



FEDERATED CHURCH

Thursday, December 26 & Sunday, December 29, 2024
First Sunday of Christmas

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	Kathy Zywiec <i>Office Assistant, Social Media Coord.</i> kathy@federatedcolumbus.org	Amanda Weeder <i>Accompanist</i>
John McPhail	John Lohr	Nila Novotny	Mark Baumann <i>Custodian</i>	Stuart Gausman <i>Bell Choir Director</i> <i>Chancel Choir Director</i>
Mark Weeder	Brenda Sand	Max Porter		Beatriz Garcia Lopez <i>Nursery Attendant</i>
Order of St. Andrew - Federated Church Deacons				
Peg Meyer	Kathy Leischner	Tammi Gotschall		
Sharon Kuncil	Barb Olson	Steve McClure		
Laura Porter	Lori Rine	Jesse Abrego		
Andree & Terry Hoeman, <i>Co-Historians</i>				
Bill Royer, <i>Head Usher</i>				

Welcome to Worship at Federated!

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26 & SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2024

FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

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

PRELUDE

God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen

ARR. HAYES

Little Drummer Boy

ARR. HAYES

Amanda Weeder, Piano

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: We have welcomed the Christ child and declared the glory of God's salvation that comes to live among us. And yet, still, we wait.

All: We watch and work for God's kingdom on earth as it is in heaven.

One: We prepare to welcome a new year, thankful for how God has brought us through the past year and anxious to discover what the new year might bring.

All: We watch and work for God's kingdom on earth as it is in heaven.

One: We join generations of Simeons and Annas who learned and taught us how to listen, notice, and discern divine love at work in the world.

All: We watch and work for God's kingdom on earth as it is in heaven.

One: Come, let us worship God, whose love endures from generation to generation, guiding us from one year to the next.

All: Come, let us worship as we live in anticipation of God's kingdom on earth as it is in heaven. Amen.

OPENING HYMN # 23

Angels We Have Heard on High

*** UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Holy God, though we are in awe of the dawn of your light in Jesus Christ, we remain self-centered and cling to the sin of the world. We celebrate the birth of our savior, yet we struggle in our commitment to follow him. We are called to pursue justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with you; yet we are content to seek our own comfort and conveniently ignore the cries of those in need. By the light of the Christ child, lead us on a path of goodness and righteousness, as we seek to love all of your bountiful creation.

*** MOMENT FOR SILENT PRAYER**

*** ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

We are God's chosen ones, holy and beloved. The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace. Amen.

*** PASSING OF THE PEACE**

One: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

All: And also with you.

One: Let us share a sign of God's peace.

SPECIAL MUSIC

When a Child is Born

FRED JAY/ZAGAR

Bob Arp, Vocal; Amanda Weeder, Accompanist

CHILDREN'S SERMON

*** PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION**

Julie Graham, Liturgist

SCRIPTURE READING

Colossians 3 : 12

¹² As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.

Ephesians 4: 2

² with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love,

James 4 : 6

⁶ But he gives all the more grace; therefore it says, "God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble."

Hebrews 11 : 1

¹ Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

Romans 5 : 1 - 2

¹ Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,

² through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the Glory of God.

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

All: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

Lessons from a Manger

Katie Claus

*** AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

One: Pause and remember Whose you are, and Whose you will always be.

All: Pause and remember in Whose name you pray, and Whose love you seek, and hold, and give away.

One: Pause and pray that all may see the world with the eyes of wonder of the newborn Christ, with the loving heart of God's act of self-giving.

All: Pause and pray that we may all treat one another with the honor and adoration Mary and Joseph, shepherds and wise ones, angels and all the heavenly choir showed to the tiny child.

One: In the name of Christ, we pray for every person, living now, gone before, or yet to come, in every nation on earth:

All: In the name of Christ we pray. Amen.

*** RESPONSIVE HYMN # 24**

Away in the Manger

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

"God, we give thanks for your presence in our lives. Bless these offerings, that they may be used to advance your kingdom and glorify your name."

*** DOXOLOGY 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**

May God fill you with his Spirit and speak to your innermost being, guiding you in the way you should go. Bless us and what we offer - we ask it in Jesus' name. Amen

*** CLOSING HYMN**

Joy to the World

*** BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

I Saw Three Ships

ARR. HAYES

January 5 - Café LaFed is hosted by Stewardship Committee

THIS WEEK AT FEDERATED CHURCH

Sunday, December 29, 2024

10:00am Worship Service, Sanctuary

3:00pm Spanish Worship Service, Sanctuary

Monday, December 30, 2024

5:00pm Special Olympics, gym

7:00pm Scout Meeting Troop 212, FH

Tuesday, December 31, 2024

No events scheduled

Wednesday, January 1, 2025

Church office closed

Thursday, January 2, 2025

5:00pm Special Olympics, Gym

6:30pm Worship Service, Sanctuary

Friday, January 3, 2025

6:00pm El Buen Prayer Service, EC6

Saturday, January 4, 2025

No events scheduled

Sunday, January 5, 2025

10:00am Worship Service

3:00pm Spanish Worship Service, Sanctuary

JOYS & CONCERNS

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

- ◆ Congratulations to Roland Augspurger as he retires from Behlen Manufacturing after 29 years of service.
- ◆ **Homestead Presbytery: York**
Prayers are requested for the well being and prosperity of the York congregation. May they continue to grow as a caring and nurturing Christian community, as well as individuals, focusing on prayer, Bible study and worship.
- ◆ **UCC Living Waters Association: Fremont First Congregational UCC (Fremont, NE 68025)**

GOLDEN AGE PARKING

The first three parking stalls facing the west in the north parking lot are reserved for mobility challenged congregants. Thank you.

COLUMBUS RESCUE MISSION

Every year we give away over 300 food baskets to those people in the community who are required to make the choice between buying groceries and paying bills. We try to eliminate that decision by providing them with a food basket. If you can help by donating any of the following, it would be greatly appreciated.

Food Basket Grocery List: Meat (hamburger is always a versatile choice), Bags of Potatoes, Cans of Vegetables, Cereal, Rice and Coffee. With a full house, a can of coffee disappears quickly at the Columbus Rescue Mission.

Also needed are: **Bibles, Used vehicles, and Laundry Detergent and Bleach.** When you have 20 people or more staying every night you can only imagine the amount of laundry we have. With lots of laundry comes the need for lots of laundry detergent and bleach. If you are able to help the Mission with detergent and bleach you will be helping our guests progress towards independence. We also need **Disposable Razors.** A shave goes a long way towards projecting a good first impression on a job interview. Thank you, Katie Claus

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Dec. 26 & 29 - First Sunday of Christmas Services

Dec. 30th - Last day for contributions

Jan. 1 - New Years Day

Church office closed

Jan. 2 & 5 - Hymn Sing, Communion

Thank You

Thank you to all the people who volunteered their time and talents to the Christmas Day dinner. Thank you for all of the wonderful donations given from individuals and businesses.

Membership & Growth Small Groups: Do you enjoy concerts, plays, or any upcoming arts and events in Columbus? However do you stay home because you do not want to attend alone and would rather go with others? Here is your chance to go with others. The Membership and Growth Committee is getting a group of people together to attend these events.

If you are interested, please contact Ruth Lind and leave your name, phone number and email address. I will add your name or names to the list and will contact you when the next event comes up. If there is something you would like to see or attend, please give us your ideas. Please contact the church office if you need Ruth's contact information.