



# FEDERATED CHURCH

**Thursday, December 9, & Sunday, December 12, 2021**  
**Third Sunday of Advent**

**Mission Statement:**

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

**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's cell phone number is: Edward (402) 302-2812.**

Governing Council 2021 - Federated Church Elders			Federated Church Clergy and Staff	
Tim Warren, President Wayne McCormick, Vice President Louise Moran, Secretary			Rev. Edward Yang, Ph.D., Acting Head of Staff & Associate Pastor for CYF <a href="mailto:edward@federatedcolumbus.org">edward@federatedcolumbus.org</a>	Brenda Sand, Christian Education Director <a href="mailto:brenda@federatedcolumbus.org">brenda@federatedcolumbus.org</a>
<u>Class of 2021</u>	<u>Class of 2022</u>	<u>Class of 2023</u>	Chrissy Ford, Office Administrator <a href="mailto:cford@federatedcolumbus.org">cford@federatedcolumbus.org</a>	Kathy Zywiec, Office Assistant <a href="mailto:kathy@federatedcolumbus.org">kathy@federatedcolumbus.org</a>
Gene Hahn	John McClure	Jesse Abrego	Bob Arp, Chancel Choir Director	Stuart Gausman, Bell Choir Director
Marv Zoucha	Renee Norris	Katie Claus	James Sharpe, Organist/Accompanist	Lay Pastor Antonio Garcia, El Buen Pastor Fellowship
Donna Augspurger	Alison Wagner	Mimi Ernst	Betty Garcia Lopez, Nursery Attendant	
Financial Administrators:	Donna Augspurger	Robin Lehr		
Terry Millard	Terry Norris	Marv Zoucha		

## JOYS & CONCERNS

*If you have any joys or concerns, please share with the congregation by informing the office.*

- ♦ Pray for wisdom as Rebecca Timperley discerns how to have her broken leg treated.
- ♦ Pray for Bill Royer who had open-heart surgery December 10th.
- ♦ Pray for the family of Chuck Schueneman. Chuck died Friday, December 10th. A funeral service will be held December 15th at 1am at First Presbyterian Church in Schuyler.
- ♦ Chancel Flowers are given by Gail Wurdeman & Sara Aerni in loving memory of their parents, Irene & Harold Wurdeman. Happy Birthday Mom!
- ♦ Homestead Presbytery: **Lincoln Korean**  
Prayers are requested for the well being and prosperity of the Lincoln Korean congregation. May they continue to grow as a caring and nurturing Christian community, as well as individuals, focusing on prayer, Bible study and worship.

### Many, Many Thanks from Cookies 'N More!

Thank you to all the hard working volunteers, bakers and creators, coordinators, decorators and workers who helped make this year's event an amazing success! Our total raised for the event came up to over \$3,500!

### Calling all past and future singers!

Choir rehearsals are scheduled Wednesday evenings, at 7:30 pm. They will be meeting the sanctuary for the time being. Masks are optional but they will be observing social distancing.  
Please consider giving this fun group a try!

### **Social Concerns & Missions:**

***New gloves, hats & scarves of all sizes are being collected until December 19th for the Angel Tree !***

**All Meals on Wheels** volunteers need to have their COVID vaccine cards verified by the Columbus Hospital. Questions call Angie at Columbus Hospital. (402)562-3365.

## THIS WEEK AT FEDERATED CHURCH

### **Sunday, December 12th**

8:45am SALT (Adult Education), EC4  
9:00am Education Hour, EC & Upper Rooms  
10:00am Sunday Worship Service, Sanctuary  
11:00am H.I.S. Puppeteers, EC rooms  
11:00am Youth Sunday Funday!

### **Monday, November 13th**

4:00pm CHS Diamond Dancers Practice, Gym  
7:00pm Scouts Troop 212, Fellowship Hall

### **Tuesday, November 14th**

1:00pm Afternoon Bible Study, EC8/Online  
6:30pm Meeting with H.P. Council, EC8  
7:00pm Cub Scouts 279 Meeting, Fellowship Hall

### **Wednesday, December 15th**

9:00 am Circle 1, Fellowship Hall  
12:30pm All-Staff Meeting, EC8  
1:00pm Circle 2, Fellowship Hall  
4:30pm Evening Bible Study, Online  
6:00pm PNC Meeting, EC8  
6:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary  
7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary

### **Thursday, December 16th - Blue Christmas Service**

4:00pm CHS Diamond Dancers, Gym  
6:30pm Blue Christmas Service, Sanctuary

### **Friday, December 17th**

**No Events Scheduled**

### **Saturday, December 18th**

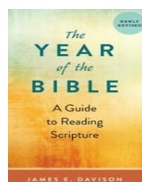
**No Events Scheduled**

### **Sunday, December 19th**

8:45am SALT (Adult Education), EC4  
9:00am Education Hour, EC & Upper Rooms  
10:00am Sunday Worship Service, Sanctuary  
11:00am H.I.S. Puppeteers, EC rooms

### **Bible Reading Questions**

- To what does Peter compare the elders in the church? (1 Peter 5)
- How does God describe the people of Israel? (Ezekiel 34)



### **Bible Reading Sharing & Discussion:**

there will be a monthly meeting to share insights and discuss questions related to each month's Bible reading. The monthly hybrid (in-person and online) meeting will not be taking place in December. The next meeting is scheduled for January 24th at 3pm. If you are interested in joining this meeting but the time does not work well for you, please inform Pastor Edward.

# Welcome to Worship at Federated!

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9 & SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2021

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

PRELUDE

*Lo, How a Rose E're Blooming*

JOHANNE BRAHMS

*Lo, How a Rose E're Blooming*

MARK HAYES

James Sharpe, Organ/Piano

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## CALL TO WORSHIP

One: A voice calls out in the wilderness.

**All: It sings of a home for all. It speaks of justice and peace.**

One: We could choose to ignore it.

**All: We could drown out that song. We could choose not to listen.**

One: Instead, we come into this space.

**All: We let the world grow quiet. We listen.**

One: A voice calls out in the wilderness. Do you hear it?

**All: We hear it. In listening, we worship.**

One: Let us draw near to God.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

Cindee Wachter & Laura Porter (Thurs.), Confirmands (Sun.)

OPENING SONG

*Messiah's Song*

ANDERSON

iWorship DVD

## CALL TO CONFESSION

It takes courage to tell the truth. John the Baptist knew it. His job as a prophet certainly could not have been easy. And you and I know it. Our job as people of faith - to create a home for all - has never been easy. In our prayer of confession, may we channel some of John the Baptist's courage to tell the truth about ourselves and our world. We do not do this to shame ourselves or guilt ourselves for being imperfect. We speak the truth out loud because we know that we cannot grow and change without first being honest. So let us be brave. Let us be bold. Let us be truth-tellers as we confess together now to a God who couldn't love us any more than God already does. Let us pray...

## UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Expansive God, We know that the church is your house, and your house has room for everyone. Yet, too often, instead of setting the table for our neighbors, we block the door. Instead of welcoming all, we judge others by our own standards. Instead of sharing our second coat, we hide it in the attic, holding on to fear instead of letting go with love. Remind us that your home is a home for *all*, that truth requires hard work, that truth requires uncomfortable justice. Help us to be bold enough to see it and brave enough to live it. With hope we pray, amen.**

MOMENT FOR SILENT PRAYER

## WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

One: Family of faith, God sent prophets like John the Baptist to us because this work is not easy. Helping create a world where all might have a home, and all might be loved, and all might know peace, is an audacious goal. Fortunately for us, when we mess up - when we lose our way or forget our call - we are met with grace. God could not love us any more or any less than God already does. So rest in this good news:

**All: We are at home with God - forgiven, claimed, and loved. The door is always open for us. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

## PASSING THE PEACE

One: In Jesus Christ, we know God's forgiveness and peace. Peace of Christ be with you.

**All: Also with you.**

One: Let us share that peace with one another.

## LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT (SUN.) *Cowboy Christmas: A Puppet Musical* TAWNYA ALBRIGHT

Puppeteers: Wilma Arp, Katie Claus, Riley Gausman, Elizabeth Miller, Tessa Miller, & Meg Weeder;

Farm Animal Puppeteers/Dancers/Bell Ringer Choir/Cowboy/Cowgirls: Education Hour Children;

Props: Beatrice Garcia and Eliot Yang; Director: Julie Graham

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Heidi Klevemann, Liturgist (Sun.)

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 12 : 1 - 6

Pew Bible, OT, Pages 641 - 642

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

**All: Thanks be to God!**

RESPONSIVE SONG

*Waiting for Bethlehem's Light*

ARR. PETERSON & MCCARTHA

Bob Arp, Chancel Choir Director; Dana Augspurger, Flute

HOMILY

Edward Yang, Pastor

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: (ROMANS 8:1, 28, 38, 39)**

**We believe there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus;  
for we know that all things work together for good for those who love God,  
who are called according to God's purpose.**

**We are convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers,  
nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth,  
nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us  
from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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.**

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY (SUN.)

*Lo, How a Rose E're Blooming*

ALBERT THATE

*Financial gifts can be dropped off in the contribution box, located at the entrance of the Sanctuary.*

**\*DOXOLOGY**

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;***

***Praise God, all creatures here below;***

***Praise God above, ye heavenly host;***

***Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

**\*UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**God who welcomes us home, who creates space, who leaves a chair with our name on it - we  
have two coats and we are giving one away. That's what this offering is. It's our second coat. It's  
our hearts on our sleeves. It's our audacious hope that there can indeed be a better world than  
this one. So take these gifts and use them to move us closer to that promised day.  
Gratefully we pray, amen.**

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

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CCLI License #1160936 & 20180420



\*CLOSING HYMN #464

*Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

\* BENEDICTION

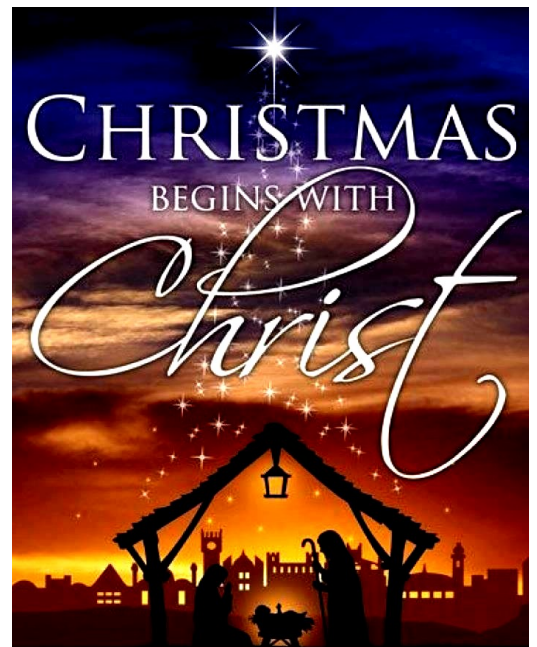
POSTLUDE

*In Dulci Jubilo*

J.S. BACH

### *Upcoming Events:*

- DECEMBER 10TH - POINSETTIA ORDERS DUE
- DECEMBER 12TH - CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT
- DECEMBER 16TH - ECUMENICAL BLUE  
CHRISTMAS SERVICE
- DECEMBER 19TH - LESSONS & CAROLS  
SERVICE
  - DECEMBER 23RD - NO SERVICE
  - DECEMBER 24TH - **CHRISTMAS EVE**  
5pm Young at Heart Service  
8pm Candlelight, Communion & Carols  
Service
- DECEMBER 25TH - **MERRY CHRISTMAS!**  
COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS DINNER CANCELLED
  - DECEMBER 27TH - OFFICE CLOSED
  - DECEMBER 31ST - END OF YEAR DEPOSITS DUE BY 11AM &  
ANNUAL COMMITTEE & STAFF REPORTS DUE
    - JANUARY 3RD - OFFICE CLOSED
- JANUARY 9TH - INSTALLATION & ORDINATION OF 2022 OFFICERS





The Christmas Joy Offering reflects that God is with us, through the generous gifts that support church leaders among us, retire, present and future, who have pointed us to God. Even as we support our current and former church leaders through the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions, God is calling new leaders for our Church and world, through the ministry of Presbyterian -related schools and colleges equipping communities of color - offering students the means for a brighter future and enhanced opportunities to use their talents and skills to serve God, the Church and the world for years to come.



### Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Presbyterian Mission

The Christmas Joy Offering is one of four annual special offerings. The church-wide Special Offerings of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) play an important role in defining what it means to be a connectional church in the 21st century, bringing together the diversity of the PC (USA) to focus and take faith-based action on shared concerns. The Special Offerings offer opportunities for partnership, learning, and witness and they profoundly affect the life of the church as a collective witness to Jesus Christ's love for the whole church.



#### WAYS TO GIVE



Through your congregation



Donate by credit card online at [pcusa.org/christmasjoy](http://pcusa.org/christmasjoy)



Text  
CHRISTMASJOY  
to 91999  
to give or visit  
[pcusa.org/christmasjoy](http://pcusa.org/christmasjoy)



### "God is still speaking . . . to me!"

Every year, the United Church Board for Ministerial Assistance receives dozens of letters, cards, emails, and phone calls saying "thank you" for much-needed financial assistance funded by your gifts to the Christmas Fund for the Veterans of the Cross.

Donations of any amount to the Christmas Fund truly do bring "great joy" to so many people, year after year. The assistance and connection provided by your gifts lets these servants of the church know that they are not forgotten. Here are excerpts from just a few of the notes of appreciation we have received:

*From a retired pastor in Chicago . . .*

I do not have words adequate to express my appreciation for the Christmas gift from the Christmas Fund. My prayer is that those who contributed to make this gift possible experience God's manifold blessings.

*From a retired pastor who received assistance to purchase hearing aids . . .*

Thank you for the gift from the church. I had no idea such help was available, especially to that extent. It gladdens my heart to know the church still cares. Sometimes, we don't always get that affirmation while in the midst of doing ministry. But, God is still speaking . . . to me. Thank you so much!

*From a pastor's spouse in North Carolina . . .*

My husband and I thank you so very much for the ministerial assistance that was provided for us. It was so helpful and took a lot of stress from us, so we could concentrate on my husband's medical care and treatments. We never thought we would need ministerial assistance, but believe me, we are thankful for our national church and all those who give.

#### In 2020, gifts to the Christmas Fund enabled:

- Monthly pension supplementation for 276 retired clergy and lay employees (\$1,180,187)
- Health benefits supplementation for 89 retired clergy and lay employees (\$274,008)
- Emergency grants for 96 individuals and families (\$214,649)
- Christmas "Thank You" gift checks to 504 retired clergy and lay employees (\$252,000)

## The Christmas Fund

For the Veterans of the Cross and the Emergency Fund