

April 28, 2024



federated

*live your faith*

**"Abide in Me as I Abide in You"**

John 15:1-8

Rev. Hamilton Throckmorton

**Gathered at Federated Church: 76 Bell Street  
Chagrin Falls, OH 44022**

Also streaming live at [YouTube.com/TheFederatedChurch](https://YouTube.com/TheFederatedChurch)



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April 28, 2024

Reception of New Members

10 AM

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*Chimes indicate the service is starting, and silence is appreciated to prepare for worship.*

**Prelude**                      *Fall in Love with the Earth* (K. Medema)                      RISE to Shine Band

**Welcome and Announcements**                      Rev. Hamilton Throckmorton

\* **Call to Worship** (*responsive*)                      Rev. Throckmorton

One: We are branches, rooted in the vine of Christ.

**All: We come because we seek to abide in Christ.**

One: The branches that remain in the vine bear much fruit.

**All: We come because we long to be spiritually vibrant.**

One: When we abide in Christ, Christ's words abide in us.

**All: We come because we strive to be faithful disciples.**

One: We gather for worship now to the glory of God: Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer.

**All: May we grow wildly as God tends us lovingly.**

\* **Passing of Christ's Peace**  
(Children in K-8 leave for Sunday School)

\* **Hymn**                      *You Are Welcome Here*                      [Words on Screen]

**Opening Prayer** (*unison*)                      Rev. Betsy Wooster

Jesus, friend and brother,  
you taught us to abide in your generous love,  
for it completes our lives and gives us joy;  
you ask us to love others as you have loved us,  
for it brings your creation to fruition.

Grant us strength to live bravely this way,  
by finding peace and rest as your branches,  
and by sharing our fruit to help others grow.

We thank you for the privilege this is—  
to serve the world in your name. Amen.

**Generosity Impact Moment**

Rev. Wooster

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\* Those who are able stand

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## Affirmation of Creation Care (unison)

Rev. Wooster

**We see God's generosity in the glory of creation and the natural resources God has provided. We acknowledge and accept our role in caring for the Earth and its people. We affirm that all of creation is a gift from God and, as God's children, we are called to make living life on this gift we call Earth safe and healthy for all people, plants, and animals everywhere. We show our gratefulness for God when we show love to the Earth.**

## Invitation to Generosity

Rev. Wooster

## Anthem

*Abide with Me* (Matt Maher)

RISE to Shine Band

- \* **Doxology** *Halle-Halle-Halleluja*  
**Halle, Halle, Halleluja** (x3)  
**Halleluja, Halleluja**

No. 41

- \* **Prayer of Dedication**

Rev. Throckmorton

## Prayers of Thanksgiving and Fellowship of Prayer Lord's Prayer

Rev. Wooster

- \* **Hymn** *Many Are the Lightbeams*

No. 492

## Scripture

John 15:1-8

Rev. Throckmorton

## Sermon

Rev. Throckmorton

## Reception of New Members

Rev. Throckmorton and Rev. Wooster

**Leader:** Our sisters and brothers, God's promises to you are plain. God has made them plain in Christ. God loves you unconditionally.

**New Members:** Gladly I commit myself to God and to the life and mission of Federated Church. I will take for my own life the words of Christ: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, and mind, and your neighbor as yourself."

**Leader:** Behind you and around you are God's people, a family which is God's gift to you. In the presence of God and these friends, do you give yourself unreservedly to God's service, and take this to be your family of faith?

**New Members:** Yes, I do! I promise to walk with them in faithfulness and Christian



This Sanctuary is equipped with a **Hearing Loop system** that works with all **Telecoil-equipped hearing aids** to amplify sound with excellent clarity.

love. And I promise that, so far as able, I will attend the services of this church, celebrate its sacraments, become an informed, mature Christian, and be generous in all my giving.

**Leader:** Beyond these walls awaits a community hungry for hope, a world starving for bread and justice and peace.

**New Members:** I believe God is in the process of saving the world. I will join God outside these walls, offering Christ’s healing and hope to change the world.

**Leader:** Members of the church, what do you say?

**\* Members:** Dear friends, we stand beside you today. We believe with you. We share your doubts. We choose to live the way of Jesus with you. We ask that the Holy Spirit may touch us, disturb us, heal us, enliven us, send us and create such joy among us that the world may say, “Behold how they love one another!”

**\* Laying on of Hands and Prayer of Dedication**

Stephen Behmlander

Joan Johnson

Darren Wyville

Kimberly Craig

Walker Johnson

Lynn Wyville

Owen Foster

Barbara Robertson

Toni Foster

Marilyn Wise

**Introductions and Welcome**

**\* Hymn** *Called as Partners in Christ’s Service* No. 453

**\* Benediction** Rev. Throckmorton

**Postlude** *Your Nature* (Kari Jobe) RISE to Shine Band

*~ Departing to Service ~*

**UPCOMING WORSHIP**

**Sunday, May 5, 10 AM**

Rev. Betsy Wooster preaches

John 15:9:1-7;

“I Have Called You Friends”

*If you do not wish to take it home, please recycle your bulletin in the recycling bin in the narthex on your way out.*