

Columbia United Church Of Christ

March 24, 2019
Amistad Sunday



CUCC

Columbia United Church of Christ

CUCC Open and Affirming/Inclusion Covenant:

Columbia United Church of Christ celebrates God's boundless and unconditional love by intentionally welcoming and affirming all God's children.

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey;
No matter where you are on your faith journey;
No matter your sexual orientation, gender expression or identity;
No matter your race, culture, ethnicity, nationality or politics;
No matter your age, ability, health, relationship status or family structure;
No matter your social, economic, educational, legal or life circumstances;
You are welcome here!

Called by Jesus to be an Open and Affirming, inclusive faith community, Columbia United Church of Christ commits to welcoming everyone into the full life of our congregation. Our paths and voices may differ, but we journey in faith together.

*Columbia
United Church
Of Christ*



March 24, 2019

10:30 Worship

“Amistad Sunday”

**indicates that all are invited to stand, if comfortably able*

*“...I will bless you (God) as long as I live;
I will lift up my hands and call upon your name...”
-Psalm 63:4*

Welcome and Greetings

Pastor Rick

Prelude

“Deep River”

Amy Crousore
Spiritual

Carrying in the Light of Christ

Abby Dennis

*Call to Worship *(based on Psalm 63)*

Sophie Schupp

We come to this place thirsty.
Our souls thirst for God as in a dry and weary land
Where there is no water.

**We search for God in God’s Holy Place;
We behold God’s Glory; God’s Light and God’s Power.**

We come to this place longing for God’s Love;
God’s steadfast love is better than life.

**Our lips will shout God’s praises;
Our souls are satisfied as with a rich feast.**

We will bless God as long as we live.
We lift up our hands and call upon God’s name.

**In the shadow of God’s wings we sing for joy;
Our souls cling to God; God’s love upholds us.
Come, let us worship God!**

*Opening Hymn “Sing Praise to God”

#22

*Opening Prayer

Ryan Schoeneberg

God of justice; we hear in the stories of your work in the world that your economy of restorative justice is different than the idea of retribution that we attach to justice in our world. Forgive us for the times when we speak justice through lenses of revenge, retribution, fear. Teach us to open our hearts to all who are hurting in the world; that your call to restorative justice is understood. Teach us

to be healers, restorers, servants in the world; that we may all be brought into alignment with you and with each other. May your justice roll down like waters and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream. In Jesus' name we pray; Amen.

*Assurance of Blessing

Pastor Rick

God's vision of justice often conflicts with the ideas of the world; and when it does, we often side with culture rather than siding with God. But God forgives us even when we waver in this way, restoring us and reconciling us to God. We are all blessed and forgiven by God's gracious love; thanks be to God!

*Prayer Response "Jesus, Remember Me"

**Jesus, Remember me...
When you come into your Kingdom!
Jesus, Remember me...
When you come into your Kingdom!**

*Sharing God's Gift of Peace

*At this time, you are invited to greet one another
with a hug or a handshake and the words,
"May God's Peace be with you!"*

Children's Time

Pastor Rick

"I Have Decided to Follow Jesus"
(Sung as children return to their seats)

**I have decided to follow Jesus; (3x)
No turning back, no turning back.**

**The world behind me, the cross before me (3x)
No turning back, no turning back.**

Mission Moment

"One Great Hour of Sharing"

Mahree Skala

Anthem

"Caring is Sharing"

Special Ensemble

Eric Lige

Hebrew Scriptures: Isaiah 55:1-9

Ryan Schoeneberg

The author of the Book of Isaiah calls upon the people of Israel to focus their lives on things that matter, not the trivial details of worldly culture. He calls on them to seek God rather than the desires of the world and instant gratification.

Page #598

Gospel Lesson: Luke 13:6-20

Sophie Schupp

Jesus tells three parables that are very confusing. Sandwiched in the middle of these three parables, Jesus commits an illegal act; healing a woman on the Sabbath day. How is the understanding of the three parables (fig tree, mustard seed and yeast) enhanced by the illegal healing that happens in between?

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*Meditation Hymn

“God’s Great Love is So Amazing”

By Carolyn Gillette (tune: What a Friend We Have in Jesus)

ushers will collect prayer request cards during hymn

**God’s great love is so amazing!
See– a shepherd with his flocks!
Ninety-nine are safely grazing;
One is lost among the rocks.
That good shepherd goes and searches
Till he finds the one astray.
So God says to fill our churches
With the ones who’ve lost their way.**

**God in love is always seeking!
See– a woman with her broom!
For a single coin she’s sweeping
Every corner of the room.
When it’s found she calls each neighbor,
Telling friends from all around.
So God says to search and labor
Till God’s precious ones were found.**

**God keeps waiting, searching, yearning!
See– a father’s heartfelt joy!
Thankful for his son’s returning,
He runs out to greet his boy.
To the angry older brother
Hear the father’s patient call.
So God says to love each other,
For in Christ God loves us all.**

Community Prayer & Silent Prayer

Pastor Rick

The 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Prayer Response “Grant Us Peace”

**Hear our Prayer, O Lord!
Hear our prayer, O Lord!
Hear our Prayer, O Lord!
And Grant us Thy Peace! A-men!**

Sharing our Announcements of Community Life

Pastor Rick

Presenting our Gifts

Amy Crousore

“What Wondrous Love is This?”

John Carter

To give online text “GIVE” to 573.240.4041 and follow the prompts

You can also give online by visiting our website: www.columbiaucc.com

*Response

“Thanks Be to God”

#425

**For the Fruits of all Creation, thanks be to God!
For God’s gifts to every nation, thanks be to God!
For the wonders that astound us,
for the truths that still confound us,
Most of all that love has found us, thanks be to God!**

*Prayer of Dedication

Ryan Schoeneberg

God of love; take these gifts and let them be used to bring your justice to all the world. Through them we serve you by serving one another. We thank you for this opportunity to give; and ask you to bless all who receive your light of hope through the ministries enabled by these gifts. Amen.

*Closing Hymn

“Called as Partners in Christ’s Service”

#495

*Benediction

*Response:

“Let There be Peace on Earth”

**Let there be Peace on Earth and Let it Begin with me!
Let there be Peace on Earth; the Peace that was meant to be!
With God our Creator, Children all are we!
Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony!
Let Peace begin with me; let this be the moment now!
With every step I take let this be my solemn vow:
To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally!
Let there be Peace on Earth; and let it begin with me!**

*Postlude

“Prelude in C Major”

Amy Crousore

JS Bach

*CUCC celebrates God’s boundless love by:
Welcoming all God’s People;
Nurturing Faith and Spiritual Growth;
Challenging and inspiring everyone with vibrant worship;
Building a supportive church family;
Transforming both the congregation and community
through service and outreach*

Columbia United Church of Christ

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Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Fred Brandenburg

TODAY IN WORSHIP:

Greeters: Helen Schultz & Audrey Lasley
Ushers: Mahree Skala & Don Helmreich
Sound Booth: Matt Lucas
Worship Leader: Sophie Schupp & Ryan Schoeneberg
Hospitality: Sue Ann Schaefer & Jo Ellen Grace
Acolyte: Abby Dennis

NEXT SUNDAY IN WORSHIP:

Greeters: John & Brenda Muench
Ushers: Doug Privitt & Mike Rapp
Sound Booth: Dennis Froeschner
Worship Leader: Audrey Lasley
Hospitality: Judi Privitt
Acolyte: Aiden Pierson



COLUMBIA UCC CHURCH COUNCIL

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WELCOME GUESTS! If you are a guest visiting with us this morning, please fill out a green card found in your chair pocket; and be sure to introduce yourself to Pastor Rick! We would love to get to know you better!

NAMETAGS We strive to be a friendly and welcoming church! Members and frequent guests, please wear your nametag each Sunday so we can greet each other most effectively and become an even friendlier church!

ALL MUSIC ...photocopied in the bulletin and reproduced on the video screen is done so using onelicense.net: License #A-727757

CUCC MEN'S ADULT SOFTBALL TEAM

Interested in Men's Softball? There is a sign up sheet in the narthex if you would like to play! If you have any questions, talk to Doug Privitt!

BRING A FRIEND SUNDAY AND LUNCH

April 7 is "Bring a Friend" Sunday at CUCC sponsored by the Membership and Care Ministry Team! We will have activities to welcome your friends and lunch after worship. Start thinking now about who you will bring as your friend to CUCC that day! Lunch will be a taco bar.

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Sun	3/24	<i>ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING SUNDAY</i>	
		Sunday School	9:00am
		Fellowship Time	9:30am
		Worship	10:30am
Mon	3/25	Staff Meeting	12:00pm
		Loaves and Fishes	4:30pm
Tue	3/26	Quilters	9:00am
		Building and Grounds Ministry Team Meeting	6:30pm
Wed	3/27	Youth Leaders Conference at CUCC	9:00am-Noon
		Bible Study	6:00pm
		Chapel Ringers/Celebration Singers	6:30pm/7:30pm
		Confirmation	7:00pm
Thu	3/28	CUCC Lunch Bunch with Nick Foster/VAC	12:00pm
Sun	3/31	Sunday School	9:00am
		Fellowship Time	9:30am
		Worship	10:30am

Many new opportunities to serve CUCC! We are forming an **Archival/Heritage Team** to work on our upcoming anniversary celebrations and archive our historical documents; a **By-Laws Team** to review our church By-Laws and suggest some amendments to the Council; and an **Inclusion Team** to look at ways we can live into our Open and Affirming/Inclusion Covenant. If you are interested in serving on either of these teams, talk to John Graves, James Melton or Pastor Rick!

John Bullerd is also pulling together a **Building and Grounds Ministry Team** to address issues with our physical plant. They will be meeting March 26 at 6:30pm. If you are interested in serving on this team, talk to John Bullerd.

Columbia UCC Prayer List

Please keep in your prayers this week...

Our church... as we discern next steps as an ONA congregation

The family and friends of Hal Shaffer... on their loss

The family and friends of Shari Schubert... on their loss

Gladys Koepke... recovering from a fall (Gene's mother)

Rev. Joyce Iwig... health issues (Deb Koepke's mother)

Rev. Fred Brandenburg... recovering from surgery

Gary Sieckman... recovering from back surgery 2/25

Sue Beckman... living with cancer; anticipating next steps

The Muslims communities in New Zealand... dealing with violence

Dale Gregory; Christine Mseke, Bea Gordon;

Gary Ehrhardt; Lasley Family; Margaret Abbott;

Amy Koerkenmeyer & the Malicoat Family; Remeika/Johnson family

Health Issues:

Deborah Heather (Edie Diehl's niece); Sylvia Mosberger;

Nathan Schnell (Isaiah's friend); Christie O'Very;

Janet Shepard; Kathy Kindrick; Ashley (April's friend)

Serving us in the military:

Alexander & Christopher Tennill, Jeffrey Sanderson

James Walker (Don Helmreich's nephew)

Tim Isom, Tyler Gibson (Oberles' friends)

Daisia Baker (Isaiah's cousin)

UCC/DOC Global Ministries Missionary of the Week:

Carlos Sediles-Real, serving in Mexico

2019 Confirmation Class:

Noah Bredehoeft; Ember Piersee;

Andie Rapp; Ryan Schoeneberg; Sophie Schupp

If you try to fit God into your life,

You will never have time for God.

If you try to fit your life into God,

You will always have time for what matters.