



# FEDERATED CHURCH

**Thursday, December 18 & Sunday, December 21, 2025**  
**Fourth Sunday of Advent; Lessons & Carols**

**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  |   |
|--|----------------------|----------------------|--|---|
| Georgia Behlen, <i>President</i><br>Bob Arp, <i>Vice President</i><br>Barb Sanderson, <i>Secretary</i> |                      |                      | Rev. Edward Yang, Ph.D.<br><i>Pastor/Head of Staff</i><br><a href="mailto:edward@federatedcolumbus.org">edward@federatedcolumbus.org</a> | Stuart Gausman<br><i>Director of Music Ministry</i>           |
| <i>Class of 2025</i>   | <i>Class of 2026</i> | <i>Class of 2027</i> | Brenda Sand<br><i>Christian Education Director</i><br><a href="mailto:brenda@federatedcolumbus.org">brenda@federatedcolumbus.org</a>     | Lee Augustin<br><i>Pianist</i>                                |
| Pat Anderson   | Nila Novotny         | Terry Norris         | Kathy Zywiec<br><i>Co-office Administrator,<br/>Social Media Coordinator</i>   | Amanda Weeder<br><i>Accompanist</i>                           |
| John Lohr  | Max Porter           | Linda Wheatley       | Antoneea Kriewald<br><i>Co-office Administrator</i>  | Lay Pastor Antonio Garcia<br><i>El Buen Pastor Fellowship</i> |
| Brenda Sand  |                      | Marilyn Vrana        | Mark Baumann<br><i>Custodian</i>   | Deb Gaeth<br>Anjel Garcia Lopez<br><i>Nursery Attendants</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>  |                      |                      |  |   |



**LESSONS & CAROLS**

Lesson 1: Isaiah 9 : 2, 6 - 7 (The people who walk in darkness receive the promise of the Messiah)

Image: Yossi Rosenstein, *Heavens Open*, 2004

**\* Carol #2 Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus**

Lesson 2: Micah 5 : 2 - 5a (The prophet Micah foretells the glory of little Bethlehem)

Image: Nativity Scene with Santons

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

Lesson 3: Luke 1 : 26 - 35, 38 (An angel appears to Mary and announces that she will bear a holy child)

Image: El Greco, *The Annunciation*, ca. 1590-1603

**\* Carol #48 Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming**

Lesson 4: Luke 1 : 46 - 55 (Mary's Song of Praise, also called "The Magnificat")

Image: Domenico Ghirlandaio, *Visitation*, 1491

**Carol #11 Oh Lord, How Shall I Meet You? (verses 1 & 2)**

Lesson 5: "A Christmas Carol" Poem by Christina Rossetti

Video: Offering, Christmas Version (Paul Baloché, iWorship DVD)

Lesson 6: Luke 2 : 1 - 7 (Joseph and Mary travel to Bethlehem, where Mary gives birth to her child)

Image: Adolf Joseph Weidlich, *The Journey to Bethlehem*, 1865

**Carol #25 Away in a Manger (verses 1 & 3)**

Lesson 7: Luke 2 : 8 - 16 (Angels appear to shepherds in the fields and announce the birth of the Messiah)

Image: Matthias Stomer, *Adoration of the Shepherds*, 1632

**\* Carol #23 Angels We Have Heard on High (verses 1 & 3)**

Lesson 8: Matthew 2 : 1 - 11 (Magi from the East come seeking the Messiah and offer gifts to the baby Jesus)

Image: James Tissot, *The Magi Journeying*, ca. 1890

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

Lesson 9: John 1 : 1 - 5, 9 - 14 (The Word of God becomes flesh and lives among us, full of grace and truth)

Image: Sandro Botticelli, *The Mystical Nativity*, circa 1500

**\* Carol #27 Gentle Mary Laid Her Child (verses 1 & 3)**

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: Nicene Creed (responsive reading)**

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
**maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,  
**God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,**  
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;  
**through him all things were made.**

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human.

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.**

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;  
**he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
**the Lord, the giver of life,**  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
**who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,**  
who has spoken through the prophets.

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.**

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. 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

*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

**Almighty God, bless your people. Give us peace, your help, and your love, for we are the sheep of your pasture. Let us be united in your peace—one in the Body, one in the Spirit, and one in the hope of our calling, all through the gift of your endless grace. Amen.**

#### \* CLOSING HYMN #29

*Go, Tell It on the Mountain (verses 1 & 3)*

#### \* BENEDICTION

### POSTLUDE

*Good Christian Friends, Rejoice*

- GERMAN CAROL

December 21 - Café LaFed is hosted by the Chancel Choir

December 28 - Café LaFed is hosted by Deb & John Curry and Beth & Terry Millard

## **THIS WEEK AT FEDERATED CHURCH**

### **Sunday, December 21, 2025**

9:00am Education Hour, EC rooms

10:00am Worship Service, Sanctuary

### **Monday, December 22, 2025**

5:00pm Special Olympics Basketball, Gym

7:00pm Scout Troop 212 meeting, FH

### **Tuesday, December 23, 2025**

11:30am Staff Meeting, office

### **Wednesday, December 24, 2025**

5:00pm Christmas Service, Candle Lighting

8:00pm Christmas Service, Candle Lighting

### **Thursday, December 25, 2025**

7:00am Christmas Dinner prep begins

*Church office is closed*

### **Friday, December 26, 2025**

6:00pm El Buen Prayer Service

### **Saturday, December 27, 2025**

*No events scheduled*

### **Sunday, December 28, 2025**

10:00am Worship Service, Sanctuary

### ◆ **Homestead Presbytery: Columbus Federated**

◆ **UCC Living Waters Association:** Elgin Park  
Congregational UCC (Elgin, NE 68636)

## **JOYS & CONCERNS**

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

- ◆ Pray for Karen Whitney she is having hip surgery on December 31.
- ◆ Pray for Daryl Smith who had a minor stroke and is fighting a blood infection.

Thank you to the congregation for the many donations for the angel tree. The donations were delivered to Emerson school, Center for Survivors, Columbus Rescue Mission and the Columbus Police Department.

Social Concerns and Missions Committee