



FEDERATED CHURCH

Sunday, December 11th, 2022

Third Sunday of Advent, Children's Christmas Pageant

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.

In case of an emergency, Edward's cell phone number: 402-302-2812.

Governing Council - Federated Church Elders			Federated Church Clergy and Staff	
Wayne McCormick, <i>President</i> Julie Graham, <i>Vice President</i> Louise Moran, <i>Secretary</i>			Rev. Edward Yang, Ph.D., <i>Pastor/Head of Staff</i> edward@federatedcolumbus.org	Brenda Sand, <i>Christian Education Director</i> brenda@federatedcolumbus.org
<u>Class of 2022</u>	<u>Class of 2023</u>	<u>Class of 2024</u>	Chrissy Ford, <i>Office Administrator</i> cford@federatedcolumbus.org	Kathy Zywiec, <i>Office Assistant</i> kathy@federatedcolumbus.org
John McClure	Jesse Abrego	Donna Augspurger	Bob Arp, <i>Chancel Choir Director</i>	Stuart Gausman, <i>Bell Choir Director</i>
Renee Norris	Katie Claus	John McPhail	James Sharpe, <i>Organist</i>	Lay Pastor Antonio Garcia, <i>El Buen Pastor Fellowship</i>
Alison Wagner	Mimi Ernst	Mark Weeder	Betty Garcia Lopez, <i>Nursery Attendant</i>	Amanda Weeder, <i>Accompanist</i>
Order of St. Andrew - Federated Church Deacons			Bill Royer, <i>Head Usher</i>	
Mimi Ernst, GC Rep.	Laura Porter, Ch.	Wilma Arp	Andree & Terry Hoeman, <i>Co-Historians</i>	
Kathy Leischner	Barb Olson	Ruth Erwin		
Jean Royer	Sharon Kuncel	Peg Meyer		

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2022

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT, CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

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

PRELUDE

Sleepers Awake, for the Night is Over

J. S. BACH

In the Bleak Midwinter

MARK HAYES

James Sharpe, Piano & Organ

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CANDLE LIGHTING LITURGY**

The Porter Family

A SANCTIFIED ART

One: Over a hundred people, from the ages of two to eighty years old, were asked the question, "What brings you joy?" From the voices of different generations, hear their answers:

Group 1: A clean kitchen.

Group 2: Sand between my toes.

Group 3: Being outside.

Group 4: Sleeping in my own bed after a night away.

Group 1: Having a camera in my hands.

Group 2: My partner's laugh.

Group 3: When my parents pick me up.

Group 4: Mountain air.

Group 1: The end of my to-do list.

Group 2: Hugs from my niece and nephew.

Group 3: My cat.

Group 4: Baby giggles.

Group 1: Putting my hands in the garden.

Group 2: A chord resolved.

Group 3: Bedtime books.

Group 4: Stargazing.

Group 1: A warm cup of coffee with friends.

Group 2: My new grandchild.

Group 3: Time with family.

Group 4: Lingering at the table after dinner.

One: Today we light the candle of joy. May its light remind us of all the good news this season brings. May its light remind us of the many sources of joy in our lives, and may that joy not only draw us closer to one another, but closer to God.

(Advent candles are lit.)

One: Family of faith, what brings you joy? Amen.

***OPENING HYMN #13**

Prepare the Way

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

A series of experiments by psychologists taught the world that it only takes a tenth of a second for us to form an impression of a stranger. In other words, it only takes a tenth of a second for us to look at someone's face and determine a stereotype about who they are. With decisions happening that quickly, it is not hard to imagine why we might need this moment of confession. The prayer of confession is an opportunity to slow down. We take that tenth of a second and give it room to breathe. We reflect on the decisions that we've made this past week and we ask for God's mercy to be in all of them. And without fail, God wiggles God's self into the cracks of our lives, and we are made better for it. So with that confidence, let us go to God in prayer:

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

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***UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

God of mercy, a million times a day we have the opportunity to be gracious, to assume the best in others, to give the benefit of the doubt. A million times a day we could choose the better way, but so often we don't. Fear and greed kick in. Assumptions and insecurities take the wheel. Comparison and critique lead the charge. Forgive us for forgetting that we are descendants of Joseph. Forgive us for forgetting that grace and mercy are in our blood. Forgive us for forgetting that all belong to you. Give us the courage to love even bigger than before, and the wisdom to choose a better way. Amen.

***MOMENT FOR SILENT PRAYER**

***WORDS OF FORGIVENESS**

One: Family of Faith, hear this good news: We who have chosen wrong, are given a second chance.

All: We who have lost our way, are welcomed into community.

One: We who feel alone, are seen, held, and known. This is the good news of the gospel.

All: No matter how many times we choose wrong or lose our way, God continues to be a God of second chances, community, and love. Thanks be to God! Amen.

***PASSING OF THE PEACE** (You are welcome to share a handshake, fist bump or peace sign)

One: Forgiven and renewed, we extend God's peace to one another. The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

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

***SONG: *This Little Light of Mine, I'm gonna let it shine, (3X)*
*Let it shine, let it shine. (let it shine)***

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

CHILDREN'S MOMENT	<i>The First Christmas - A Lighthearted Retelling</i>	AIDEN SPENCER
	Directed by Nicole Miller, Julie Graham, Heidi Klevemann and Kristi Wolfe	
CHILDREN'S BELL CHOIR	<i>Joy to the World</i>	Stuart Gausman, Director
CHORAL ANTHEM	<i>Almost There</i>	ARR. SORENSON
	Chancel Choir; Bob Arp, Director; Amanda Weeder, Accompanist	

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION Katie Claus, Liturgist

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 35 : 1 - 10 Pew Bible, OT, page 663

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

All: Thanks be to God!

HOMILY Edward Yang, Pastor

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

We believe in a God who offers second chances and does not hold grudges. We believe in a God who opens the door to new life and leaves the porch light on for us when we get lost. We believe in a God who believes in us - believes that we can make a difference, that we can choose grace over comparison, love over hate, peace over war. And so we strive to live our lives in love. We strive to listen as Joseph listened, and to be the people that God calls us to be. It's all that easy, and it's all that hard. This we believe. Amen.

PRAYER 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

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY

Lo, How a Rose E're Blooming

ALBERT THATE

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Christ, all people here below;

Praise Holy Spirit evermore;

Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

*UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Almighty God, receive our offering for the sake of Christ our Lord. Make us worthy stewards of your gifts and generous citizens of the kingdom of your Son, Jesus Christ, through whom we pray. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN #38

It Came Upon The Midnight Clear

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

In Dulci Jubilo (BWV 729)

J. S. BACH

Café LaFed will be hosted by The Curry's and Millard's

JOYS & CONCERNS

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

◆ Chancel Flowers are given by Gail Wurdeman & Sara Aerni in loving memory of their parents, Irene & Harold Wurdeman. Happy Birthday Mom!

◆ Pray for Michael Palik, brother of Annette Griffith, who has developed a cough with blood while receiving cancer treatment. Michael and his family reside in Arkansas.

◆ Pray for Roberta Saalfeld and her family as she settles into her new residence. Please contact the office if you would like her contact information.

◆ Pray for Kristi Wilch, sister of Alison Wagner, who is undergoing treatment for breast cancer. Surgery will be in the new year after chemotherapy treatment is completed.

THIS WEEK AT FEDERATED CHURCH

Sunday, December 11th

8:45am SALT Adult Ed. Hour, EC 4-5

9:00am Education Hour

10:00am Sunday Worship Service, Sanctuary

1:00pm Elder Training

3:00pm Spanish Worship Service, Sanctuary

Monday, December 12th

4:00pm CHS Diamond Dancers Practice, Gym

6:00pm Special Olympics Basketball, Gym

7:00pm Scouts Troop 212 Meeting, FH

Tuesday, December 13th

1:00pm Lectionary Bible Study, EC8

7:00pm Personnel Committee Meeting

7:00pm Cub Scouts #279, Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, December 14th

9:30am Circle 1 Meeting/Lunch, Regina's Restaur.

10:00am Staff Meeting, Church office

4:30pm Lectionary Bible Study, Zoom

6:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary

7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary

Thursday, December 15th

4:00pm CHS Diamond Dancers Practice, Gym

6:30pm Worship Service, Sanctuary

Friday, December 16th

6:00pm Scouts Lock-in, FH, Gym

6:00pm El Buen Prayer Service, EC6

Saturday, December 17th

8:00am Scouts Lock-in, FH

Sunday, December 18th

8:45am SALT Adult Ed. Hour, EC 4-5

9:00am Education Hour

10:00am Sunday Worship Service, Sanctuary

11:15 am Organ Task Force Meeting, EC8

3:00pm Spanish Worship Service, Sanctuary

The Columbus Symphonic Strings expresses deep appreciation for the hospitality and kindness extended by Federated Church during their Christmas programs on Dec. 2 & 3. If you were not able to attend, links to the program may be found on our website, <https://csstrings.org>.

Upcoming Events:

- Dec. 15 - Staff & Committee Annual Reports Due
- Dec. 22 - Lessons & Carols Service
- Dec. 24 - 5pm - Young at Heart (Family) Service
- Dec. 24 - 8pm - Communion, Choir & Candlelight Srv
- Dec. 25 - Lessons & Carols Service
- Dec. 25 - Columbus Community Christmas Meal - Carry Out or Delivery Only! **Volunteers Needed.**

PLEASE BRING IN YOUR DONATIONS OF **NEW mittens, hats and scarves.** FOR THE ANGEL TREE IN THE NARTHEX. Thank you.