

THE
Federated Church
OF SYCAMORE



**A Congregation of the
United Church of Christ &
Unitarian Universalist Association**

***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? 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 these times of deep division, vitriolic rhetoric, and violence against people over issues of race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, immigration status, disability, and mental health, Federated Church has formally adopted two covenants guiding our life together:

We 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.

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.

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 26, 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

“Cornerstone”

arr. Lloyd Larson

Welcome & Passing the Peace

We invite you to like the video and/or say “Hi!” in the comments to let us know you’re here.

Gathering Song “For the Beauty of the Earth” (p.3)

Prayers of the People

Centering Moment

This is your time to center more deeply into the presence of God/Love. Take a slow, deep breath. Open your heart and mind to receive this meditation. Notice the images or phrases that stay with you. Remain present & curious to the feelings that arise in you.

Visual Meditation

*“Earth as the Original Icon”**

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.**

Sung Meditation “As the Moon” (p.3)

Scripture [Isaiah 65:17-25; Revelation 21:1-6](#)

Sermon “The Resurrection of All Creation”

Sung Response “We Celebrate the Web of Life” vv. 1-3 (p.4)

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 Song “We Cannot Own the Sunlit Sky” (p.5)

***Benediction**

Postlude “With a Heart at Thanksgiving” *Howard Helvey*
Thank you for joining us for worship today!

† † †

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 | **Children’s Ministry Support:** Khat Hetland
Liturgist: Catherine Amber Beery | **Ushers:** Paula von Ende and Bev & Skip Schramer
Ushers for Sunday, May 3: Pam Wagener, and Chris Borresen
All music is used with permission: CCLI Copyright: #3234671; CCLI Streaming: #22467093
** The Visual Meditation is produced by The Work of the People; used with permission.*

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.*

"For the Beauty of the Earth" by F. Pierpoint / M. T. Winter



1 For the beau-ty of the earth, for the splen-dor of the skies,
 2 For the won-der of each hour of the day and of the night,
 3 For the joy of hu-man love, broth-er, sis-ter, par-ent, child,
 4 For the good that love in-spires, for a world where none ex-clude,



For the love which from our birth o-ver and a-round us lies,
 Hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light,
 Friends on earth, and friends a-bove, for all gen-tle thoughts and mild,
 For a faith that nev-er tires, and for ev-ery heart re-newed,

Refrain

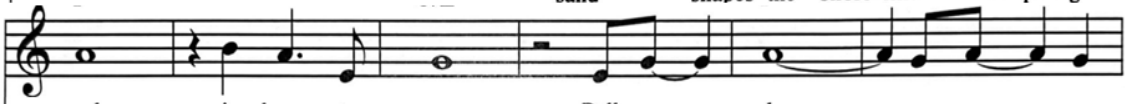


God of all, to you we raise this our hymn of grate-ful praise.

"As the Moon" by Christopher Grundy



As the moon pulls the o-cean so my
 tide rocks the beach-es lift-ing
 sand shapes the shore-line sculpt-ing



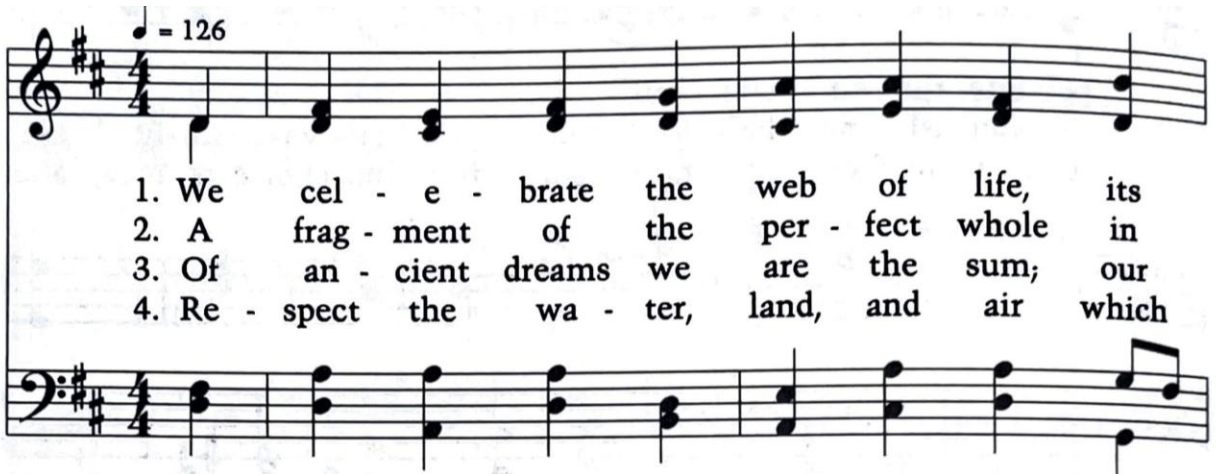
soul is drawn to you. Pull me clo-ser as you
 sand as it rolls through, lift us up in-to your
 all the lands a-new, we will shape the world you're



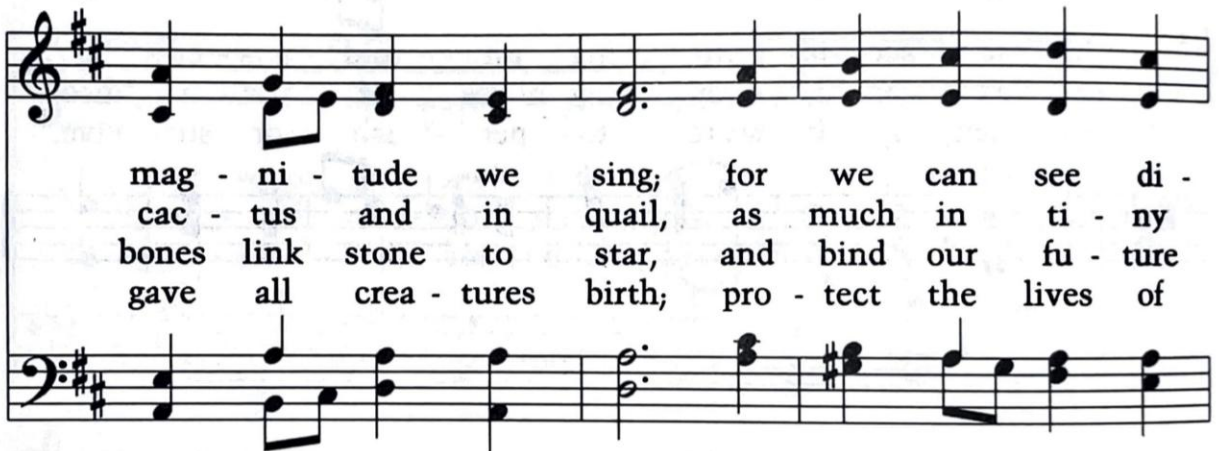
cir-cle; I will fall and rise with you and rise with you
 danc-ing. We will rise and dance with you and dance with you
 dreaming, danc-ing with the ris-ing moon the ris-ing moon

"We Celebrate the Web of Life" by Alicia S. Carpenter

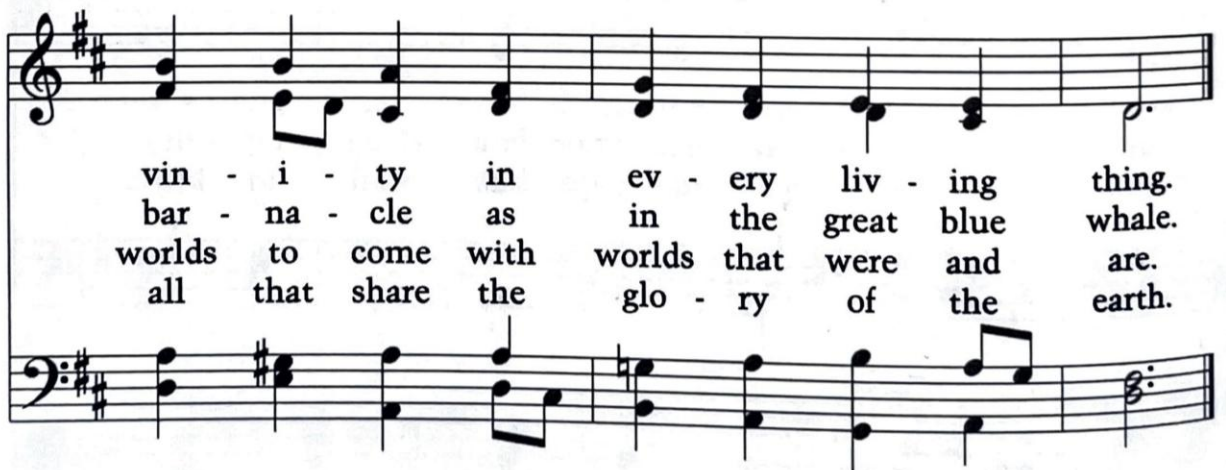
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1. We cel - e - brate the web of life, its
2. A frag - ment of the per - fect whole in
3. Of an - cient dreams we are the sum; our
4. Re - spect the wa - ter, land, and air which



mag - ni - tude we sing; for we can see di -
cac - tus and in quail, as much in ti - ny
bones link stone to star, and bind our fu - ture
gave all crea - tures birth; pro - tect the lives of



vin - i - ty in ev - ery liv - ing thing.
bar - na - cle as in the great blue whale.
worlds to come with worlds that were and are.
all that share the glo - ry of the earth.

“We Cannot Own the Sunlit Sky” by Ruth Duck



1 We can - not own the sun - lit sky, the moon, the wild - flowers
2 When bod - ies shiv - er in the night and, wea - ry, wait for
3 God calls hu - man - i - ty to join as part - ners in cre -



grow - ing, for we are part of all that is with -
morn - ing, when chil - dren have no bread but tears, and
a - ting a fu - ture free from want or fear, life's



in life's riv - er flow - ing. With o - pen hands re -
war - horns sound their warn - ing, God calls hu - man - i -
good - ness cel - e - brat - ing. That new world beck - ons



ceive and share the gifts of God's cre - a - tion, that
ty to wake, to join in com - mon la - bor, that
from a - far, in - vites our shared en - deav - or, that



all may have a - bun - dant life in ev - ery earth - ly na - tion.
all may have a - bun - dant life in one - ness with their neigh - bor.
all may have a - bun - dant life and peace en - dure for - ev - er.

CALENDAR: AT A GLANCE

Federated 101 | Today, following worship, Settle Room

Join Pastor Eric and others newer to Federated to learn more about who we are, what we believe, and what it means to be a member of Federated. We'll welcome new members in worship on May 3.

Ladies' Night Out | Tues., Apr. 28, 6 PM, Pachamama Peruvian Restaurant

Let us know you can join us by signing up in Dutton Hall.

Birthday/Celebration Cake Kits & Bunco | Sun., 5/3, following worship

Help us with cake kits for area food pantries. Afterwards, we'll play Bunco! Sign-up in Dutton Hall.

Thrift & Plant Sales | Fri. & Sat., May 8 & 9

Now's the time to start setting aside items for our Thrift & Plant Sales! Volunteers needed for Set-up on Thurs., 5/7, & during the sale. Sign-up in Dutton Hall.

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



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 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, immigration, transphobia, poverty, 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.” These conversations connect us to each other and build trust as we commit to accompanying each other—and our neighbors in the wider community—across our differences, and together work toward building a just and loving world 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
Facebook & Instagram:
@FederatedChurchSycamore



www.fedsycamore.org

Church Office Phone: (815) 895-2706 || **Email:** Office@fedsycamore.org

Pastor Eric Cell: (815) 797-2250 || **Email:** RevEric@fedsycamore.org

Director of Children’s Church: Bill O’Hagan

Children’s Ministry Support Staff: Khat Hetland

Federated Church Preschool, Director: Bobbi Clough

Phone: (815) 764-9473 || **Email:** Preschool@fedsycamore.org

Address: 612 W. State Street, Sycamore, IL 60178