



# THE FEDERATED CHURCH

Sunday Morning Worship Services at 9:30 a.m.  
Thursday Evening Worship Services at 6:30 p.m.



## WELCOME TO FEDERATED CHURCH!

We are called *Federated* because on July 2, 1914, Columbus' Congregational church (now the United Church of Christ) and Presbyterian church joined in an effort to serve as one congregation. **Our faithful federation continues to this day!**

**New to Federated? Please let us know on a "Visitors Card" & in a red Friendship Folder.** Children are welcome in worship at Federated Church. The Library & "Cry Room" at the back of the Sanctuary is child friendly and include Sanctuary sound. **Children's Activity Bags are at the Sanctuary entrance.** Sunday child care is in the Nursery.

**Ushers tonight are here to help:** Don Anderson, Georgia & Rod Behlen, Anita Hahn, Barb & Marv Zoucha, and Denny Vollbracht. Hearing assistance devices & large print hymnals are available.

**For Prayer Chain** requests, call the Church Office (402) 564-2812. The Order of St. Andrew starts each Prayer Chain, which are strictly confidential.

**Videos & bulletins** of worship services are at [www.federatedcolumbus.org](http://www.federatedcolumbus.org).

**In the event of a pastoral emergency,** the pastors can be contact on their cell phones. Annika: (402) 942-1636  
Edward: (402) 302-2812



**7:00 & 11:00 p.m. Christmas Eve, December 24, 2016**

2704 15th Street P.O. Box 564 Columbus, Nebraska 68602  
(402) 564-2812 [www.federatedcolumbus.org](http://www.federatedcolumbus.org)

# CHRISTMAS EVE COMMUNION AND CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

## WE PREPARE FOR GOD'S WORD

PRELUDE

*Sussex Carol*  
*Angels We Have Heard on High*  
Lee Augustin, Organ & Piano

ENGLISH CAROL  
FRENCH CAROL

WELCOME TO WORSHIP (*Please pass the Friendship Folders to your neighbors.*)

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

The Meyer Family (7:00)

### \* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

One: The darkness is gone; the Light of the World is here!

**All: Our hope, our preparation, our joy, and our love are brought together this night in a humble stable. We welcome Christ!**

One: We give thanks for Emmanuel, God with us.

**All: Let us worship God!**

\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN NO. 41

*O, Come All Ye Faithful*

### PRAYER OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION

Congregation: **O God of love, you bring us together tonight and bless us with your presence. Open our eyes to the light of Christ, which glows in the darkness of a world engulfed in confusion, pain, and loss. Speak to us now, that we may hear the good news of your redeeming grace. Fill us with your light to carry with us into our lives. Amen.**

## WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

LESSON

THE BOOK OF THE PROPHET ISAIAH 9: 2-7

HYMN No. 25

*Away in a Manger* (*please remain seated*)

LESSON

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE 2: 1-7

\* HYMN No. 44

*O Little Town of Bethlehem* (verses 1 & 2)

LESSON

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE 2: 8-14

CHORAL ANTHEM (7:00)

*Hark, the Herald Angels Sing*  
Bob Arp, Director

ARR. J. RANEY

\* HYMN (11:00)

*Hark, the Herald Angels Sing*

*Hark the herald angels sing, glory to the newborn king.*

*Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled. Joyful all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies, with angelic hosts proclaim, Christ is born in Bethlehem.*

*Hark the herald angels sing, glory to the newborn king.*

LESSON

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE 2: 15-20

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE Annika Lister Stroope, Sr. Pastor (7:00) and Edward Yang, Assoc. Pastor (11:00)

\* *Please rise as you are able, in body or in spirit.*

## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

### MOMENT FOR SILENT REFLECTION

#### \* HYMN NO. 40

*Joy to the World* (verses 1 & 2)

#### INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

#### OFFERTORY

Noel Nouvelet

ARR. WOOD

#### \* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

One: O God of all blessings,

**All: we give you our heartfelt thanks for all that you have given us, and ask that you accept the gifts we give back to you: our time, talent, and possessions.**

One: Tonight we especially remember your extraordinary gift of yourself, Christ Jesus.

**All: As you have shown mercy and love to us, grant that we may show the same to everyone we meet. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

#### \*HYMN

*It Came Upon the Midnight Clear*

*It came upon the midnight clear, That glorious song of old,  
From angels bending near the earth, To touch their harps of gold;  
"Peace on the earth, good will to all, From heaven's all gracious King":  
The world in solemn stillness lay, To hear the angels sing.*

*And ye, beneath life's crushing load, Whose forms are bending low,  
Who toil along the climbing way With painful steps and slow,  
Look now! For glad and golden hours Come swiftly on the wing:  
O rest beside the weary road, And hear the angels sing.*

### THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

#### Invitation to the Lord's Table

#### Christmas Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer

The Rev. Dr. S. Edward Yang

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.

#### Words of Institution and Communion of God's People

*If you are new to Federated: Congregants are served communion in the pews. After receiving the bread and cup, please hold each in order to partake together. Federated celebrates an open table, meaning all who trust in Christ are welcome to receive communion. Children are welcome to receive communion at Federated. Parents and guardians may serve children as part of the family's on-going conversations about faith. Only grape juice is served for communion, though the service sometimes refers to "wine."*

*Gluten-free wafers are at the center of bread trays. After partaking, please place cups in pew holders.*

#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

One: O God, May the bread and cup of Christ nourish us in hope, faith, and love,

**All: Amen.**

One: O God, instill in us the need to share this feast as we go forth from this table.

**All: Amen.**

One: As night becomes day, as the dark becomes the light, as Word becomes Flesh,

**All: care for us. Bless us. Love us. Now and always. Amen.**

(over, please —> )

**WE ARE SENT WITH GOD'S WORD**

LESSON

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW 2: 4 - 6

**\*CLOSING HYMN & CANDLE LIGHTING**      **Silent Night, Holy Night**

*(Candles are lighted as Silent Night is sung.)*

**Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright, Round yon virgin, mother and child!  
Holy Infant, so tender and mild. Sleep in heavenly peace, Sleep in heavenly peace.**

**Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight, Glories stream from heaven afar,  
Heavenly hosts sing: 'Alleluia; Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born.'**

**Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light Radiant beams from Thy holy face,  
With the dawn of redeeming grace, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.**

**Silent night, holy night, Wondrous star, lend thy light; With the angels let us sing,  
Alleluia to our King; Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born.**

**GREETINGS OF PEACE**

One: Go in Peace to Love and Serve the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

One: As Christ offers us peace and forgiveness, let us offer a sign of that peace to each other.  
The peace of Christ be with you.

**All: And also with you.** *(All share a word of peace.)*

*(Please extinguish candles and place them in a basket near the exit.)*

POSTLUDE

While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks

GERMAN CAROL

**COMING UP AT FEDERATED CHURCH**

**TOMORROW**

*We would be delighted to see you again for worship tomorrow morning,  
Christmas Day, **Sunday, December 25 at 9:30 a.m.***

**Christmas Dinner in the Fellowship Hall**

*Home delivery pick-up at 11:30 a.m. ~ Meal served at 1 p.m.*

**NEXT WEEK**

*Worship Service **Thursday, December 29 at 6:30 p.m.**—the fifth day of Christmas*

*New Year's Day **Sunday, January 1st** Worship Service at 9:30 a.m.*

***Sunday School** resumes on Epiphany Sunday, **January 8th**  
at 10:30 a.m. for Pre-K through High School & at 10:45 a.m. for Adult Education*

**\* Please rise as you are able, in body or in spirit.**

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