



# FEDERATED CHURCH

**Sunday, December 25th, 2022**  
**Nativity of the Lord, Christmas Day**

**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.**

**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> <a href="mailto:edward@federatedcolumbus.org">edward@federatedcolumbus.org</a>	Brenda Sand, <i>Christian Education Director</i> <a href="mailto:brenda@federatedcolumbus.org">brenda@federatedcolumbus.org</a>
<u>Class of 2022</u>	<u>Class of 2023</u>	<u>Class of 2024</u>	Chrissy Ford, <i>Office Administrator</i> <a href="mailto:cford@federatedcolumbus.org">cford@federatedcolumbus.org</a>	Kathy Zywiec, <i>Office Assistant</i> <a href="mailto:kathy@federatedcolumbus.org">kathy@federatedcolumbus.org</a>
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 25, 2022

NATIVITY OF THE LORD, CHRISTMAS DAY

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

Prelude

Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring  
Of the Father's Love Begotten  
James Sharpe, Piano & Organ

J.S. Bach  
Mark Hayes

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

PC(USA) CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING

One: The Holy One has given us a sign,

**All: and the Word became flesh and lived among us.**

One: The Son of God has come to be our Savior,

**All: and the Word became flesh and lived among us.**

One: The Holy Spirit has given Mary a child,

**All: and the Word became flesh and lived among us.**

One: Let us worship God.

OPENING SONG

*O Come All Ye Faithful*  
Playback Media

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

One: The grace of God overflows for us through Christ Jesus, who came into the world to save sinners.  
Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

**All: Gracious God, you alone are holy, the perfection of goodness and glory. We confess that we have sinned and fallen short of your glory—afraid to trust your promise, failing to share your gifts. Forgive us, O God. Deliver us from sin and death and restore us to life and grace through the one you sent to save us, Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**MOMENT FOR SILENT PRAYER**

**WORDS OF FORGIVENESS**

One: Hear the good news. Jesus has indeed come into the world to save us from our sins.  
Receive the gift of God's redeeming grace:

**All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**LESSONS & CAROLS**

Lesson 1: Micah 5 : 2 - 5a

*(The prophet Micah foretells the glory of little Bethlehem)*

**Carol: #44 O Little Town of Bethlehem (verses 1 & 4)**

Lesson 2: Luke 1 : 26 - 35, 38

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

**Carol: # 38 It Came Upon the Midnight Clear (verses 1 & 4)**

Lesson 3: Luke 1 : 46 - 55

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

Instrumental: *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*

Lesson 4: Luke 2 : 8 - 16

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

**Carol: # 23 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)*

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

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CCLI License #1160936 & 20180420

**Carol: # 66 We Three Kings of Orient Are (verses 1 & 5)**

Lesson 6: Selected Reading

Video: O Holy Night (Playback Media)

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

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

**Carol: # 25 Away in a Manger**

### **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from A Declaration of Faith)**

Jesus, the long-expected Savior, came into the world as a child,

**descended from David, conceived by the Holy Spirit,**

born of Mary, a virgin.

**He lived as a Jew among Jews.**

He announced to his people the coming of God's kingdom of justice and peace on earth.

**We affirm that Jesus was born of woman as is every child,**

yet born of God's power as was no other child.

**In the person and work of Jesus,**

God and a human life are united but not confused, distinguished but not separated.

**The coming of Jesus was itself the coming of God's promised rule.**

Through his birth, life, death, and resurrection,

**he brings about the relationship between God and humanity that God always intended. Alleluia.**

**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

OFFERTORY

*Born in Bethlehem*

HELMUT WALCHA

**\*DOXOLOGY**

***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**

PRESBYTERIAN OUTLOOK

**Emmanuel, in gratitude for the gift of your presence with and among us, we present these offerings to you. Accept and bless these gifts so that they might spread the joy of Christmas to others. Amen.**

**\*CLOSING HYMN # 29**

***Go, Tell It on the Mountain***

**\*BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

*In Dulci Jubilo (BWV 729)*

J. S. BACH

## JOYS & CONCERNS

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

◆ Pray for the family of Donna Taylor, Jean & Bill Royer's sister, who passed away December 22, 2022. A memorial service will be held for the family at a later date.

◆ Congratulations to Logan Carol Bennett, granddaughter of Pete & Carol Bennett, who graduated Dec. 17th from UNL with a Bachelor of Science in Education and Human Services with distinction. Logan will continue her studies in speech pathology.

◆ Thank you to Tammi Gotschall and Jeanne Johnson for all their time decorating the Sanctuary and Narthex with the Christmas poinsettias.

### ◆ Homestead Presbytery: Norfolk

Like many of our churches, First PC, Norfolk has struggled to fully recover from the effects of the pandemic, especially in terms of attendance. But we are optimistic about the prospects for the coming year. First PC continues a long-time mission interest in Malawi, supporting 3 different missions in the country: Norfolk Schools, Malawi, a private Christian school founded by one of our members, Joe Mtika; the ministry of Tyler and Rochelle Holms, who are building a capability for Malawians to drill their own water wells; and a sister church relationship with the Kaphuta Church in Mzimba. We are also involved in a number of local and ecumenical ministries that include youth. Prayers for all our youth ministries and the general health of the church would be very much welcome.

◆ **UCC Living Waters Association: Creighton Faith United (Creighton, NE 68729)**

## Upcoming Events:

- Dec. 25 - Lessons & Carols Service
- Dec. 25 - Columbus Community Christmas Meal - Carry Out & Deliveries start at Noon
- Dec. 26 - Church Office Closed
- Dec. 30 - Last Deposit of the year (am)
- Jan. 2 - Church Office Closed

## THIS WEEK AT FEDERATED CHURCH

### Sunday, December 25th,

- 7:00am Christmas Meal Prep begins
- 10:00am Lessons & Carols Service
- 12:00pm Community Christmas Meal Deliveries & Pick-ups begin
- 3:00pm Spanish Worship Service, Sanctuary

### Monday, December 26th

#### **Church Office Closed**

- 6:00pm Special Olympics Basketball, Gym
- 7:00pm Scouts Troop 212 Meeting, FH

### Tuesday, December 27th

- 7:00pm Cub Scouts #279, Fellowship Hall

### Wednesday, December 28th

No Events Scheduled

### Thursday, December 29th

- 6:30pm Worship Service

### Friday, December 30th

- (am) Final Deposit for 2022
- 6:00pm El Buen Prayer Service, EC6

### Saturday, December 31st

No Events Scheduled

### Sunday, January 1st

- 10:00am Sunday Worship Service, Sanctuary
- 3:00pm Spanish Worship Service, Sanctuary

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

**Small Groups are starting up again!**  
**2x4s Dinner Group:** Contact Nila Novotny for more information. The schedule and participants documents are available on the Church's website.  
**Arts & Music:** If you are interested in the fine arts, call or email Mimi Ernst if you would like to join!