

Columbia United Church Of Christ

October 4, 2026

“World Communion Sunday”



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



October 04, 2026

10:30 a.m.

"Traditions"

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

*"The heavens are telling the glory of God;
The firmament proclaims God's handiwork!"
-Psalm 19:1*

Welcome and Greetings

Pastor Rick

Prelude

"Day by Day"

Tim Guillaume
Ahnfeldt/Howlett

Carrying in the Light of Christ

*Call to Worship

(based on Psalm 19)

Judi Privitt

The heavens are telling about God's glory;
The skies proclaim the wonder of God's handiwork.
**Day by day, God inspires us with Wisdom;
At night, God's presence comforts and assures us.**
Knowing God brings comfort and challenge;
We gather today open to both!
**May the words of our mouths
and the meditations of our hearts
Be acceptable to God, our Rock and Redeemer!
Come, let us worship God!**

*Hymn

"In the Midst of New Dimensions"

#391

*Opening Prayer

Judi Privitt

God of steadfast presence; we know that for You, all things are possible. You give us Your law and encourage us to follow, knowing that doing so will bring us closer to You. Forgive our doubts, our fears, our faithlessness. Remind us again that with You, all things are possible; and inspire us to always follow the way that You have set before us. In Jesus' name we pray; Amen.

*Assurance of Blessing

Pastor Rick

God is with us always, no matter what challenges face us, calling us into relationship with Them. But even when we forget this presence, God still loves us and forgives us. Through our repentance and God's grace we are forgiven, beloved and blessed. Praise be to God!

*Prayer Response

“Weave”

***Weave, weave! Weave us together!
Weave us together in unity and love!
Weave, weave! Weave us together!
Weave us together, together in love!***

*Sharing God's Gift of Peace

Pastor Rick

**May God's Peace be with you!
And also with you!**

Children's Time

“This Little Light of Mine”

#524

(Sung as children return to their seats)

***This little light of mine; I'm gonna let it shine!
This little light of mine; I'm gonna let it shine!
This little light of mine; I'm gonna let it shine!
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!***

Inclusion Moment

“Disability Awareness”

Alisa Lau Sieckman

Old Testament Lesson

Exodus 20:1-4,7-8,12-20

Judi Privitt

This is the story of the Israelites receiving the Ten Commandments. This “roommate agreement” from God was not as much about legal prohibition as it was about how to get “closer” to God. God desires relationship, not legislation.

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Gospel Lesson

Matthew 21:33-46

Judi Privitt

Jesus tells two parables that condemn the practices of the Pharisees. These two parables set them against him even further, leading to his death. How does the truth often lead to destruction for the truth teller?

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Anthem

“Table of Grace”

Celebration Singers
Victor C. Johnson

Sermon

“The Identity of God’s People”

Pastor Rick

*Hymn

“In Christ there is no East or West”

#394

*Invitation to Communion

As we symbolically join together in this sacred memory meal on this World Communion Sunday, it is in community with all of our siblings from above and below the equator; from the North and from Down Under; with our friends in Chiapas and Congo and Jamaica and Japan and Thailand; from every time zone all across the globe. As today’s sunlight inches across land and sea, one Global Community gathers to celebrate their unity.

In company with all believers in every time and beyond time; in the presence of the Triune God whom we worship and adore; with hearts open to all of creation and to our siblings all across the globe, we come together in one world communion to know the risen Christ through this symbolic meal.

Communion Prayer; Pastoral Prayer & Silent Prayer; Invocation

Blessing the Children “Come, Share the Lord” *(insert)*

Institution; Fraction; Distribution

Communion Music Tim Guillaume *Mason/Meredith/arr. Green*
“Nearer My God to Thee/Where Can I Turn for Peace”

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

Thank you, God, for the ministry of Jesus; for Joy in this bread and cup, for love that cannot die, for the glory of creation, and for the mission of justice You have made our own. Give us the gifts of this holy communion; oneness of heart, love for our neighbors both globally and locally, peace in our families, forgiveness of our enemies, the will to serve You every day. Now we gather with our siblings all across the globe, offering the prayer You taught us...

*The LORD’S Prayer *(sung by the congregation)*

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.

Sharing Our Announcements

Pastor Rick

Mission Moment “Neighbors in Need”

Invitation to the Offering

*To give online text “GIVE” to 573.240.4041
You can also give online by visiting our website:
www.columbiaucc.com*

Offertory “At Calvary” Tim Guillaume
Jennifer Cooke

*Prayer of Dedication Judi Privitt

God of love; You have blessed us with much, and called us to be blessings in Your world. In that spirit, we give our gifts today; that they may bless the world with messages of hope. Multiply these gifts, that all may share in the bounty of your provision. Amen.

*Benediction Pastor Rick

*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 Tim Guillaume

Columbia United Church of Christ
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Custodian: Caleb Berry	calebprenticeberry@gmail.com
Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Fred Brandenburg	

TODAY IN WORSHIP:

Worship Leader:	Judi Privitt
Song Leader:	Mike Pierson
Ushers:	Dorothy Williams & Yvonne Williams
Greeters:	Jolene Kirchhoff
Technology:	Brent Marcks & Ted Dachroeden
Council Stewards:	Mary Lorber

NEXT SUNDAY IN WORSHIP:

Worship Leader:	Mahree Skala
Song Leader:	Mike Pierson
Ushers:	Llona Weiss & Pat Forward
Greeters:	John & Brenda Muench
Technology:	Carissa Graves & John Graves
Council Stewards:	Aimee Andersen & Tricia Soncasie

COLUMBIA UCC CHURCH COUNCIL

Moderator:	Jerry Kiesling
Vice Moderator:	Corinne Remeika
Secretary:	Tricia Soncasie
Treasurer:	Aimee Andersen
Recording Treasurer:	Christine Staelens
Building & Grounds:	Allen Posz
Fellowship & Hospitality:	Mary Lorber
Finance & Stewardship:	Sue Ann Schaefer
Inclusion & Affirmation:	Ashley Ramirez
Little One's Day Out:	Darla Privitt
Membership & Care:	Judi Privitt
Nurture & Education:	Jessica Lucas
Outreach & Advocacy:	Mahree Skala
Worship & Music:	Kitty Rogers



Online Giving

NURSERY CARE is available for children in kindergarten and younger in the educational wing. If you need help finding it, ask an usher!

BUDGET MEETING - 10/11

The proposed 2027 budget, vetted and approved unanimously by the Finance & Stewardship Ministry Team and the Church Council, will be distributed after worship today (hard copies and email). The congregation will be voting on this, as well as our “Creation Justice Covenant” after worship on 10/11. For more detail on the budget, talk to Aimee Andersen or Sue Ann Schaeffer.

MOVIE NIGHT - 10/16

The Inclusion and Affirmation Ministry Team will be hosting a Movie Night in the Fellowship Hall on 10/16 at 6:30 p.m. showing “The Green Book,” a movie about segregation. This movie contains adult themes and dialogue; childcare will be provided. Popcorn and soda will be available as well. A discussion will follow.

BALLOT INITIATIVES FORUM - 10/18

On 10/18, during the 9:00 education hour, Mahree Skala will present a non-partisan look at the ballot initiatives in the Fellowship Hall. She will have information about each ballot initiative, and what the impact of ratification would be for each one. All are welcome to join in for this important hour!

THIS WEEK’S CALENDAR

Sun	10/4	<i>World Communion Sunday</i>	
		Bible Study/Sunday School	9:00 a.m.
		Healthy Relationships Training	9:00 a.m.
		Fellowship	10:00 a.m.
		Worship (in person and livestream)	10:30 a.m.
Mon	10/5	Nurture & Education Ministry Team	6:30 p.m.
		Scouting America	7:00 p.m.
Tue	10/6	Quilters	10:00 a.m.
Wed	10/7	Chapel Ringers/Celebration Singers	6:00/7:00 p.m.
		Confirmation	7:15 p.m.
Thu	10/8	Women’s Fellowship	9:30 a.m.
		Worship & Music Ministry Team	5:30 p.m.
Sat	10/10	Team Earth Field Trip	8:30 a.m.
Sun	10/11	Men’s Fellowship	7:30 a.m.
		Bible Study/Sunday School	9:00 a.m.
		Fellowship	10:00 a.m.
		Worship (in person and livestream)	10:30 a.m.
		Congregational Budget Meeting	11:30 a.m.

Columbia UCC Prayer List

Please keep in your prayers this week . . .

Don Privitt, Jan Barry ... recovering from health issues

Alethea Tennill... recovering from broken leg

Students and staff at Alpha Hart Lewis Elementary . . . our Partner in Education

All those whose lives are affected by state sanctioned terrorism including:

Owen Ramsingh and family, Wilbur Rafael Garces Perez,

The families of Renee Good, Alex Pretti, Lorenzo Salgado, Sebastian Guerrero,
Jack and Claudia (Pastor Rick's friends), and so many others

Our US Military... deployed in the Middle East

In Hospice Care:

Joyce Andersen (Aimee's mother-in-law), Mark Fairley,

Mike Freeman (Corine Remeika's friend), Julie Roper (Alexandra's mother),
Fred Wilke (Alethea's father)

Health Issues:

Jeff Kies, Barry Kirchhoff, Glenn Duermeyer, Evie Marcks,

Julia Marsh, Becky Weston, Connie Fairley, Cody Kile, Dr. Ryan Link,

Kenny & Jane Holtgrewe (Marsha Posz's parents),

Cassandra Gartner (Edie's friend), Rev. Carolyn Held (Edie's niece),

Martha (friend of the Veteto family), Ken (Adam Veteto's cousin),

Mary Jane Johnson (Joe Remeika's sister)

Challenges in Life:

Sheila, The Koerkenmeier & Malicoat Families

Living in Assisted Living Facilities:

Dean & Jan Barry, Vernie Blank, Gary Ehrhardt, Julie Roper

Living in Independent Living Facilities:

Sue Beckman, Linda Evans, Don Privitt, Walter & Patty Schroeder

Serving us in the military:

Aaron Dachroeden, Christopher Tennill, Dane Wilson,

Garrett Holtgrewe... (Marsha Posz's nephew)

Pregnancies in our Church Family:

Kristin & Adam Veteto

*If you are interested in joining our Prayer Team or have a prayer request
for our team to lift up, please contact*

*Melba Shaffer (573) 474-2997 melbamaes@gmail.com
or Tricia Soncasie (314) 374-7477 tsoncasie@aol.com*

Exodus 20:1-4, 7-8, 12-20

1 Then God spoke all these words, 2 “I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery;

3 you shall have no other gods before me.

4 “You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above or that is on the earth beneath or that is in the water under the earth.

7 “You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

8 “Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy.

12 “Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you. 13 “You shall not murder.,

14 “You shall not commit adultery. 15 “You shall not steal. 16 “You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

17 “You shall not covet your neighbor’s house; you shall not covet your neighbor’s wife, male or female slave, ox, donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.”

18 When all the people witnessed the thunder and lightning, the sound of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking, they were afraid and trembled and stood at a distance

19 and said to Moses, “You speak to us, and we will listen, but do not let God speak to us, lest we die.”

20 Moses said to the people, “Do not be afraid, for God has come only to test you and to put the fear of him upon you so that you do not sin.”

Matthew 21:33-46

33 “Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a winepress in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went away.

34 When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce.

35 But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another.

36 Again he sent other slaves, more than the first, and they treated them in the same way. 37 Then he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’

38 But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.’

39 So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. 40 Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?”

41 They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.”

42 Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the scriptures: ‘The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord’s doing, and it is amazing in our eyes’?

43 “Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces its fruits.

44 The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces, and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.”

45 When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them.

46 They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

In the Midst of New Dimensions

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*Julian Rush, 1985; alt.**Gen. 9:12-16; Exod. 13:21-22; Num. 14:14*

C C/B F C F Am7 Dm7 G7sus4 G7

1 In the midst of new di-men-sions, in the face of chang-ing ways,
 2 Through the flood of starv-ing peo - ple, war-ring fac-tions and de - spair,
 3 As we stand a world di - vid - ed by our own self - seek - ing schemes,
 4 We are man and we are wom-an, all per-sua-sions, old and young,
 5 Should the threats of dire pre-dic-tions cause us to with - draw in pain,

C C/B F C F Am7 Dm7 G C

Who will lead the pil - grim peo - ples wan-dering in their sep - arate ways?
 Who will lift the ol - ive branch-es? Who will light the flame of care?
 Grant that we, your glob - al vil - lage, might en - vi - sion wid - er dreams.
 Each a gift in your cre - a - tion, each a love song to be sung.
 May your blaz-ing phoe-nix spir - it res - ur - rect the church a - gain.

Refrain
Am Em F C F C G7 C Dsus4 D7 G7sus4 G7 Am

God of rain-bow, fier - y pil - lar, lead-ing where the ea-gles soar, We your

Em F C F C/E F C/E F C/E Dm7 G7 C

peo-ple, ours the jour-ney now and ev - er, now and ev - er, now and ev - er - more.

Julian Rush, an ordained minister in the United Methodist Church, has spent more than a decade as director of the Colorado AIDS Project. He wrote this hymn on the theme of "diversity" for a meeting of the Rocky Mountain Conference (United Methodist).

Tune: NEW DIMENSIONS 8.7.8.7. with refrain
Julian Rush, 1985
 Arr. The New Century Hymnal, 1994

In Christ There Is No East or West

*1 Cor. 12:13; Gal. 3:28; Eph. 2:14-22**John Oxenham, 1908; alt.**St. 3, Laurence Hull Stookey, 1987*

1 In Christ there is no East or West, in Christ no South or North;
 2 In Christ shall true hearts ev - ery-where their high com - mu - nion find;
 3 In Christ is nei - ther Jew nor Greek, and nei - ther slave nor free;
 4 In Christ now meet both East and West, in Christ meet South and North;

But one com - mu - ni - ty of love through - out the whole wide earth.
 God's ser - vice is the gold - en cord close - bind - ing hu - man - kind.
 For men and wom - en live in God, and all are kin to me.
 One joy - ous, true com - mu - ni - ty through - out the whole wide earth.

Singer and composer Harry T. Burleigh studied at the National Conservatory of Music from 1892 to 1896. He is recognized as the first African-American composer to employ spirituals in concert arrangements. This tune is named after the rector of St. George's Episcopal Church in New York City, where Burleigh served as baritone soloist for more than fifty years.

*Tune: McKEE C.M.
 African-American melody
 Arr. Harry T. Burleigh, 1939
 Alternate setting: ST. PETER*

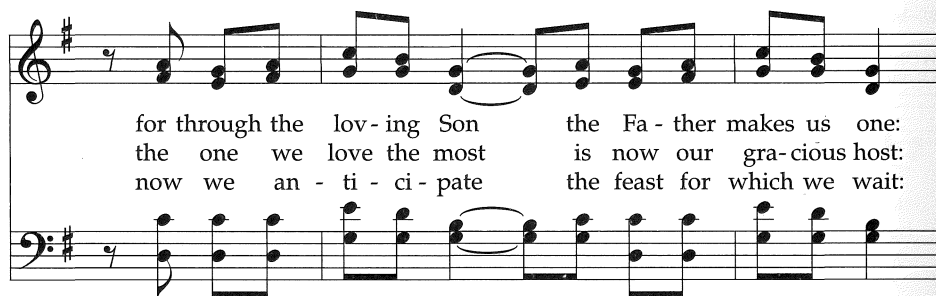
Refrain



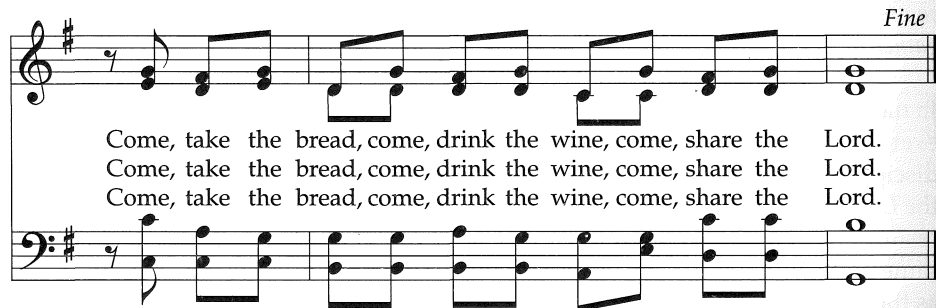
1. We gath - er here in Je - sus' name,
 2. He joins us here, he breaks the bread,
 3. We'll gath - er soon where an - gels sing;



his love is burn - ing in our hearts like liv - ing flame;
 the Lord who pours the cup is ris - en from the dead;
 we'll see the glo - ry of our Lord and com - ing King;



for through the lov - ing Son the Fa - ther makes us one:
 the one we love the most is now our gra - cious host:
 now we an - ti - ci - pate the feast for which we wait:



Come, take the bread, come, drink the wine, come, share the Lord.
 Come, take the bread, come, drink the wine, come, share the Lord.
 Come, take the bread, come, drink the wine, come, share the Lord.

Fine



1. No one is a stran-ger here, 2. We are now a fam-i-ly of which the Lord is head;



find-ing our for-give-ness here, we in turn for-give all wrongs.
though un-seen he meets us here in the break-ing of the bread.





Saturday, October 24, 2026
11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
Ceremonial Walk at 12:00 p.m.
Stankowski Field Parking Lot
810 Tiger Ave
Columbia, MO 65201

***Will you be there to help
us cross the finish line?***

The Step Up for Down Syndrome Walk & Festival is a day of celebration, family fun and community. Guests of all ages will enjoy an array of entertainment and activities, ie; live music and dancing, bounce houses, games, face painting and so much more. Lunch, beverages and snacks will also be provided + the commemorative Step Up for Down Syndrome event t-shirt, to be worn the day of the event.

Join Norah's Team

1. Visit stepupcentralmo.org/join-team/ (QR Code)
2. Select Team "Norah the Explorer"
3. Fill out the rest of the orange form
4. Show up October 24 to Step Up for Down Syndrome

