

FEDERATED CHURCH



INTO OUR NEW CENTURY IN THE SPIRIT OF CHRIST



Christmas Day, Sunday, December 25, 2015

Welcome to Worship at Federated!

If you are new to Federated, please tell us on a “Visitors Card” & in a red Friendship Folder.

Children are welcome in worship at Federated. Children’s Activity Bags are at the Sanctuary entrance. The Library/“Cry Room” is child friendly. **Child care is available Sundays** in the Nursery.

Hearing assistance devices and large print hymnals are also available. **Ushers are here to help you:** Don Anderson, John McPhail, Linda McPhail, Denny Vollbracht, Tim Warren.

All are welcome to Sunday fellowship after worship, this week hosted by the Personnel Comm.

We are called Federated because on July 2, 1914, Columbus’ Congregational (now the United Church of Christ) and Presbyterian churches joined in an effort to serve as one congregation.

For **Prayer Chain** requests, call the Church Office (402) 564-2812 to call the

Order of St. Andrew to start the prayer chain. The Prayer Chain is strictly confidential.

If you missed worship last week, visit www.federatedcolumbus.org to see videos of worship and bulletins or Channel 99 (HD) at Noon Mondays and Saturdays and Sunday at 8pm.

In case of an emergency, the pastors’ cell phone numbers are:

Annika: (402) 942-1636 / Edward: (402) 302-2812

Governing Council 2016			Clergy and Staff	
Joie Taylor, President • Rick Porter, Vice President Louise Moran, Secretary • Terry Norris, Treasurer			Rev. Dr. Annika Lister Stroope Senior Pastor annika@federatedcolumbus.org	Jim Rains Office Manager jrains@federatedcolumbus.org
<u>Class of 2016</u>	<u>Class of 2017</u>	<u>Class of 2018</u>	Rev. Dr. S. Edward Yang Associate Pastor for Children, Youth, and Families edward@federatedcolumbus.org	Chrissy Ford Bookkeeper & Publications Coord. cford@federatedcolumbus.org
Beth Millard	Chris Dixon	Jeannie Kiser-Jensen	Lee Augustin, Organist	Zach Nickolite, Custodian
Mary Sharpe	Heidi Klevemann	Sharon Kuncel	Bob Arp, Chancel Choir Director	Ashli Porter, Nursery Attendant
Mike Slizoski	Dave Melick	Bill Royer	Stuart Gausman Bell Choir Director	Lay Pastor Antonio Garcia El Buen Pastor Fellowship
Karen Whitney	Nila Novotny			
Kristi Wolfe	Paul Sanderson			

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WE PREPARE FOR GOD'S WORD

The Prelude invites us to begin our time of worship.

PRELUDE

*The Birth of a King
Medley of Bells
Lee Augustin, Piano & Organ*

ARR. WYRTZEN

ARR. WOLAVER

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Rev. Dr. Annika Lister Stroope

Please sign and pass Friendship Folders to your neighbors.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

anonymous text based on Psalm 42 and the Gospel of John

One: We will know him when he comes, not by any din of drums, nor by his manners or his airs,

All: nor by anything he wears. We will know him when he comes, not by his crown,

One: or by his gown, but his coming known shall be by the holy harmony,

All: which his coming makes in thee. We will know him when he comes!

One: Let us worship God.

*OPENING HYMN NO. 28

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION & RECONCILIATION

from the UCC Christmas Offering Guide

All: Holy God, we confess that we are a distracted people and forgetful of your love. We make selfish choices, hurt each other, and perpetuate injustice in your world. We have sinned against you and are deeply sorry. By the power of your Spirit, forgive, restore, and strengthen us to live by your light. *Time for Silent Prayers*

DECLARATION OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

One: Amen. God did not send Christ into the world to condemn the world, but to redeem it.

All: We are a forgiven people. Thanks be to God! Amen.

*RESPONSIVE SONG

Go Tell It on the Mountain

***While shepherds kept their watching O'er silent flocks by night,
Behold throughout the heavens there shone a holy light. Go, tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and everywhere; Go tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born!***

CHILDREN'S SERMON *All children are invited to come forward during the hymn for a special message.*

Prayers of the People and 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.

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

READING & SINGING OF LESSONS AND CAROLS FOR CHRISTMAS DAY

HYMN NO. 48

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

SCRIPTURE LESSON

THE BOOK OF THE PROPHET ISAIAH 52: 7 - 10

Isaiah speaks hope to people in exile ~ Pew Bible Old Testament page 683

HYMN NO. 36

In the Bleak Midwinter

SCRIPTURE LESSON

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE 1: 67 - 80

Zechariah's Song about his son John the Baptist ~ Pew Bible New Testament page 58

****As you are able in body or in spirit, please rise.***

*** HYMN NO. 27**

Gentle Mary Laid Her Child

SCRIPTURE LESSON

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE 1: 46 - 55

Mary's Song, also called "The Magnificat" ~ Pew Bible New Testament page 57

HYMN NO. 37

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

LESSON

View from the Present Promise, A Poem by Thomas Troeger

*** HYMN NO. 23**

Angels We Have Heard on High

SCRIPTURE LESSON

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE 8 - 20

The Birth of Jesus ~ Pew Bible New Testament page 59

HYMN NO. 59

***While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks* (verses 1 - 3)**

SCRIPTURE LESSON

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO JOHN 1: 1 - 12

pew Bible New Testament page 91-92

*** HYMN NO. 59**

***While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks* (verses 4 - 6)**

LESSON

excerpt from a Christmas Sermon, by the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

***RESPONSIVE HYMN NO. 31**

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

He Is Born!

ARR. SMITH

***DOXOLOGY** (tune page 592 of the hymnal)

P.M. TESTERMAN

***O Glorious God, to you we bring; Praise, Treasure, Time as Offering;
Come, Holy Spirit, with us dwell; Born is the Christ, Emmanuel. Amen.***

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION (UNISON)**

All: Giver of all gifts, whose holy season fills our hearts with wonder, we dedicate these gifts to you. Bless the offerings we bring, that they may show the world your peace. Amen.

***RESPONSIVE HYMN**

***Down in a lowly manger, the humble Christ was born,
And God sent us salvation, that blessed Christmas morn, Go, tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and everywhere; Go tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born!***

***BLESSING AND SENDING FORTH**

***THE PASSING OF THE PEACE**

One: We celebrate the Prince of Peace: the peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Please greet one another with a sign of peace.

All are invited to rise as you are able in body or in spirit to greet those around you.

POSTLUDE

I Saw Three Ships

ARR. WOOD

***After Passing the Peace and praising God with the Postlude,
all are welcome to Sunday fellowship with refreshments at Café La Fed.***

****As you are able in body or in spirit, please rise.***

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In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria.

All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David.

Joseph went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child.

And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified.

But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah,* the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.'

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!'

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.'

So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them.

But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

— Luke 2:1-20