

December 14, 2025



federated

live your faith

Third Sunday of Advent
Pastor Vicki McGaw

Gathered at Federated Church: 76 Bell Street
Chagrin Falls, OH 44022

Also streaming live at [YouTube.com/TheFederatedChurch](https://www.youtube.com/TheFederatedChurch)



December 14, 2025

Third Sunday of Advent

10 AM

Chimes indicate the service is starting, and silence is appreciated to prepare for worship.

Prelude *Creator of the Stars of Night* (W. Held) Marcia Snavelly, organ

Welcome and Announcements Pastor Vicki McGaw

*** Call to Worship** Mia Kwon

One: In a time of fear and confusion, an angel came to Joseph in a dream and told him not to be afraid. God met him with reassurance and promise.

All: **We come today with our own worries and questions, hoping to hear again those same words: “Do not be afraid.” For even in uncertainty, God’s joy is waiting to be discovered – quietly growing in the middle of our ordinary days.**

One: Like Joseph, we are invited to trust what we cannot yet see – to believe that God is at work in the world and in our lives.

All: **We come to worship the God who turns fear into faith, and doubt into dancing! Our hearts are ready for joy.**

*** Opening Hymn** *Emmanuel, Emmanuel* No. 134

Advent Candle Lighting Judy Riemenschneider,
Laura Hancock, and John Reiter

Children’s Choir Musical *The Wisemen’s Journey* [see insert]
Written by Abigail Goodman;
Directed by Pat Haynish;
Accompanied by Marcia Snavelly

Message for the Young at Heart Pastor McGaw

*** Passing of Christ’s Peace**
(Children through grade 8 are dismissed to Sunday School)

* Those who are able stand

- * **Praise Response** *Surely the Presence of the Lord* No. 263
Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place
I can feel God’s mighty power and God’s grace.
I can hear the brush of angel’s wings, I see glory on each face;
Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.
- Dramatic Reading** *Matthew 1:18-25* adapted from The Voice translation
 Cast: Narrator – Mia Kwon
 Angel Messenger – Penny Joseph
 Joseph – Paul Wright
- Sermon** Pastor McGaw
- Prayer of Thanksgiving and Fellowship of Prayer** Mia Kwon
- Invitation to Generosity** Pastor McGaw
- Offertory** *A Strange Way to Save the World* (Mark Harris) Laura Hancock and
 Joshua Konow, duet;
 Marcia Snavelly, piano
- * **Doxology** tune: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel
Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise God, all Spirit messengers below.
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.
- * **Prayer of Dedication** Pastor McGaw
- * **Closing Hymn** *Angels We Have Heard on High* No. 155
- **Commissioning and Benediction** Pastor McGaw
- Postlude** *He Came Down* (D. Lasky) Marcia Snavelly, organ

~ *Departing to Service* ~





UPCOMING WORSHIP

Sunday, December 21st, 10 AM

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Pastor Vicki McGaw preaches