

December 13, 2020
The Third Sunday of Advent

THE FEDERATED CHURCH
Wauconda, Illinois
A community church affiliated with the
United Methodist Church and the American Baptist Churches.



Our Mission Statement: “Sharing God’s Love....”

CHURCH STAFF

Senior Pastor: Rev. Soon Sun Lee
Youth Pastor: Pastor Crystal Johnson
Secretary: Peggy Martin

OFFICE HOURS

**Church Office is Closed but Open by Appointment
Only During These Hours: Monday through Friday, 8am-12pm
Pastors will be working at home.**

Church Phone: 847-526-8471
Church Email: federatedchurch200@sbcglobal.net
Church Website: www.federatedchurchofwauconda.org

Gathering God's People

Words of Welcome/Announcements

Opening Prayer

Lord, we have come to this place from a world of demands and schedules. We have sought hope and peace and have found them here. Now we seek the inner joy that only your presence can bring to our lives. Open our hearts and our spirits to your love. For we ask this in Jesus' Name. **AMEN.**

*** Call to Worship and Lighting of the Advent Wreath: Joy**

L: Today is the third Sunday of Advent,

P: And so we light the candle of joy.

L: Joy is new life beating in a heart that has been broken.

P: Joy is awakening to a new morning from a nightmare of grief.

L: Joy is God's melody amid the discord of life, tuned to hope and peace.

The coming of Christ is Good News of great joy!

**P: We give thanks to God for the promise of full joy
that this season brings to light.**

L: Let us worship God!

**P: We have come to worship and to prepare our hearts
to receive Good News of Great joy.**

Opening Hymn "Hymn of Joy"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t86bLWnqz5E>

How Do You Prepare for the Coming of the Lord, Jesus?

A Video from the Carr Family

Children's Message Louise Bundy

Sharing the Joys and the Concerns

Pastoral Prayers/Lord's Prayer

Prayer Hymn: "Away in a Manger"

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jqh0_pAMeoo

Giving Our Tithes and Offering

Offering Hymn "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4uLELfqIntI&list=RDcpHY3jU27dc&index=6>

Offertory Prayer

Scripture Reading: Luke 2:10-11 (Common English Bible)

The angel said, “Don’t be afraid! Look! I bring good news to you—wonderful, joyous news for all people. 11 Your Savior is born today in David’s city. He is Christ the Lord.

Leader: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God!

Prayer of Preparation

Sermon “The Good News of Great Joy”

Pastor Soon Sun

Closing Hymn “Joy to the World”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0dmO8UPIWoo>

Benediction

Postlude

Announcements:

Sunday School today at 10:00 am via Zoom!

The Winter Rose” Virtual Christmas Cantata

Today, Sunday, Dec 13, the Celebration Singers of the First United Methodist Church of Crystal Lake, will be streaming a Christmas Concert virtually this year on their church YouTube channel. It will be available two different times, 4pm and 7pm. Access the link to watch on First Church's website at <http://firstchurchcl.org/christmasconcert/>.

You're encouraged to host a watch party with your small group, COVID bubble group, family group or just sit back on your couch at home and experience a holiday tradition a little differently this year.

Ann Petersen wishes to “Thank all who willingly donated a flower or flowers in helping beautify our sanctuary for the holiday season. God bless you.”

Blue Christmas service will be December 20 at 9:30 am.

Christmas is expected to be a joyful and cheerful time of year. For some, this is not so. Some people are dealing with the death of a loved one, coping with the loss of a

job, living with cancer or some other disease that puts a question mark over the future. This season may be even more difficult as we wrestle with COVID-19 and isolation. Blue Christmas provides an opportunity to step away and let go into music and readings that acknowledge your feelings without trying to talk you out of them. Even if you love the holidays, you may find comfort in this special service. This Blue Christmas Service is reflective, accepting of where we really are, and helps us hold for healing and hope. So, join us for this Blue Christmas service next Sunday at 9:30 am.

Events This Week:

Today – Finance Meeting via Zoom **and** In-person 12:00 pm

Tuesday – Advent Bible Study 7:00 pm via Zoom

Wednesday 12/16 – Federated Board Meeting 7:00 pm via Zoom

Thursday 12/17 – Education Committee 7:00 pm via Zoom

Monday 12/21 – *Beacon* Deadline

Committee Chairpersons:

Please turn your year-end reports to the church office by 12/31/2020. We will be preparing the Annual Meeting booklets during the month of January in preparation of the January 31,2021 meeting. Please contact Peggy at federatedchurch200@sbcglobal.net if you have any questions.