



FEDERATED CHURCH

Sunday, December 19, 2021
Fourth Sunday of Advent - Lessons & Carols Service

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** 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 edward@federatedcolumbus.org	Brenda Sand, Christian Education Director brenda@federatedcolumbus.org
<u>Class of 2021</u>	<u>Class of 2022</u>	<u>Class of 2023</u>	Chrissy Ford, Office Administrator cford@federatedcolumbus.org	Kathy Zywiec, Office Assistant kathy@federatedcolumbus.org
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 Rebecca Timperley who is experiencing setbacks with leg bone not regenerating. Please lift Rebecca and Paula up in your prayers.
- ♦ Pray for the family of Chuck Schueneman. Chuck died Friday, December 10th. A funeral service was held December 15th at 11am at First Presbyterian Church in Schuyler.
- ♦ Chancel flowers are given by the Scheuneman family in loving memory of Chuck Scheuneman.

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.

THIS WEEK AT FEDERATED CHURCH

Sunday, December 19th

8:45am SALT (Adult Education), EC4
9:00am Education Hour, EC & Upper Rooms
10:00am Sunday Worship Service, Sanctuary

Monday, December 20th

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

Tuesday, December 21st

1:00pm Afternoon Bible Study, EC8/Online
7:00pm Cub Scouts 279 Meeting, Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, December 22nd

10:00am Staff Meeting
4:30pm Evening Bible Study, Online
6:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary

Thursday, December 23rd

4:00pm CHS Diamond Dancers, Gym

Friday, December 24th - Christmas Eve

5:00pm Young at Heart Christmas Service
8:00pm Candlelight, Communion and Carols

Saturday, December 25th - Christmas Day

No Events Scheduled

Sunday, December 26th

10:00am Sunday Worship Service, Sanctuary

Monday, December 27th - Office Closed

7:00pm Scouts Troop 212, Fellowship Hall

Other Christmas Eve Services:

St. Luke's United Church of Christ:

"He is the Light of the World"

(A short living nativity, drive-in pageant.)

Dec. 18 & 19, 6:00pm and 7:15pm and
10:00pm Christmas Eve drive-in service
at Gruetli United Church of Christ,
35504 197th Street, Columbus.

Call 402-564-8862 for more
information.

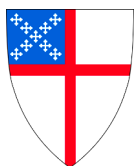


First United Methodist Church:

*Children & Family Service - 5pm

*Lessons, Carols & Candles
Service - 7pm

*Carols, Candles & Communion
Service - 11pm

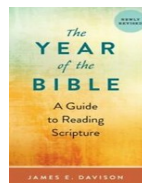


Grace Episcopal Church:
Christmas Eve Service
3pm

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.

Bible Reading Questions

- What surprising vision does the prophet experience in Ezekiel 37?
- According to 1 John, anyone who hates his brother can be compared to what Old Testament character? (1 John 3)



Bible Reading Sharing & Discussion:

there will be a monthly meeting to share insights and discuss questions related to each month's Bible reading. All are invited to the hybrid meeting (in-person and online via Zoom) which is tentatively scheduled for Monday, January 24th from 3:00pm - 4:00pm, there is no meeting in December. 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!

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2021

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

PRELUDE

Noel X Grand Jeu, et duo
In the Bleak Midwinter
James Sharpe, Organ/Piano

LOUIS-CLAUDE DAQUIN
MARK HAYES

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

A Sanctified Art

One: We are seeking -

All: deeper faith, a place to belong, the feeling that God is here in this room.

One: We are seeking -

All: joy that overflows, the movement of the Spirit, a hand to hold, when alone in the dark.

One: We are seeking -

All: the freedom to be, the courage to love, the conviction to act in the face of injustice.

One: We are seeking, but here in this space,

All: We are found.

One: Take a deep breath. This is your sanctuary.

All: God is here. We are found. Amen.

LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLES

MILLER FAMILY

OPENING SONG

Joyful (The One Who Saves)
iWorship DVD

BRENTON BROWN & JASON INGRAM

CALL TO CONFESSION

Mary's world turned upside down with the visit of an angel. This is a moment we can relate to, because over the course of the last year and a half, our world has seemed to turn upside down more than once. When those moments come, we hope to respond with grace; but more often than not, fear can get the best of us. So today we turn to God in prayer, asking for God's guidance and grace in the places and moments we need it most. Let us pray together now...

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of safe spaces, we wish we were more like Mary, who in the face of great change, went and sought help. She did not wait for help to find her; she walked to the shelter she needed. Too often we wait silently for the world to change around us instead of speaking up for the things we need. Forgive us for failing to care for ourselves the way you would care for us. Give us the courage to be more like Mary.

God of safe places, we wish we were more like Elizabeth, who greeted Mary with laughter and contagious joy. How many people have crossed our doorstep and how many times have we failed to see them? Give us the courage of Mary, and the grace of Elizabeth. Gratefully we pray, amen.

MOMENT FOR SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

One: Family of faith, even if we miss the person standing on our doorstep, even if we fail to care for ourselves the way God would care for us, even if we forget and ignore, turn away and shut down, God still loves us. There is nothing we can do to lose God's love.

All: Rest in this promise:

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

One License #711910-A

CCLI License #1160936 & 20180420

One: If we get lost,

All: we will be found.

One: If we mess up,

All: we are forgiven.

One: If we withhold love,

All: God is lavish in loving us.

One: We are claimed. We are loved. We are forgiven.

All: 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 SERMON

Brenda Sand, Christian Education Director

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Marilyn Abrego, Liturgist

LESSONS & CAROLS

Lesson 1: Micah 5 : 2 – 5a

(The prophet Micah foretells the glory of little Bethlehem)

Carol:

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Stuart Gausman, Bell Choir Director

Riley Gausman

Lesson 2: Luke 1 : 26 - 35, 38

(An angel appears to Mary and announces that she will bear a holy child)

Julie Graham

Carol: GTG # 123

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear (verses 1 & 5)

Lesson 3: Luke 1 : 46 - 55

(Mary's Song of Praise, also called "The Magnificat")

Carol: GTG #129

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming (verses 1 & 3)

Lesson 4: Luke 2 : 8 - 16

(Angels appear to shepherds in the fields and announce the birth of the Messiah)

Wayne McCormick

***Carol:** GTG # 113

Angels We Have Heard on High

Lesson 5: Matthew 2 : 1 - 11

(Magi from the East come seeking the Messiah and offer gifts to the baby Jesus)

Judy Trautwein (video)

Carol: GTG #151

We Three Kings of Orient Are (verses 1 & 5)

Lesson 6: **Poem: "In the bleak midwinter" by Christina Rossetti Heidi Klevemann**

Carol: GTG #115

Away In a Manger

Lesson 7: John 1 : 1 - 5, 9 - 14

(The Word of God becomes flesh and lives among us, full of grace and truth)

***Carol:** GTG # 110

Love Has Come

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: Nicene Creed (responsive reading)**

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,

the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,

who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. 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 THE OFFERING

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

OFFERTORY

Christmas Joy

MICHAEL HELMAN

BELLS OF JOY

***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**

Good and gracious God, We give these gifts for the seekers. We give these gifts for those who need sanctuary. We give these gifts for those who build sanctuaries. We give these gifts for those who have lost sanctuary, and for those who find sanctuary all over the place. Use these gifts to bring us closer to home. With joy and hope in our hearts we pray, amen.

***CLOSING HYMN #29**

Go Tell It on the Mountain

*** BENEDICTION**

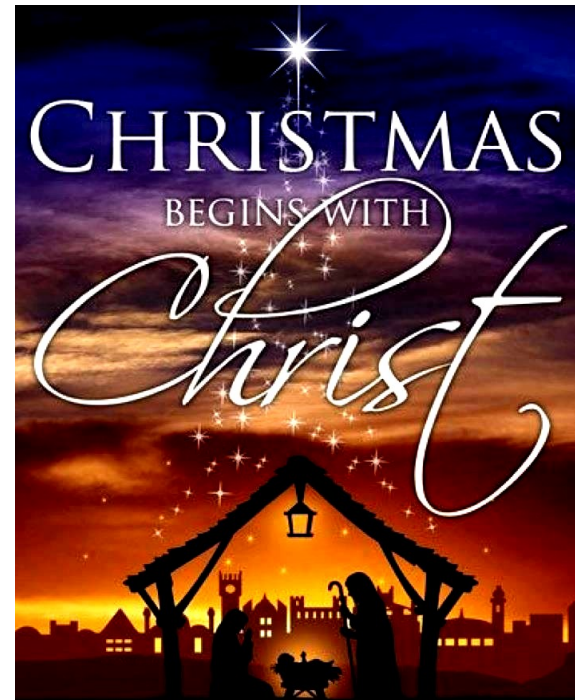
**As you are able, please rise in body or in spirit.*

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Upcoming Events:

- December 19th - Lessons & Carols Service
 - December 23rd - No Service
 - December 24th - **Christmas Eve**
5pm Family Service
8pm Candlelight, Communion & Carols Service
- December 25th - **MERRY CHRISTMAS!**
 - 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.



WAYS TO GIVE



Through your congregation



Donate by credit card online at pcusa.org/christmasjoy



Text CHRISTMASJOY to 91999 to give or visit 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