



# FEDERATED CHURCH

**Thursday, April 23 & Sunday, April 26, 2026**  
**Fourth Sunday of Easter**

**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  |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|
| Bob Arp, <i>President</i><br>Steve Heinisch, <i>Vice President</i>       |  |  | Rev. Edward Yang, Ph.D.<br><i>Pastor/Head of Staff</i><br><a href="mailto:edward@federatedcolumbus.org">edward@federatedcolumbus.org</a> |  |
| <i>Class of 2026</i><br>Nila Novotny<br>Max Porter<br>Jon Kiser          |  |  | Stuart Gausman<br><i>Director of Music Ministry</i>  |  |
| <i>Class of 2027</i><br>Terry Norris<br>Linda Wheatley<br>Marilyn Vrana  |  |  | Lee Augustin<br><i>Pianist</i>   |  |
| <i>Class of 2028</i><br>Marcia Grant<br>Antonio Garcia<br>Placido Campos |  |  | Amanda Weeder<br><i>Accompanist</i>  |  |
| Order of St. Andrew - Federated Church Deacons                           |  |  | Kathy Zywiec<br><i>Co-office Administrator</i><br><i>Social Media Coordinator</i>  |  |
| Tammi Gotschall<br>Steve McClure<br>Jesse Abrego                         |  |  | Antoneea Kriewald<br><i>Co-office Administrator</i>  |  |
| Peg Meyer<br>Joe Chin<br>Brenda Wardman                                  |  |  | Lay Pastor Antonio Garcia<br><i>El Buen Pastor Fellowship</i>  |  |
| Doris Augspurger<br>Lori Rine<br>Georgia Behlen                          |  |  | Mark Baumann<br><i>Custodian</i>   |  |
| Andree & Terry Hoeman, <i>Co-Historians</i>                              |  |  | Deb Gaeth<br>Anjel Garcia Lopez<br><i>Nursery Attendants</i>   |  |
| Bill Royer, <i>Head Usher</i>  |  |  |  |  |

## Welcome to Worship at Federated!

THURSDAY, APRIL 23 & SUNDAY, APRIL 26, 2026

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

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

Prelude

*This is My Father's World*

ARR. RICE

*For the Beauty of the Earth*

ARR. RICE

*All Creatures of Our God and King*

ARR. HAYES

Amanda Weeder, Pianist

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### \* CALL TO WORSHIP

Presbyterian Outlook

One: Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates!

**All: Behold! The Savior of the world is risen!**

One: Fling wide the portals of your hearts:

**All: Let us feel the presence of the God's grace and love!**

One: O Holy spirit, lead us on in worship;

**All: Call us each by name, that we may give God glory!**

### \* OPENING HYMN # 281

*Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*

### \* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: Jesus said, "I am the Good Shepherd; I know my own, and my own know me." In confession, we trust God to know us fully: the good and the bad, the faithful and the sinful. But we also know God's faithfulness, God's mercy, and God's power to redeem us and lead us into new life. Trusting in this promise, let us confess our sins together.

**All: Gracious God, from before the foundation of the world, you called us by name and pledged your steadfast love. But like ornery sheep, we stray from the fold. You offer to lead us, but we prefer to lead ourselves. Christ laid down his life, yet we refuse to lay down our phones, our plans, our pride. Forgive us, O God. Call us back to the open gate of Christ's redeeming love that we may enter your Beloved Community and find restoration for our souls, reconciliation with our enemies and the glory of abiding with you forevermore.**

### \* MOMENT FOR SILENT PRAYER

### \* ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: The proof God's amazing love is this: while we were yet sinners, Christ came to us;

**All: Christ died for us; and Christ rose from the dead so that the gates of heaven may be thrown open wide and all of creation renewed.**

One: So believe the good news: in Jesus Christ, you are forgiven and restored to new, abundant life.

**All: Alleluia! Amen!**

### \* PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: God makes peace within us.

**All: Let us claim it.**

One: God makes peace among us.

**All: Let us share it.**

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

**All: Peace of Christ!**

### \* HYMN STF # 2193

*Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying (sung twice)*

### CHILDREN'S SERMON

Brenda Sand, Christian Education Director

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

One License #711910-A

CCLI License #1160936 & 20180420

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

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Jackie Marker, Liturgist

**SCRIPTURE READING**

Psalm 23

Pew Bible, OT, page 501

Gospel According to John 10 : 1 - 14

Pew Bible, NT, page 91

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

**All: Thanks be to God!**

SERMON

**\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH – “I Believe I Need a Shepherd” by Bruce Prewer**

I believe I need a shepherd.

**Because I am sometimes timid and other times overconfident,**

because I often don't know the best path yet pretend I do,

**because I rush into dead ends or lead others into hazardous places,**

because my brightest ideas are seamed with darkness,

**because the things I crave may not be what is good for me, I need a shepherd.**

I believe in Jesus, the best possible shepherd;

**his wisdom leads me to the best opportunities,**

his word comforts me when I'm anxious or afraid,

**his arm steadies me when I feel weary and heavy-laden,**

his wounded body displays the cost of my rescue.

**I believe in Jesus, the best possible shepherd.**

I believe that I do not find him but he finds me,

**that I under his care by virtue of sheer grace,**

the love he gives me is to be shared with others,

**that he treasures my name and prepares a place for me,**

that his fold transfixes earth and heaven.

**I trust Jesus, the good shepherd. Amen.**

**\* RESPONSIVE HYMN # 387**

*Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us*

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**

**Shepherding God, you lead us, guard us, prepare us and preserve us. We have responded by giving back to you what has come from your hand. Bless these gifts, and multiply them in the life of your church, so that the gates of salvation may be flung wide, and all your Beloved Community may know the love and the peace that is ours in Christ Jesus. Amen.**

**\* CLOSING HYMN # 404**

*Precious Lord, Take My Hand*

**\* BENEDICTION**

April 26 - Café LaFed is hosted by the Foundation Board of Directors

May 3 - Café LaFed is hosted by the Endowment Committee

**THIS WEEK AT FEDERATED CHURCH**

**Sunday, April 26, 2026**

- 8:15am El Buen Pastor Bible Study & Prayer
- 8:45am SALT- Adult Sunday Class, EC4
- 9:00am Education Hour, EC rooms
- 10:00am Worship Service, Sanctuary

**Monday, April 27, 2026**

- 1:00pm Lectionary Bible Study, AD2
- 5:00pm Special Olympics Basketball, Gym
- 7:00pm Boy Scout Troop 212 Meeting

**Tuesday, April 28, 2026**

- 9:30am PEO Bridge Meeting, FH
- 5:30pm Consonaires, Choir room
- 7:00pm Governing Council Meeting, EC8

**Wednesday, April 29, 2026**

- 11:30am Staff meeting, AD2
- 4:30pm Lectionary Bible Study, Online
- 6:30pm Puppeteers Practice/Meeting
- 6:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
- 7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Choir room

**Thursday, April 30, 2026**

- 6:30pm Worship Service, Sanctuary

**Friday, May 1 2026**

- 6:00pm El Buen Pastor Bible Study

**Saturday, May 2, 2026**

- 12:00pm Graduation party for Eliot Yang, FH

**Sunday, May 3, 2026**

- 8:15am El Buen Pastor Bible Study & Prayer
- 8:45am SALT- Adult Sunday Class, EC4
- 9:00am Education Hour, EC rooms
- 10:00am Worship Service, Sanctuary

◆ **Homestead Presbytery:** *Nebraska City*  
 First Presbyterian Church – Nebraska City asks for continuing prayers for our church family and friends. We are joyful that our worship attendance remains constant, and we are grateful for both our members and guests. We are reminded to reach out in the community, working to share the love of Christ with others. We know that whatever happens in our church, community, country and the world..... GOD is in control.....and we thank HIM!

**UCC Living Waters Association:** Albion  
 Congregational UCC (Albion, NE 68620)

**JOYS & CONCERNS**

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

- ◆ Pray for Tim Rathje as he recovers from heart bypass surgery he had on April 22nd.
- ◆ Pray for the family of Margo Zywiec. Margo passed away on Saturday, April 18th. Margo is Kathy Zywiec's sister-in-law.

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

- May 3 - Birthday Recognition, Hymn Sing, Recognition of New Members, Special Music
- May 10 - Mother's Day, flower sale in Narthex
- May 17 - Chancel Choir & Teacher Appreciation; Graduation Sunday
- May 25 - Memorial Day, church office is closed
- May 31 - 5th Sunday Potluck

Social Concerns & Missions Committee is collecting paper towels and toilet papers for the Center for Survivors. April-May-June.

**Volunteers are still needed for the following:**

- ◆ **Liturgists** (all Sundays!!!)
- ◆ **Special Music** starts May 24th for the summer. Sign up in the Narthex now.

For a long time, Federated Church has provided meals for the Rescue Mission on the second Friday of the month. The month of JULY is still available if you would like to help. If two or three families go together to provide a meal, it helps, as grocery prices have been going up. Please talk with friends and see if you can go together to provide a meal for one of these months. This is an important ministry - and it takes all of us to make it work. Thank you.  
**Social Concerns and Missions Committee**