



FEDERATED CHURCH

Thursday, December 19 & Sunday, December 22, 2024
Fourth Sunday of Advent; Lessons & Laughter

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	
Alison Wagner, <i>President</i> Georgia Behlen, <i>Vice President</i> Barb Sanderson, <i>Secretary</i>			Rev. Edward Yang, Ph.D. <i>Pastor/Head of Staff</i> edward@federatedcolumbus.org	Lay Pastor Antonio Garcia <i>El Buen Pastor Fellowship</i>
<i>Class of 2024</i>	<i>Class of 2025</i>	<i>Class of 2026</i>	Brenda Sand <i>Christian Education Director</i> brenda@federatedcolumbus.org	Lee Augustin <i>Organist</i>
Donna Augspurger	Pat Anderson	Chris Dixon		
John McPhail	John Lohr	Nila Novotny		
Mark Weeder	Brenda Sand	Max Porter		
Order of St. Andrew - Federated Church Deacons			Kathy Zywiec <i>Office Assistant, Social Media Coord.</i> kathy@federatedcolumbus.org	Amanda Weeder <i>Accompanist</i>
Peg Meyer	Kathy Leischner	Tammi Gotschall		
Sharon Kuncel	Barb Olson	Steve McClure	Mark Baumann <i>Custodian</i>	Stuart Gausman <i>Bell Choir Director</i> <i>Chancel Choir Director</i>
Laura Porter	Lori Rine	Jesse Abrego		
Andree & Terry Hoeman, <i>Co-Historians</i>				Beatriz Garcia Lopez <i>Nursery Attendant</i>
Bill Royer, <i>Head Usher</i>				

Welcome to Worship at Federated!

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19 & SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2024

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT; LESSONS & LAUGHTER

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

PRELUDE

O Come, All Ye Faithful

BEETHOVEN'S "PATHETIQUE" SONATA

The First Noel

TCHAIKOVSKY'S PIANO CONCERTO

Amanda Weeder, Piano

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING: LOVE

Matt & Nicole Miller Family

SANCTIFIED ART

VIDEO "Christmas Chaos" by Journey Box Media

* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We know that joy has a contagious ripple effect, so today for our call to worship, we are going to share our joy. I invite you to close your eyes now. Picture the things in your life that bring you joy. It could be something as simple as a warm cup of coffee on a cold morning, or as grand as a person, a place, or an experience. Now take a moment to reflect on this question: What brings you joy?

Pause for a moment to allow people to reflect.

Now, I invite you to open your eyes and turn and share:

What are some of the things that bring you joy? Yell it out!

After a few moments of sharing, close with the following litany:

Friends, having named so many sources of joy in our lives, join me in the opening litany printed in your bulletin: We have named our joy out loud, and it is clear—

All: God is in our joy.

One: God is in this room.

All: We have reason to celebrate.

One: We have a reason to sing.

All: Thanks be to God for the bright hope of this day.

* OPENING HYMN # 464

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: Friends, one of the most inherently joyful and beautiful moments in worship comes through the moment of confession. For when we are honest with God in the prayer of confession, we open ourselves up to receive God's grace and mercy. And that gift—that grace—is full to the brim with good news! So join me in this prayer of confession, not out of shame or guilt, but because there is a joy on the other side of this prayer that will take your breath away.

Let us pray together; let us choose joy.

Joyful God, You told us that in order to enter the kingdom of heaven, we must be like children.

All: Did you mean that like children, we must practice unhindered joy? Did you mean that like children, we should lean into laughter, release our cynicism, and open ourselves to delight?

One: In a world as broken and battered as ours, we admit,

All: this often seems easier said than done.

One: Forgive us, patient God, for the moments when we are so focused on the bad that we miss the good.

All: Forgive us for hearing the nativity story and staying in our seats instead of jumping for joy.

One: We know that even now you are sowing delight in our lives.

All: Open our hearts up to it. With gratitude we pray, amen.

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

One License #711910-A

CCLI License #1160936 & 20180420

*** MOMENT FOR SILENT PRAYER**

*** WORDS OF FORGIVENESS**

One: Friends, hear and believe the good news of the Gospel:

All: We are seen. We are loved. We are forgiven. Amen.

CHORAL ANTHEM (SUN.)

The Light Will Come

JOSEPH M. MARTIN

Chancel Choir; Stuart Gausman, Director; Amanda Weeder, Accompanist

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

LESSONS & LAUGHTER

LESSON 1: *Rhyming Christmas Story, Part 1 (Introduction, Our Journey to Bethlehem, Jesus is Born)*

***CAROL #41 O Come, All Ye Faithful**

LESSON 2: *Gospel According to Luke 2 : 10; Isaiah 9 : 2 - 3*

CAROL #25 Away in a Manger

Practice Joy: Joy Found in Scripture (Children's Sermon)

LESSON 3: *Gospel According to Matthew 2 : 10; Psalm 148*

Practice Joy: Joy Found in Community (Extended Passing of the Peace)

VIDEO *O Holy Night (Playback Media)*

LESSON 4: *Psalm 126 : 1 - 3; Isaiah 55 : 12 - 13*

***CAROL # 31 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing**

Practice Joy: Joy Found in Prayer

LESSON 5: *Rhyming Christmas Story, Part 2 (The Shepherds, The Angels, First Christmas)*

***CAROL #29 Go Tell It on the Mountain**

*** AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

We believe in God, who made us in the image of God.

We live, we love, we laugh, because we are God's children.

We believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God, our Lord and Savior.

He had the last laugh on the devil when He rose from the dead.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, coequal and coeternal with the Father and the Son.

Our counselor, our guide, our motivator – The Spirit is our joy! Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

*** ADVENT DOXOLOGY**

ROGER LYNN

***Praise God for gifts of hope and peace, Praise God for gifts of joy and love
Praise God for sending Christ to dwell, On earth for us – Emmanuel. Amen.***

*** UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**O God, with faith and hope, we offer these gifts. Use them, even as you use us,
to accomplish your purposes in Jesus Christ, our coming Lord. Amen.**

*** CLOSING HYMN**

Let Joy Be Your Companion (see insert for words and music)

*** BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Joy to the World

HAYDN'S SONATA IN D

Café LaFed is hosted by Youth Ministry Committee

December 29 - Café LaFed is hosted by Foundation Board of Directors

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

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THIS WEEK AT FEDERATED CHURCH

Sunday, December 22, 2024

8:30am Community Christmas Dinner prep, FH, Kitchen
8:45am SALT - Adult Sunday Class, EC4
9:00am Education Hour
10:00am Worship Service, Sanctuary
3:00pm Spanish Worship Service, Sanctuary

Monday, December 23, 2024

8:30am Community Christmas Dinner, prep, FH, Kitchen
4:00pm Diamond Dancers, Gym
7:00pm Scout Meeting Troop 212, FH

Tuesday, December 24, 2024

8:30am Community Christmas Dinner prep, FH, Kitchen
10:00am Staff Meeting, AD4
5:00pm Family Worship Service, Sanctuary
8:00pm Traditional Worship Service, Sanctuary

Wednesday, December 25, 2024

8:00am Community Christmas Dinner, FH, Kitchen
Church office closed

Thursday, December 26, 2024

5:00pm Special Olympics, Gym
6:30pm Worship Service, Sanctuary

Friday, December 27, 2024

6:00pm El Buen Prayer Service, EC6

Saturday, December 28, 2024

No events scheduled

Sunday, December 29, 2024

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

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS DINNER

Once again, everyone, young and old, is invited to the Columbus Community Christmas Dinner, which will be December 25th at the Federated Church.

If you (and your family) can help on Christmas Day please contact Stuart or Kristen Gausman.

Our Fellowship Hall will be open for

Dine-in from 12:00 noon until 1:30 p.m.

Deliveries will begin around 11:00 a.m. and

Take-out meals can be picked up starting at 11:30 a.m.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Dec. 24 - 5 pm - Family Service &
8 pm - Traditional Service

Dec. 25 - Community Christmas Dinner,
Church office closed

Dec. 26 & 29 - First Sunday of Christmas Services

JOYS & CONCERNS

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

- ◆ Congratulations to Wes & Connor Luedtke, along with big brothers, Cooper, Hudson and Madden, who welcome daughter/sister Hallie, born on December 2nd.
- ◆ Prayers for Marilyn Abrego, as she recovers from surgery on Thursday, December 12th.
- ◆ Family of Margaret Nyffeler is requesting a card shower honoring her birthday on December 21st. Please send cards to:
Margaret Nyffeler
3000 - 39th Ave., # 300
Columbus, NE 68601.
- ◆ Pray for the family of Kenneth Croson, brother-in-law of Doug & Randi Williams. Kenneth passed away on December 18th.
- ◆ Pray for the family of Larry Zoucha who passed away on Sunday, December 8th. Larry was brother to Marv & Barb Zoucha.
- ◆ Pray for the family of Nathan Johnson, grandson to Shirley Johnson. Nathan passed away on November 1st. Funeral services will be held on Monday, December 23 at 2 pm at St. Luke's UCC in Columbus.

◆ **Homestead Presbytery: Wymore**
We continue to maintain our yoke with Steele City, including joint services and activities. We enjoy opportunities of outreach in our local community, with a recent Halloween game-and-treat event in town. The coming of Advent and Christmas always lifts our congregation in the beauty of decorations, music, and worship. Pray that we rise to the task of loving our neighbors and offering the hand of Christ.

◆ **UCC Living Waters Association:**
Creighton Faith United Creighton (UMC/

Let Joy Be Your Companion

GO TELL IT 7.6.7.6 with refrain

Words by Anna Strickland, 2024

African-American spiritual

Refrain



Let joy be your com - pan - ion Let laugh - ter ring out ev - ery - where

5



Let joy be your com - pan - ion For joy's a gift from God



With eu - lo - gies and scrip - tures The
As pro - test - ors as - sem - ble, Their
In an - xious nights spent fret - ting When
When deep fa - tigue has sett - led In -

11



mour - ners say good - bye A sto - ry sparks the
griev - an - ces to bring Yes, e - ven in their
chan - ges feel im - mense The dawn is yet ap -
to your ver - y bones Let strength come from the

14



laugh - ter That in - ter - rupts their cries
an - ger They find a song to sing
proach - ing The sun will rise a - gain
mem' - ries Of all the joy you've known

Poinsettias Given By...

BOB & WILMA ARP

IN MEMORY OF DELORES ARP & ANNABELLE WARNER

DONNA AUGSPURGER

IN MEMORY OF ROGER AUGSPURGER
IN HONOR OF OUR CHILDREN, GRANDCHILDREN, AND GREAT
-GRANDCHILDREN

GEORGIA BEHLEN

IN MEMORY OF ROD, JACOB & BENJAMIN

FRED & RENEE BELLUM

IN MEMORY OF OUR PARENTS

CHRIS & GARY BOCK & FAMILY

IN MEMORY OF ELEANOR LOSHBAUGH

KAY CASTNER

IN HONOR OF OUR FEDERATED FAMILY

JOHN & KATIE CLAUS

IN MEMORY OF HENRY & JESSIE CLAUS AND MAURICE &
ETHYL SUHUMSKIE

JOHN & DEB CURRY & FAMILY

IN MEMORY OF OUR SON, J.R. CURRY
IN HONOR OF OUR CHILDREN, THEIR SPOUSES AND OUR
GRANDCHILDREN

CHRIS & LAURETTA DIXON

IN MEMORY OF OUR PARENTS, ORVIL & MARIE DIXON AND
CHESTER & VIOLA PALMER
IN HONOR OF OUR 4 CHILDREN, 6 GRANDCHILDREN, AND 5
GREAT-GRANDCHILDREN

BEVERLY FRY

IN MEMORY OF MY HUSBAND, DICK FRY

DAVE & RAE FULTON

IN MEMORY OF OUR PARENTS, RAYMOND & ELVENA HENRY
AND WILSON & GERTRUDE FULTON

STUART, KRISTEN, REAGAN & RILEY GAUSMAN

IN MEMORY OF OUR SON AND BROTHER, REECE, AND
BERNARD MORAN

STEVE HEINISCH

IN MEMORY OF ROSIE HEINISCH

SHARON KUNCL

IN MEMORY OF LARRY G. KUNCL

JACKIE & STEVE MARKER

IN MEMORY OF MARLYN & JOAN WURDEMAN, SHERI
BOSTIC, AND GERALD & DOLORES MARKER

STEVE & SUE MCCLURE

IN HONOR OF MICHAEL & DEREK, OUR BOYS AND THEIR
FAMILIES

JOHN & LINDA MCPHAIL

IN MEMORY OF OUR PARENTS, DR. DONALD & LILLIAN
JACKSON, AND JACK & GAY MCPHAIL

JOHN & NILA NOVOTNY

IN MEMORY OF JACK & DOROTHY MOORE AND GENE &
MARIE NOVOTNY

ERVIN & KAREN PABEN

IN MEMORY OF OUR PARENTS

JOHN & MARILYN PETERSEN

IN MEMORY OF OUR PARENTS, NORMAN & DOROTHY
PETERSEN AND DENTON & TWYLLA CRANDELL

RICK & LAURA PORTER

IN MEMORY OF OUR PARENTS, PAT & ROSEAN PORTER AND
RICHARD & BENITA LAMBERT

CLINT & KELLI SCHEFFLER & FAMILY

IN MEMORY OF JANIE MEYER (KELLI'S MOM) & BETTY
SCHEFFLER

DARYL SMITH

IN MEMORY OF RON NOVAK

DEANNA SCHEIDEGGER

IN MEMORY OF SAM SCHEIDEGGER

HAROLD & ROGALYN STEVENS

IN MEMORY OF ROY & VIRGINIA RUSSELL AND BURT &
MAZIE STEVENS

BOBBIE UHLMANN

IN MEMORY OF JIM UHLMANN

MARILYN VRANA

IN MEMORY OF BEN VRANA

TIM & CHRIS WARREN

IN MEMORY OF CHRISTOPHER & JANET HOER AND ED &
IMOGEN STAROSCIK
IN HONOR OF DAN & RUTH WARREN

EDWARD, SUNNIE, ETHAN, ELIOT & HUNTER YANG

IN GRATITUDE FOR LOVING CHURCH FAMILY

YOUNG FAMILY

IN MEMORY OF SARAH, TYLER & LULA SCHMIDT

KATHY ZYWIEC

IN MEMORY OF MY PARENTS, LEROY & MAXINE IWANSKI
AND MY SISTER, DEBBIE ADAMS