

# Columbia United Church Of Christ



August 4, 2024  
"Prophetic Speaking"



# C U C C

**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**



**August 4, 2024**

**9:30 a.m.**

**"Truth"**

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

*"... Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your steadfast love.  
According to Your abundant mercy, blot out my transgressions."  
Psalm 51:1*

Welcome and Greetings

Rev. Mike Williams

Prelude

"With Verdure Clad"

Steve Jannetti  
Franz Haydn

Carrying in the Light of Christ

\*Call to Worship

*(based on Psalm 51)*

Shelly Adams

Have Mercy upon us, O God, according to Your Steadfast Love!  
According to Your mercy, blot out our transgressions!

**We know our transgressions and our sins of separation;  
We have faith that God washes us clean and fills us with life!**

You restore our joys and bring us salvation!  
You sustain in us willing Spirits; willing to serve!

**Filled with God's Holy Spirit, our mouths are opened  
And we are fired up to sing God's praises!  
Come, let us worship God!**

\*Hymn

"Guide Me, O My Great Redeemer"

#18

\*Opening Prayer

Shelly Adams

**Faithful God, Your mercies to us are new every morning. In Your presence we gather to give You our thanks and praise. You know our hearts, even the shadows we hide from each other, and ourselves. Speak to us through your Scriptures. Pour out Your Holy Spirit on each of us that we might know once more our need for You and the grace You offer each of us through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

\*Assurance of Blessing

Rev. Mike Williams

Friends, while it is true that we regularly fall short in our walk with Christ, it is an even greater truth that God's grace has been poured out on each of us. Through the power of Holy Spirit we have been washed clean. Our hearts have been made new. Now in this time of worship, let us with joy and gladness declare our praise for the God of our salvation. Amen.

\*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

Rev. Mike Williams

May God’s Peace be with you!

**And also with you!**

Children’s Time

Rev. Mike Williams

“I Have Decided to Follow Jesus”  
*(Sung as children return to their seats)*

*I have decided to follow Jesus  
I have decided to follow Jesus  
I have decided to follow Jesus  
No turning back, no turning back!*

Faith Sharing Moment

“The Christmas Fund”

Mahree Skala

Old Testament Lesson

2 Samuel 12:1-13

Shelly Adams

*This is the story of the consequences of King David’s quest to take Bathsheba as his wife, even though she was already married to Uriah. The prophet Nathan is charged with speaking the truth to power, even when it is difficult and dangerous to do so; the job of the prophet. He boldly speaks his accusations against his King.*

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Gospel Lesson

John 6:24-35

Shelly Adams

*The disciples are wrapped up in worldly thinking, and Jesus is trying to encourage them to think spiritually. They are looking for earthly signs, forgetting that heavenly signs do not come from earthly origin, but from God. In an attempt to use the ordinary to exemplify the extraordinary, Jesus tells them that he is the bread of life.*

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Anthem

“How Great Art Thou”

Casey Wood & Kyrsten Wehner

Gary Lanier

Sermon

“You are the Man!”

Rev. Mike Williams

\*Hymn

“In Christ, There Is No East or West”

#394

\*Invitation to Communion

Rev. Mike Williams

*This is Jesus’ table, not ours; and everyone is invited when Christ is the host. No matter who you are or where you are on life’s journey, you are welcome to join us for this feast of remembrance. When invited, please come forward via the center aisle to receive communion from the stewards.*

Pastoral Prayer, Silent Prayer, & Invocation

Rev. Mike Williams

Blessing the Children “Let Us, Talents and Tongues Employ” #347

*As we celebrate this sacrament, we wish to share our blessings with our children. During the hymn, our children are invited to come forward via the center aisle and receive a special blessing from Pastor Rick.*

Institution; Fraction; Distribution Rev. Mike Williams & Shelly Adams

*You will be invited to come forward via the center aisle to receive Communion from the Communion Stewards. There is gluten free bread and grape juice available; please ask your communion steward and they will assist.*

Communion Music “Let Us Break Bread Together” Steven Jannetti  
Phillip Keveren

\*Prayer of Thanksgiving Rev. Mike Williams

**God of love, we thank You for this meal through which we remember Jesus’ ministry with us. We thank You for the prophetic tradition You have given us and pray that this meal may inspire us to live prophetically. Now we gather together as one church, uniting in the prayer Jesus taught us:**

\*The LORD’S Prayer (*sung by the Congregation, led by Casey Wood*)

**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.**

Sharing our Announcements of Community Life Shelly Adams

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](http://www.columbiaucc.com)*

Offertory “O Rest in the Lord” Steve Jannetti  
Feliz Mendelssohn

\*Prayer of Dedication Shelly Adams

**Lord God, we bring to You the ordinary things of life: bread and cup and finances, and with them we bring ourselves. Take us, and our tithes and offerings, to do Your work in the world. May Your Holy Spirit be with us as we receive the bread and cup from this table. Fill us with Your grace. Accept the praise we offer, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

\*Benediction

Rev. Mike Williams

\*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

“Minuet in F ”

Steve Jannetti  
*George F. Handel*

### **The Christmas Fund**

The Christmas Fund is one of the four special annual offerings of the United Church of Christ. Through the Christmas Fund, the United Church of Christ has been caring for active and retired clergy and lay employees of the church for over 100 years by providing emergency grants, supplementation of small annuities and health premiums, and Christmas “Thank You” gift checks each December to lower-income retirees. CUCC traditionally celebrates “**Christmas in July/August**” to remember The Christmas Fund. We will be collecting for The Christmas Fund through August 4.

From the United Church of Christ Christmas Fund website: United Church of Christ congregations and members have blessed “the Christmas Fund” with their generosity for many years. This year, your care and compassion will be especially appreciated by those servants of the church who are facing a time of need. Thank you!

Grace is truly at the center of everything for us humans. Grace shapes our faith, our family, our friendships, and our identity. Grace is not just being given the benefit of the doubt, or God bestowing favor on the less than worthy. Grace is also the root of gratitude and thankfulness. It is at the heart of our thanksgiving/eucharistic meal. Our expressions of grace are a reminder of the great gifts of God to us, and our grateful response to that fullness.

Your gifts to the Christmas Fund allow the United Church Board for Ministerial Assistance to provide grace, hope, and joy through financial relief to UCC pastors, lay church leaders, and their families. There are envelopes in the bulletin for The Christmas Fund, or you can also donate by giving online through our CUCC website or text the word “give” to 573.240.4041. Thank you for your gifts to The Christmas Fund!

# Columbia United Church of Christ

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<b>Student Pastor:</b> Shelly Adams	<a href="mailto:shellyraeadams@gmail.com">shellyraeadams@gmail.com</a>
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<b>Custodian:</b> Caleb Berry	<a href="mailto:calebprenticeberry@gmail.com">calebprenticeberry@gmail.com</a>
<b>Pastor Emeritus:</b> Rev. Fred Brandenburg	

## TODAY IN WORSHIP:

Worship Leader:	Shelly Adams
Ushers:	Llona Weiss & Melba Shaffer
Greeters:	Jolene Kirchhoff
Technology:	John Graves & Carissa Graves
Hospitality:	Jerry Kiesling & Kristin Veteto
Council Stewards:	Jerry Kiesling & Kristin Veteto

## NEXT SUNDAY IN WORSHIP:

Worship Leader:	Rev. Mike Williams
Ushers:	Charlie Marcks & Mahree Skala
Greeters:	Carol Duermeyer
Technology:	Mike Pierson
Hospitality:	Mary Lorber
Council Stewards:	Mary Lorber



Online giving

## COLUMBIA UCC CHURCH COUNCIL

<b>Moderator:</b>	Kurt Heine	<a href="mailto:heinekurt@gmail.com">heinekurt@gmail.com</a>
<b>Vice Moderator:</b>	Jerry Kiesling	<a href="mailto:rollzierp50@gmail.com">rollzierp50@gmail.com</a>
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<b>Inclusion &amp; Affirmation:</b>	Tricia Price	<a href="mailto:tricialprice@gmail.com">tricialprice@gmail.com</a>
<b>Little One's Day Out:</b>	Kristin Veteto	<a href="mailto:kristinnoelveteto@gmail.com">kristinnoelveteto@gmail.com</a>
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<b>Pastor:</b>	Rev. Rick Oberle	<a href="mailto:rick@columbiaucc.com">rick@columbiaucc.com</a>

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**NURSERY CARE** is available for children in kindergarten and younger in room #201 in the educational wing. If you need help finding it, ask an usher!

**SUMMER BOOK STUDY CONTINUES TODAY**

Shelly Adams is leading a summer book study after worship for four Sundays, continuing today. The book is, “Green Faith: Mobilizing God’s People to Save the Earth” by Fletcher Harper. Even if you have not read the book, stick around; the conversation will be rewarding. *If you would like a book, let Shelly know!*

**YOU CAN HELP PUBLICIZE CUCC!**

Give us a 5-star review on Google! A five star review will help direct others to our church, and will cause our church to “pop up” more prominently on searches. Get the word out – share the Good News! Don’t let CUCC remain the best kept secret in town! Check out the Friday email for links to create your review.

**SCOUTING AMERICA AND CUCC**

Everyone at CUCC is invited to kick off our partnership with Scouting America with a festive BBQ! The Scouts have invited us to join them on August 19 for their kickoff of the year. The Fall BBQ Kickoff will be held at the CUCC Shelter House on August 19 at 6:00 p.m. Donations are welcome. Watch for the RSVP sign up sheet!

**SUNDAY SCHOOL AND YOUTH PARENTS GATHERING**

Families of kiddos and youth from age 3-12th grade, stick around after worship on August 25 for a Lunch and Learn detailing new and exciting programs happening this fall at CUCC! LUNCH WILL BE SERVED– CATERED FROM DICKY’S BBQ! We have a lot of great things up our sleeve for this coming year – we promise it will be fun! Please RSVP to Alexandra in the church office by August 15. Other questions? Talk to Lena Muench! Nursery will be provided!

**MINISTRY TEAMS FAIR**

Don’t miss worship on August 25! Our Ministry Teams will be offering special presentations in worship about what they do, and how you can intersect with their ministries. We will be talking about all the ways CUCC impacts God’s world in extraordinary ways. It will be a fun filled fair for all!

**THIS WEEK’S CALENDAR**

Sun	8/4	Bible Study	8:30 a.m.
		Fellowship Time	9:00 a.m.
		Worship (in person and livestream)	9:30 a.m.
		Stay and Learn– Book Study with Shelly	11:00 a.m.
Tue	8/6	Quilters	10:00 a.m.
Sun	8/11	Bible Study	8:30 a.m.
		Fellowship Time	9:00 a.m.
		Worship (in person and livestream)	9:30 a.m.

**We are on Summer Schedule!**  
**Worship starts at 9:30 a.m.**  
**June 9–September 1**

# Columbia UCC Prayer List

*Please keep in your prayers this week . . .*

The family of Dale Weiss... on their loss (Gary Weiss' father)

Pat Schroeder... health issues

Sharon Elliott... health issues

Steve Price... recovering from surgery

Jonathan Schultz... recovering from hand injury

Jennifer... diagnosed with cancer (Edie Diel's niece)

Joanne Good... health issues (Sue Beckman's friend)

Students and staff at Alpha Hart Lewis Elementary . . . our partnership friend

The people of Palestine, Israel, and Ukraine

## *Health Issues:*

John Adams, Cheryl Cobb, John Graves, Barry Kirchhoff

Connie Hackman Fairley, Stephanie Porter (Phillip Neale's niece)

## *Challenges in Life:*

Sheila, The Koerkenmeier & Malicoat Families, Steve (Pastor Rick's Cousin)

## *Living in Care Facilities:*

Neal Sprick, Gary Ehrhardt, Vernie Blank, Helen Graves

## *Living in Independent Living Facilities:*

Don Privitt, Alice Moon

## *Serving us in the military:*

Christopher Tennill, Dane Wilson, Aaron Dachroeden, Jeffrey Sanderson

*Did you know we have a Prayer Team here at CUCC, lifting up the prayer concerns of our congregation? 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 [whals@centurytel.net](mailto:whals@centurytel.net)*

*Or Tricia Soncasie (314) 374-7477 [tsoncasie@aol.com](mailto:tsoncasie@aol.com)*

***CUCC celebrates God's boundless love by:***

***Welcoming all God's Children;***

***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***



## Guide Me, O My Great Redeemer

Exod. 13:21; 16:4; 17:6; Ps. 105:39-44; Rev. 22:1-2

William Williams, 1745

St. 1, transl. Peter Williams, 1771; alt.

St. 2-3, transl. William Williams, 1772; alt.

1 Guide me, O my great Re - deem - er, pil - grim through this  
 2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain, where the heal - ing  
 3 When I reach the Riv - er Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious

bar - ren land; I am weak, but you are might - y;  
 wa - ters flow. Let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar  
 fears sub - side. Death of death, and hell's de - struc - tion,

hold me with your power - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,  
 lead me all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - erer, strong de - liv - erer,  
 land me safe on heav - en's side. Songs of prais - es, songs of prais - es

feed me till I want no more, feed me till I want no more.  
 ev - er be my strength and shield, ev - er be my strength and shield.  
 I will ev - er sing to you, I will ev - er sing to you.

John Hughes, a railroad official by trade, composed this tune for the 1907 anniversary of Capel Rhondda, Pontypridd, Wales. Cwm Rhondda refers to the "low valley" area surrounding the urban district of Rhondda in southern Wales.

Tune: CWM RHONDDA 8.7.8.7.8.7.7.

John Hughes, 1907

Alternate setting: ZION

## 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

## 2 Samuel 12: 1-13

1 and the LORD sent Nathan to David. He came to him, and said to him, “There were two men in a certain city, the one rich and the other poor.

2 The rich man had very many flocks and herds;

3 but the poor man had nothing but one little ewe lamb, which he had bought. He brought it up, and it grew up with him and with his children; it used to eat of his meager fare, and drink from his cup, and lie in his bosom, and it was like a daughter to him.

4 Now there came a traveler to the rich man, and he was loath to take one of his own flock or herd to prepare for the wayfarer who had come to him, but he took the poor man’s lamb, and prepared that for the guest who had come to him.”

5 Then David’s anger was greatly kindled against the man. He said to Nathan, “As the LORD lives, the man who has done this deserves to die;

6 he shall restore the lamb fourfold, because he did this thing, and because he had no pity.”

7 Nathan said to David, “You are the man! Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: I anointed you king over Israel, and I rescued you from the hand of Saul;

8 I gave you your master’s house, and your master’s wives

into your bosom, and gave you the house of Israel and of Judah; and if that had been too little, I would have added as much more.

9 Why have you despised the word of the LORD, to do what is evil in his sight? You have struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword, and have taken his wife to be your wife, and have killed him with the sword of the Ammonites.

10 Now therefore the sword shall never depart from your house, for you have despised me, and have taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your wife.

11 Thus says the LORD: I will raise up trouble against you from within your own house; and I will take your wives before your eyes, and give them to your neighbor, and he shall lie with your wives in the sight of this very sun.

12 For you did it secretly; but I will do this thing before all Israel, and before the sun.”

13 David said to Nathan, “I have sinned against the LORD.” Nathan said to David, “Now the LORD has put away your sin; you shall not die.

### **John 6: 24-35**

24 So when the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for Jesus.

25 When they found him on the other side of the sea, they

said to him, “Rabbi, when did you come here?”

26 Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves.

27 Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal.”

28 Then they said to him, “What must we do to perform the works of God?”

29 Jesus answered them, “This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.”

30 So they said to him, “What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing?”

31 Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, ‘He gave them bread from heaven to eat.’ ”

32 Then Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven.

33 For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.” 34 They said to him, “Sir, give us this bread always.”

35 Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.