:

Donations such as housewares, clothing, accessories, jewelry, linens, books and small appliances can be brought to the Youth Room.

Volunteers are needed for: Setup: during the day and evening on Fri, May 19th (we are usually finished by 8pm). Clean-up: beginning at 1pm immediately following sale (we're usually finished by 3pm).

Sign-up sheets *to fill in times when you can help are on the dividers in Dutton Hall*
Many hands make light work! Please join us!

See weekly enews for more info, including a more detailed note about what items will be/not be accepted.

— *Phil Wagener, sale leader*

Online Giving is now live! Whether it's your weekly, monthly, or quarterly pledge, a one-time or recurring donation, or a contribution to a specific fund (e.g. roof fundraiser, monthly LOVE Offering, etc.), you can now do that simply and securely through our online platform. Scan the QR code with your phone camera to get started, or see the weekly Enews for a web-browser link! *Contact the church office with questions.*



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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