



FEDERATED CHURCH

Thursday, March 20 & Sunday, March 23, 2025
Third Sunday in Lent

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	
Georgia Behlen, <i>President</i> Bob Arp, <i>Vice President</i> Barb Sanderson, <i>Secretary</i>			Rev. Edward Yang, Ph.D. <i>Pastor/Head of Staff</i> edward@federatedcolumbus.org	Stuart Gausman <i>Director of Music Ministry</i>
<i>Class of 2025</i>	<i>Class of 2026</i>	<i>Class of 2027</i>	Brenda Sand <i>Christian Education Director</i> brenda@federatedcolumbus.org	Lee Augustin <i>Organist</i>
Pat Anderson	Chris Dixon	Terry Norris	Kathy Zywiec <i>Co-office Administrator, Social Media Coordinator</i>	Amanda Weeder <i>Accompanist</i>
John Lohr	Nila Novotny	Linda Wheatley	Antoneea Kriewald <i>Co-office Administrator</i>	Lay Pastor Antonio Garcia <i>El Buen Pastor Fellowship</i>
Brenda Sand	Max Porter	Marilyn Vrana	Mark Baumann <i>Custodian</i>	Beatriz Garcia Lopez <i>Nursery Attendant</i>
Order of St. Andrew - Federated Church Deacons				
Kathy Leischner	Tammi Gotschall	Peg Meyer		
Barb Olson	Steve McClure	Joe Chin		
Lori Rine	Jesse Abrego	Brenda Wardman		
Andree & Terry Hoeman, <i>Co-Historians</i>				
Bill Royer, <i>Head Usher</i>				

Welcome to Worship at Federated!

THURSDAY MARCH 20 AND SUNDAY MARCH 23, 2025

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

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

PRELUDE

Contemplation
I Want Jesus to Walk with Me
Amanda Weeder, Piano

MENDELSSOHN
ARR. HAM

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

VIDEO One Great Hour of Sharing: “Repairing the Breach”

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Worship is a place to rest.

All: We breathe deeply here.

One: We still our aching bones.

All: We sit in the quiet.

One: We surround ourselves with music.

All: Worship is a place to rest.

One: Worship is a place to grow.

All: We listen for God’s word.

One: We invite it to challenge us.

All: We lean in with curiosity.

One: We ask questions.

All: Worship is a place to grow.

One: So come into this space. Come rest and grow here.

All: For where two or more are gathered, God is always there.

One: Let us worship our gracious God.

*** OPENING HYMN #455 All Creatures of Our God and King (verses 1, 3 & 5)**

*** PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

One: Holy God, there are days when we fail to rest.

All: We stretch ourselves too thin. We say “yes” to every invitation. We run a million miles a minute. We ignore your command to rest.

One: There are also days when we fail to act.

All: We wait for someone else. We take the easy road. We find excuses and justify our inaction.

One: God, forgive our imbalance.

All: Remind us that birds rest, and they also fly. Show us how to do the same. Amen.

*** MOMENT FOR SILENT PRAYER**

*** DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

One: Family of faith, I have good news! Our God does not keep score. Our God does not hold grudges. Our God does not assume the worst about us. No, our God offers grace, and endless second chances, and boundless love. So join me in proclaiming the good news of the gospel:

All: God’s grace is deeper than the ocean. God’s love is wider than the sky. We are seen. We are claimed. We are forgiven. May this realization change and inspire us. Thanks be to God! Amen.

*** PASSING OF THE PEACE**

One: In Jesus Christ, we know God’s forgiveness and peace. The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Let us greet one another with a sign of peace.

* HYMN STF #2152

Change My Heart, O God

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Brenda Sand, Christian Education Director

CHORAL ANTHEM

Amazing Love! How Can it Be

LARSON

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

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Nicole Miller, Liturgist

SCRIPTURE READING

Gospel According to Luke 13 : 1 - 9

Pew Bible, NT, page 76

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

All: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

Edward Yang, Pastor

* **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

We believe in a God who loves and tends to us like a gardener.

We believe that like the trees, some seasons are for growth, and some seasons are for rest.

Some days require pruning, and some require planting.

Fortunately, we believe that our green-thumbed God sees us and cultivates the sweetest fruit.

So may we plant roots, reach for the sky,

grow where we can, and rest when we need,

for we believe there is holiness in the pruning and in the planting.

And we do not grow alone. Thanks be to God, Amen.

* **RESPONSIVE HYMN**

Beneath the Soil (see insert for words and music)

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM (Sun.)

Presentation: Hallie Luedtke, child of Wes & Connor Luedtke

Profession of Faith: Apostles' Creed

Questions to Parents & Congregation

Thanksgiving over the Water

Baptism

* **Welcome**

* **Sing the Faith #2051**

I Was There to Hear Your Boring Cry

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 (Contributions can be placed in box/plate by sanctuary entrance)

* **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**

Generous God, we offer these gifts in the spirit of light and with a heart full of gratitude for what we've been given. These offerings show our commitment to sharing with those in need, neighbors near and far, whom we are unlikely to meet. As we share, we shine the light of our faith with brothers and sisters we may never meet. Bless the gifts, just as you have us, with an extra measure of your grace. In Christ's name, Amen.

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

One License #711910-A

CCLI License #1160936 & 20180420

*** CLOSING HYMN GTG #250**

In the Bulb There is a Flower (see insert for words and music)

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Have Thine Own Way, Lord

ARR. THOMPSON

March 23 - Café LaFed will be hosted by the Worship & Music Committee
March 30 - Café LaFed will be hosted by the Membership & Growth Committee

THIS WEEK AT FEDERATED CHURCH

Sunday, March 23, 2025

8:45am SALT - Adult Education Class, EC4
9:00am Education Hour
10:00am Worship Service, Sanctuary
3:00pm Spanish Worship Service, Sanctuary

Monday, March 24, 2025

1:00pm Lectionary Bible Study, AD2
4:00pm Diamond Dancers
5:00pm Special Olympics
7:00pm Boy Scout Troop 212 Meeting

Tuesday, March 25, 2025

11:30am Staff Meeting
5:30pm Consonaires, Choir Room
7:00pm Governing Council Meeting

Wednesday, March 26, 2025

11:30am Lenten Lunch
4:30pm Lectionary Bible Study, Online
6:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal
6:30pm HIS Puppeteers Rehearsal
7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 27, 2025

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

Friday, March 28, 2025

6:00pm El Buen Prayer Service, EC6

Saturday, March 29, 2025

No Scheduled Events

Sunday, March 30, 2025

8:45am SALT - Adult Education Class, EC4
9:00am Education Hour
10:00am Worship Service, Sanctuary
11:00am 5th Sunday Potluck
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 Kevin Kallweit, he was recognized as the Outstanding Area Farmer, at the Chamber of Commerce Rural Recognition Banquet on Tuesday, the 18th.
- ◆ Congratulations to Alex & Liz Wachter who were married in Waterloo on March 8, 2025. Alex is the son of Rod & Cindee Wachter.
- ◆ Pray for Annette Griffith's family. Her brother, Michael Palik, passed away March 13. Michael lived in Arkansas with his wife, Robin.
- ◆ Pray for Michelle Bellum Goedeken and her family. Michelle's husband, Loren passed away on Monday, March 10th in Hebron, NE. Services are Friday, March 14th at the Methodist Church in Hebron.
- ◆ Pray for the family of Dennis Davis. Dennis is the brother-in-law of Randi and Doug Williams. He was diagnosed with cancer and is starting chemotherapy.
- ◆ Pray for Marilyn Vrana, she is having knee replacement surgery.
- ◆ Pray for Kathy Leischner as she recovers from hip surgery.
- ◆ Pray for Jeane Miller as she recovers from a fall and broken bones.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

March 30 - Children's Sunday with Potluck
April 6 - Hymn Sing and Communion,
 Sunday Funday, Fed @ Fed
April 12 - Men's Fellowship Breakfast
April 13 - Palm/Passion Sunday
April 17 - Maundy Thursday Service
April 20 - Easter Sunday Service

◆ **Homestead Presbytery: Falls City**

Please pray for the community of Falls City and the members of the Falls City congregation. Our last worship service will be Sunday, March 30. We are planning a day of worship, memories, joys and tears. Our congregation was organized in 1866 and it is very hard to accept that we can no longer continue as a viable church. We have been supporters of Falls City during all that time and we hope to continue some programs. Our Community Diaper Closet will continue with the same volunteers and will be located in the First Methodist Church build-

ing. We plan to volunteer for the July Bloodmobile canteen and to host a community bagpipe concert during the annual Cobblestone Festival. We hope members of Homestead Presbytery will join us on March 30 for worship, dinner and a reception. We ask for your prayers as we remember our history and look forward to our new church homes.

◆ **UCC Living Waters Association:
Tilden Peace UCC** (Tilden, NE 68781)

Beneath the Soil

WINCHESTER OLD 8.6.8.6

Words by Anna Strickland, 2024

Music by George Kirbye, 1592



Be - neath the so - il in the dark there's
Re - mem - ber when the world de - mands more
The rest and nur - ture we re - ceive will
In ev - ery sea - son of our lives the



growth too slow to see A trans - for - ma - tion
than you can pro - duce We each grow at a
turn to fruit in time For God made us to
Spi - rit is at work To nur - ture us to



not dis - played in bran - ches, fruit, and leaves
diff - erent pace and growth starts at the roots
grow and change as toward the sky we climb
bear good fruit while root - ed in the earth

In the Bulb There Is a Flower 250

Hymn of Promise

Capo 3: (D) (Em)
F Gm

1 In the bulb there is a flow - er; in the seed, an ap - ple tree;
2 There's a song in ev - ery si - lence, seek - ing word and mel - o - dy;
3 In our end is our be - gin - ning; in our time, in - fin - i - ty;

(A7) (D)
C7 F

in co - coons, a hid - den prom - ise: but - ter - flies will soon be free!
there's a dawn in ev - ery dark - ness, bring - ing hope to you and me.
in our doubt there is be - liev - ing; in our life, e - ter - ni - ty.

(D7) (G) (Em) (D) (Bm) (Em) (F#) (Bm)
F7 B^b Gm F Dm Gm A Dm

In the cold and snow of win - ter there's a spring that waits to be,
From the past will come the fu - ture; what it holds, a mys - ter - y,
In our death, a res - ur - rec - tion; at the last, a vic - to - ry,

(G) (Em) (D) (Bm) (Em) (A7) (D)
B^b Gm F Dm Gm C7 F

un - re - vealed un - til its sea - son, some - thing God a - lone can see.

The writing of this hymn was spurred by a line from the poet T. S. Eliot: "In my end is my beginning."
Shortly after this piece was completed, the author/composer's husband was diagnosed with what proved to be a terminal malignancy, and the original anthem version of this hymn was sung at his funeral.