

# FEDERATED CHURCH



**Mission Statement:**

*We are called to nurture a growing relationship with God by following the example of Jesus Christ.*



## 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent and Communion



**Thursday, December 3 & Sunday, December 6, 2020**

### **Welcome to Worship at Federated!**

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

Prayer requests can be shared with the Church Office (402) 564-2812 to initiate a Prayer Chain with the Order of St. Andrew. The Prayer Chain is strictly confidential.

**If you missed worship last week**, visit [www.federatedcolumbus.org](http://www.federatedcolumbus.org) for videos of worship and bulletins, and on TV: Spectrum Channel 1304 (HD) Mondays 11:55am, Saturdays 11:55am and Sundays 7:55pm.

**In case of an emergency, Pastor Edward's cell phone is (402) 302-2812.**

Governing Council 2020 - Federated Church Elders			Federated Church Clergy and Staff	
Marcia Grant, <i>President</i> (402-276-1428 ) Tim Warren, <i>Vice President</i> Louise Moran, <i>Secretary</i>			Rev. Edward Yang, Ph.D. <i>Acting Head of Staff &amp; Associate Pastor for CYF</i> <a href="mailto:edward@federatedcolumbus.org">edward@federatedcolumbus.org</a>	
<i>Class of 2020</i> <i>Class of 2021</i> <i>Class of 2022</i>			Brenda Sand <i>Temp. Christian Education Director</i> <a href="mailto:brenda@federatedcolumbus.org">brenda@federatedcolumbus.org</a>	
Linda Wheatley	Gene Hahn	John McClure	Lee Augustin, <i>Organist</i>	
Doug Williams	Marv Zoucha	Renee Norris		
Steve McClure		Alison Wagner	Bob Arp, <i>Chancel Choir Director</i>	
<i>Financial Administrators:</i>	Donna Augspurger	Robin Lehr		
	Terry Millard	Terry Norris	Stuart Gausman <i>Bell Choir Director</i>	
			Lay Pastor Antonio Garcia <i>El Buen Pastor Fellowship</i>	

## JOYS & CONCERNS

- ◆ If you have any joys or concerns, please share with the congregation by informing the office.
- ◆ Pray for the family of Gail Mead, who passed away, Friday, November 20, 2020.
- ◆ Pray for the Staff Planning Committee as they finalize their work. Members are listed in announcement below.
- ◆ Please pray for Rosie Heinisch, who has been diagnosed with ALL (*Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia*) and is currently receiving chemotherapy treatment.
- ◆ Pray for Enrique Abrego (brother of Jesse and Marilyn Abrego) who is in serious condition with a brain injury.
- ◆ Pray for all who are battling cancer and other life threatening diseases.
- ◆ Pray for individuals and families affected by COVID-19.
- ◆ From Homestead Presbytery: **Laurel**  
Being church in a year when gathering in space carries with it the risk of infection by a potentially deadly virus requires an extra measure of energy, intelligence, imagination and love. Please pray that we find ways to remain hopeful and united as we discern God's direction and seek to follow God's way into and through 2021.

**With the Mission Study Committee** completing their work, the next phase (which has already started) is the Staff Planning Committee. The members of this committee, who include Doug Williams (Chair), Bob Arp, Deb Curry, Marcia Grant, Cola Hahn, Kathy Leischner, Tim Warren, Linda Wheatley and Marv Zoucha, agree their work should be finalized quickly. Once the staffing plan is done, the PNC (Pastor Nominating Committee) will be elected at the February 2021 Annual Congregational Meeting. If you are interested in serving on the PNC, please contact Marcia Grant or Tim Warren.

**ADULT COAT DRIVE** - Social Concerns and Missions Committee will be holding an adult coat drive over the next several weeks. They are requesting gently used, recently cleaned adult coats which will be distributed by the Rescue Mission. There is a coat rack available in the Narthex to place coats there.

**OPERATION EDUCATION -DONUTS FOR DANDORA** - Once again this year, we are making homemade BAKED donuts to help educate those children in poverty who would not otherwise be able to go to school. The donuts will be available in the Narthex on Sunday, December 6th. We will gladly accept a free will offering, or if you wish, just help yourself to a box as a thank you for your generous donations for the sack lunch we made in October. If you would like donuts but do not feel safe coming to church, just email Julie or Katie and we will happily deliver them to you.

## THIS WEEK AT FEDERATED CHURCH

- Sunday, December 6** (2nd Sunday of Advent)  
9:00am Education Hour, Ed Center & Upper Room  
10:00am Sunday Worship Service, Sanctuary
- Monday, December 7**  
5:15pm Order of St. Andrew Meeting, EC 4
- Tuesday, December 8**  
1:00pm Lectionary Bible Study, EC 8 & Zoom  
7:00pm Cub Scouts Pack 279, Fellowship Hall
- Wednesday, December 9**  
10:00am Staff Meeting, AD 2  
2:00pm Worship Planning Meeting, EC 8  
4:30pm Lectionary Bible Study, Zoom Meeting  
6:30pm Youth Club, Upper Room
- Thursday, December 10**  
6:30pm Worship Service, Sanctuary
- Friday, December 11** No events
- Saturday, December 12** No events
- Sunday, December 13**  
9:00am Education Hour, Ed Center & Upper Room  
10:00am Sunday Worship Service, Sanctuary

**Our 2021 Stewardship Drive is wrapping up.** We are at **84% of our goal**, so we are in need of a strong finish. If you have not done so already, please send your pledge/contribution card to the Church Office as soon as possible. Thank you for everything you do for Federated Church!  
~Stewardship Committee

## **CANCELLED - ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DINNER FESTIVAL OF TREES**

**Meals on Wheels - Dec. 7-11. Cec Bartholomew will coordinate - 402-564-0264 or 402-276-8193**

**The following motions were made and recognized by Governing Council during the October 2020 meeting:**

- ◆ The Governing Council recognizes with serious concern the COVID pandemic and will continue to follow the safety precautions that have been established for this church. The Governing Council will continue to monitor and follow recommendations of state and local health professionals as well as our denominations, regarding in person services. We will continue to offer a choice of in person or online participation as long as conditions permit.
- ◆ A motion was made, seconded and adopted to open the east narthex doors on Sunday for parking convenience. Ushers will move rope and have hand sanitizer available. In addition, a bulletin containing activities, announcements and Joys and Concerns will be available as you exit the Sanctuary.

# WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3 AND SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2020

2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT AND COMMUNION

Hymns, Songs, Prayers, and liturgies in **Bold** are for the participation of the **Congregation**

## PRELUDE

*O Christmas Tree*  
*O Little Town of Bethlehem*  
*Prepare the Way, O Zion*  
Lee Augustin, Organ and Piano

GERMAN CAROL  
AMERICAN CAROL  
SWEDISH CAROL

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

## LIGHTING OF THE SECOND ADVENT CANDLE

Thursday:  
Sunday: Knoepfle Slizoski Family

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Roger Gench of Presbyterian Outlook

One: Let us hear what the Lord God says, because God speaks peace to the church.

**All: God's salvation is very close to those who honor the Holy One, so that God's glory can live in our land.**

One: Faithful love and truth have met; righteousness and peace have kissed.

**All: Righteousness walks before God, making a road for God's steps.**

One: Let us worship God.

## OPENING SONG

*A Tiny Child Will Come*

BESIG/PRICE

Performed by the Chancel Choir on December 13, 2015

## UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**O God, we confess that far too often we find ourselves stuck, overwhelmed or aimless, trapped by fears and anxieties that paralyze us, constraining our actions. Simple acts of compassion – of connection with others – are enormously difficult. And sometimes anger, even rage, takes us hostage, and we treat others as enemies, failing to discern your beloved image in them. Free us from fear and anger so that we can love without restraint — so that we may be compassionate, as you are compassionate, because we are your children.**

## MOMENT FOR SILENT PRAYER

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Friends, hear the good news of the gospel:

**All: God's grace is stronger than any anger and fear that may hold us in their grip.**

One: God's grace liberates us, freeing us to live in love and compassion.

**All: Thanks be to God who in Christ empowers us to live fully and freely.**

## PASSING THE PEACE

One: With forgiveness, we have peace with God and one another. May the peace of Christ be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

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

## LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

## CHILDREN'S MOMENT (Christmas Video)

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Brenda Sand, Liturgist (Sun.)

## SCRIPTURE READING

ISAIAH 40 : 1 - 11

One: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

HOMILY

**\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: APOSTLES' CREED**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth;

And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty. From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy \*catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

[\*catholic = universal]

**SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**

**INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE**

**GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

**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.

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**COMMUNION OF GOD'S PEOPLE**

**COMMUNION SONG**

*Communion Carol*

TICE/DENGLER

*Performed by the Chancel Choir on December 2, 2018*

**UNISON PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

**INVITATION TO THE OFFERING**

**INSTRUMENTAL DOXOLOGY**

**UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

O God, we offer our gifts to you that may they be used to further the promise of hope, peace, love and justice in our community and in our world. Empower us, O God, to follow these gifts into our community and world so that they, and we, may become bearers of peace, love and justice on the earth. Amen.

**CLOSING SONG**

*He Made A Way In A Manger*  
*iWorship DVD*

BLACK/MERKEL

**BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

*Deck the Hall*

*Welsh Carol*