

**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 | June 07, 2026, 10:00 am

*Today we will be taking communion. We invite you to participate how ever you're best able. Feel free to use whatever you have for the "bread and cup"—whether it's bread & grape juice or a cookie & coffee. God takes our ordinary offerings, whatever they are, and blesses them as we share them together!*

*All music can be found at the back of the bulletin. Please join in reading those parts printed in **bold**.*

### **Prelude**

"Glorify My Name"

Donn Adkins/arr. M. Hayes

### **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** "As We Gather at Your Table" (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.*

#### **Poetic Meditation**

Psalm 33:1-12

*Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous.*

*Praise befits the upright.*

<sup>2</sup> *Praise the Lord with the lyre; make melody to him with the harp of ten strings.*

<sup>3</sup> *Sing to him a new song; play skillfully on the strings, with loud shouts.*

<sup>4</sup> *For the word of the Lord is upright, and all his work is done in faithfulness.*

<sup>5</sup> *He loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of the steadfast love of the Lord.*

<sup>6</sup> *By the word of the Lord the heavens were made  
and all their host by the breath of his mouth.*

<sup>7</sup> *He gathered the waters of the sea as in a bottle; he put the deeps in storehouses.*

<sup>8</sup> *Let all the earth fear the Lord; let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him,  
<sup>9</sup> for he spoke, and it came to be; he commanded, and it stood firm.*

<sup>10</sup> *The Lord brings the counsel of the nations to nothing;  
he frustrates the plans of the peoples.*

<sup>11</sup> *The counsel of the Lord stands forever, the thoughts of his heart to all generations.*

<sup>12</sup> *Happy is the nation whose God is the Lord,  
the people whom he has chosen as his heritage.*

## **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 Response** "Come and Find the Quiet Center" (p.4)

## **Scripture**

[Hosea 5:15-6:6; Psalm 50:7-15](#)

## **Sermon**

"What Does God Want?"

## **Musical Meditation**

## **Holy Communion**

*We practice an "open table"—everyone is welcome to receive God's gifts. There is no age you must be or dogma you must believe. God meets us where we are—amidst our questions, fears and failures—and offers us nourishment & a blessing on life's journey.*

### **Invitation & Words of Institution**

#### **Sharing Bread & Cup**

#### **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

## **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**

"O God in Whom All Life Begins" (p.5)

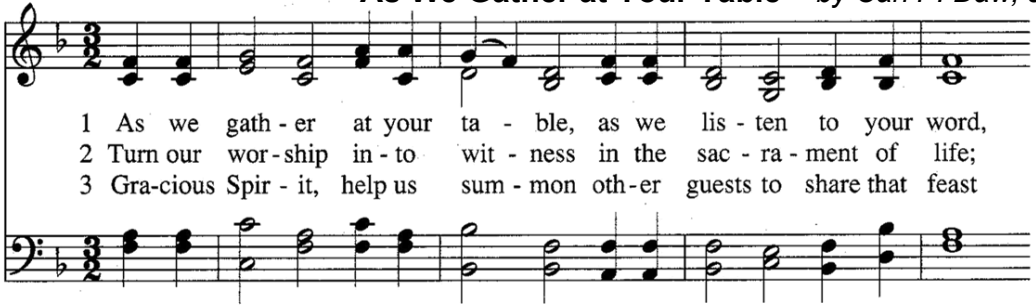
## **Benediction**

## **Postlude**

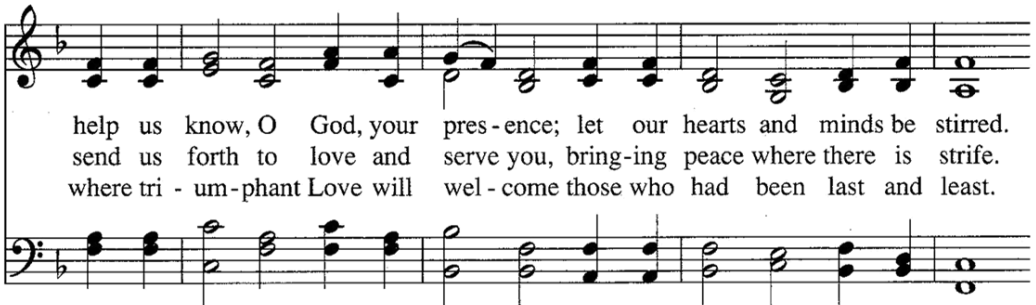
"I Will Call Upon the Lord" M. O'Shields/arr. M. Hayes  
*Thank you for joining us for worship today!*

† † †

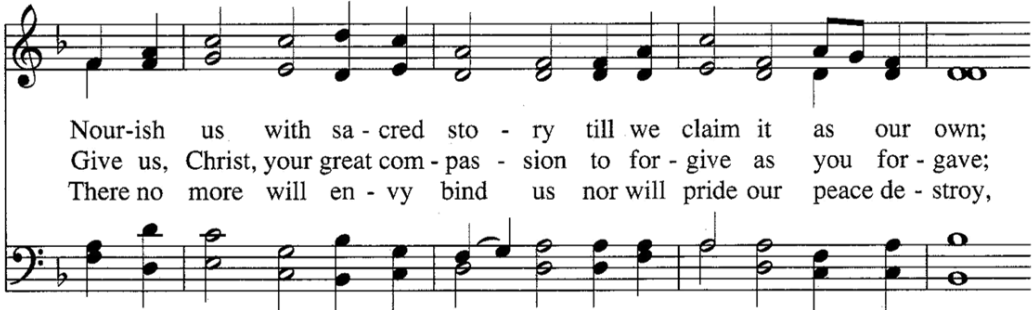
**"As We Gather at Your Table" by Carl P. Daw, Jr.**



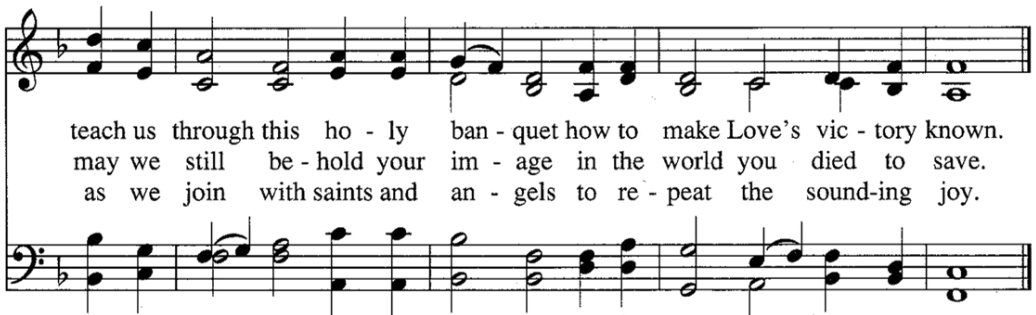
1 As we gath - er at your ta - ble, as we lis - ten to your word,  
2 Turn our wor - ship in - to wit - ness in the sac - ra - ment of life;  
3 Gra - cious Spir - it, help us sum - mon oth - er guests to share that feast



help us know, O God, your pres - ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.  
send us forth to love and serve you, bring - ing peace where there is strife.  
where tri - um - phant Love will wel - come those who had been last and least.



Nour - ish us with sa - cred sto - ry till we claim it as our own;  
Give us, Christ, your great com - pas - sion to for - give as you for - gave;  
There no more will en - vy bind us nor will pride our peace de - stroy,



teach us through this ho - ly ban - quet how to make Love's vic - tory known.  
may we still be - hold your im - age in the world you died to save.  
as we join with saints and an - gels to re - peat the sound - ing joy.

## “Come and Find the Quiet Center” by Shirley Erena Murray

1. Come and find the quiet center in the crowded life we lead, find the  
2. Silence is a friend who claims us, cools the heat and slows the pace, God it  
3. In the Spirit let us travel, open to each other's pain, let our  
room for hope to enter, find the frame where we are freed: Clear the  
is who speaks and names us, knows our being, touches grace, mak - ing  
loves and fears unravel, celebrate the space we gain: There's a  
cha - os and the clutter, clear our eyes that we can see all the  
space with - in our think - ing, lift - ing shades to show the sun, rais - ing  
place for deep - est dream - ing, there's a time for heart to care, in the  
things that real - ly mat - ter, be at peace, and sim - ply be.  
cour - age when we're shrink - ing, find - ing scope for faith be - gun.  
Spir - it's live - ly schem - ing, there is al - ways room to spare.

## 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.*

## WORSHIP NOTES

*Serving us this morning:*

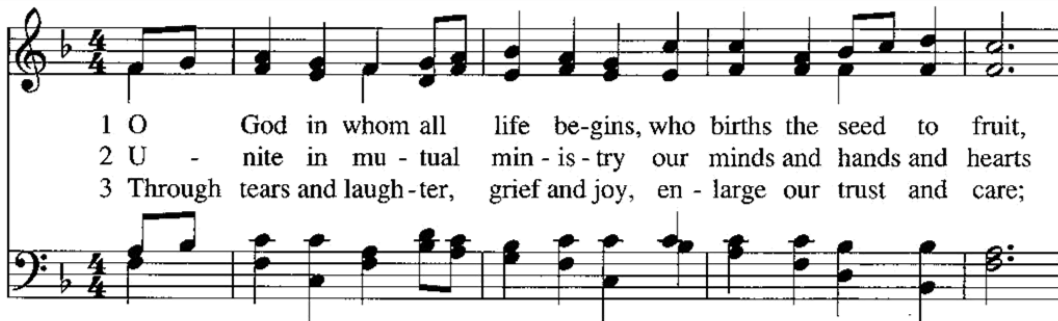
While Pastor Eric is on Parental Leave, we are grateful to be led in worship this Sunday by Rev. Michael Carlson (he/him), who has served as both a local church pastor and as a Music Director. He most recently served as the Director of Music and Creative Arts at Salem Lutheran Church in Sycamore. He is also a music performer and recording artist!

**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:** Phil Wagener | **Ushers:** Pam Wagener, Chris Borresen

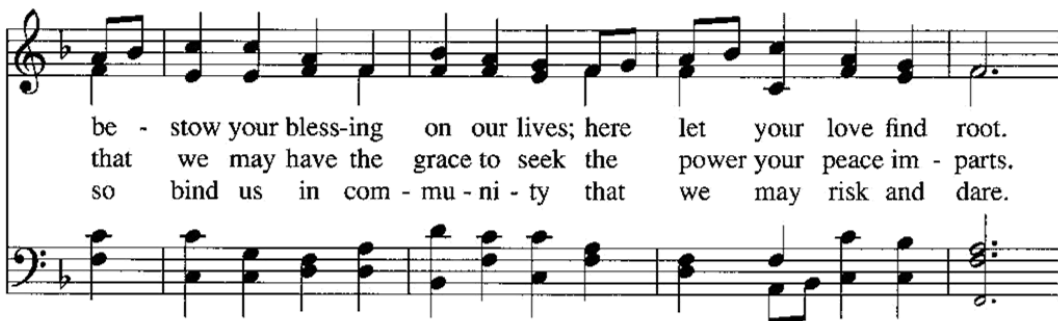
*Ushers for Sunday, June 10: Gip Seaver, Ruth Olle*

*All music is used with permission: CCLI Copyright: #3234671; CCLI Streaming: #22467093*

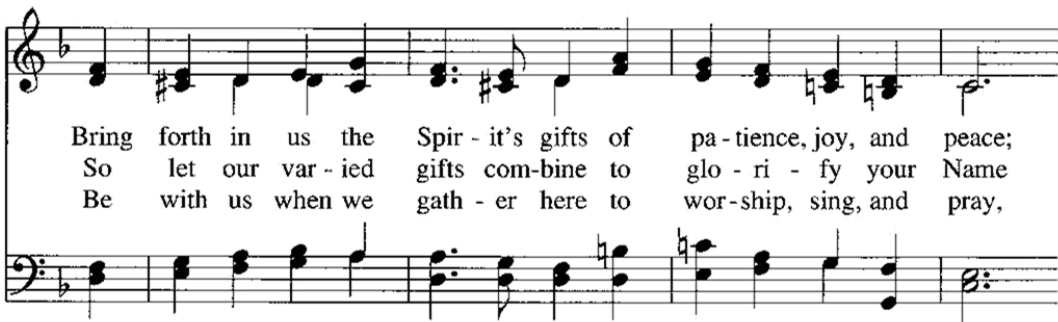
**"O God in Whom All Life Begins" by Carl P. Daw, Jr.**



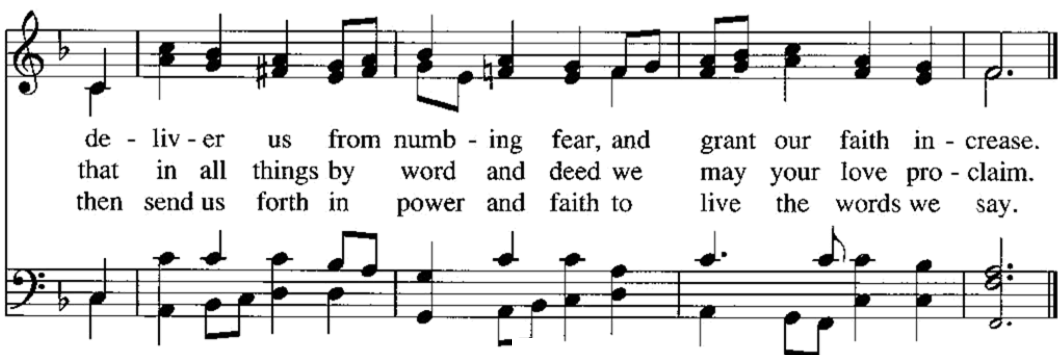
1 O God in whom all life be-gins, who births the seed to fruit,  
2 U - nite in mu - tual min - is - try our minds and hands and hearts  
3 Through tears and laugh - ter, grief and joy, en - large our trust and care;



be - stow your bless - ing on our lives; here let your love find root.  
that we may have the grace to seek the power your peace im - parts.  
so bind us in com - mu - ni - ty that we may risk and dare.



Bring forth in us the Spir - it's gifts of pa - tience, joy, and peace;  
So let our var - ied gifts com - bine to glo - ri - fy your Name  
Be with us when we gath - er here to wor - ship, sing, and pray,



de - liv - er us from numb - ing fear, and grant our faith in - crease.  
that in all things by word and deed we may your love pro - claim.  
then send us forth in power and faith to live the words we say.

# PASTOR ERIC'S PARENTAL LEAVE

*Through Sunday, July 19*

Important information while Pastor Eric is away on parental leave.

## Congregational Care

During Pastor Eric's Parental Leave, if there is a specific prayer request or concern, please reach out to one of the leaders of our Caring Ministry: Suzanne Juday (Suzanne.Juday@idealindustries.com), Karen Hamingson (khamingson@gmail.com), Linda Babcock (lindambabcock@gmail.com), Pam Kitterman (hospicesis@comcast.net), Deb Paulin (DJPaulin826@gmail.com), and Malorie Nelson (malnel606@hotmail.com). They will do their best to connect people to a support person and make sure every care need gets met.

In case of Pastoral Emergency, once you reach out to a member of the Caring Ministry, they will be in touch with Pastor Eric directly. If Pastor Eric is unable to meet emergency needs during his leave, Pastor John Dorhauer of First Congregational UCC in DeKalb will be available. Pastor John also provided emergency spiritual care coverage for Pastor Eric last summer during his sabbatical.

## Church Leadership

Our Moderator Team: Gip Seaver, Moderator, (gipseaver@gmail.com); Chris Borresen, Past Moderator, (cboressen@gmail.com); and Bill O'Hagan, Assoc. Moderator, (misterohagan@gmail.com), along with the Leadership Board will continue providing leadership during Pastor Eric's leave. Please reach out to one of them if you have any questions or concerns related to the ministries and happenings of the church. If they are unable to answer your question, they will point you in the right direction!

## CALENDAR: AT A GLANCE

### **Solar Informational Post-Service Conversation** | *Today, after worship*

Please join the Leadership Board for a post-service presentation and conversation around the financial approach to the solar project.

### **Pride Fest & March 2026** | *Sat., June 20, 4-7PM, Van Buer Plaza, DeKalb*

We'll once again have a booth at DeKalb County Pride Fest and March (Sat., June 20). See Bill O'Hagan or Sarah Hetland if interested in helping plan or represent Federated!

## **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](http://www.fedsycamore.org)**

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

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

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