



September 6, 2020

9:30 Worship

"Labor Day"

** indicates those who are comfortably able may stand*

"...give me your understanding;

That I may keep your law, and observe it with my whole heart..."

-Psalm 119:34

Gathering Music

Amy Crousore

Welcome and Greetings

Pastor Rick

Prelude

"Prelude in C Minor"

Lucy Smith

Frederic Chopin

Carrying in the Light of Christ

*Call to Worship *(adapted from Psalm 119)*

Pete Jaberg

Teach us, O God, your will and your way;
Teach us your promises and commandments;

**We will observe them to the end;
God will be our strength and our guide!**

Give us understanding, that we may keep your Law;
That we may observe it with steadfast hearts!

**God's Law is written on our hearts;
A Holy relationship with God, our Creator!**

Lead us in the path of your Commandments, O God;
We delight in relationship with you!

**We Long for God and God's Righteousness gives us life!
Come, let us worship God!**

*Opening Hymn "Be Now My Vision"

NCH #451

*Opening Prayer

Pete Jaberg

God of love and relationship; you call us into relationship with you, and you challenge us to exemplify that relationship in our interactions with others. We know that often we fall short of this ideal. Forgive us for the times we fall short of your call to unity. Help us open our hearts to the true life you offer, eternal living as your agents for change, working in the world. Forgive us our sins, the words and actions that separate us from you, from each other, and from our true selves; and teach us to sin no more. We thank you for the blessings of community, for this church and for the people we meet every day. We offer our prayers in Jesus' name; Amen.

*Assurance of Blessing Pastor Rick
We are not just called to believe in Jesus; we are called to exemplify Jesus in our actions in the world. We are called to be in relationship; but even when we fail to live into that call God is with us, forgiving us and challenging us to try again. We are all God's children, blessed and beloved, forgiven and free! Praise be to God!

*Prayer Response "Spirit of the Living God" NCH #283
Spirit of the Living God, Fall afresh on me!
Spirit of the Living God, Fall afresh on me!
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me!
Spirit of the Living God, Fall afresh on me!

Children's Time Pastor Rick
Response "This Little Light of Mine"
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!

Living our Mission "CROP Walk" Jessica Jenks

Anthem Ed Rollins
Larson
"They'll Know We are Christians"

New Testament Lesson: Romans 13:8-10 Pete Jaberg
In Paul's letter to the Christian Church in Rome, he summarizes the commandments with the admonition to love one another. Love does no wrong to a neighbor, therefore love is the fulfillment of the law. Or, as the United Church of Christ says, "It's all about love."

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 18:15-20 Pete Jaberg
After the disciples show that they still don't understand the message of repentance that Jesus has been sharing with them, Jesus gives them several examples of how his followers should behave. In this example, he talks of church politics and whether we should let societal expectations dilute our message of Good News and Inclusion.

Sermon: "What is Sin" Pastor Rick

*Meditation Hymn "Help Us Accept Each Other" NCH #388

Community Prayer

Silent Prayer

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

“Gavotte”

Amy Crousore
JS Bach

*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 “**We Praise You, O God**”
We praise you, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;
In grateful devotion our tribute we bring.
We lay it before you, we kneel and adore you;
We bless your Holy name, glad praises we sing!

NCH #420

*Prayer of Dedication

Pete Jaberg

God of love; you call us into relationship, but it is only by giving of ourselves that we can truly be part of a relationship with others. We give our time, our hearts, our best intentions; and we also give our financial offerings that others may live into the same promises of Resurrection that we enjoy. Take these gifts and bless them. Multiply them and use them to fulfill your Kingdom goals of hope, justice, inclusion and love; all the factors that encourage relationship. 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

“The Royal Banners”

Amy Crousore
James Mansfield

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.

*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*

Be Now My Vision

*Ancient Irish text, c. 8th century; transl. Mary E. Byrne, 1905
Versified by Eleanor H. Hull, 1912; adapt.*

Unison

1 Be now my vi - sion, O God of my heart;
2 Be now my wis - dom, and be my true word;
3 Rich - es I need not, nor life's emp - ty praise,
4 Sov - ereign of heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,

noth - ing sur - pass - es the love you im - part—
ev - er with - in me, my soul is as - sured;
you, my in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways;
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heav - en's Sun!

You my best thought, by day or by night,
Moth - er and Fa - ther, you are both to me,
You and you on - ly are first in my heart,
Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,

wak - ing or sleep - ing, your pres - ence my light.
now and for - ev - er your child I will be.
great God, my trea - sure, may we nev - er part.
still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

Dating from the eighth century or earlier, this Irish hymn was translated into prose by Mary Byrne. It was then versified by Eleanor Hull, author of several books on Irish literature and history. David Evans arranged the Irish melody for this text in 1927.

Tune: SLANE 10.10.9.10.
Traditional Irish melody
Harm. David Evans, 1927

O Christ, the Great Foundation

*Timothy Tingfang Lew, 1933; alt.
Transl. Frank W. Price, 1953; alt.*

- 1 O Christ, the great foun-da-tion
on which your peo-ple stand
to preach your true sal-va-tion
in ev-ery age and land:
Pour out your Ho-ly Spir-it
to make us strong and pure,
to keep the faith un-bro-ken
as long as worlds en-dure.
- 2 Bap-tized in one con-fes-sion,
one church in all the earth,
we bear Christ's own im-pres-sion,
the sign of sec-ond birth:
One ho-ly peo-ple gath-ered
in love be-yond our own,
by grace we were in-vit-ed,
by grace we make you known.

Timothy Tingfang Lew was born in China and was educated both there and in the United States. He served as representative to the World Council of Churches from 1927 to 1939 and chaired the commission that prepared the Chinese Union hymnbook in 1936.

Acts 2:17-21; Eph. 4:4-6; Col. 1:18-20

- 3 Where ty-rants' hold is tight-ened,
where strong de-vour the weak,
where in-no-cents are fright-ened,
the righ-teous fear to speak,
There let your church a-wak-ing
at-tack the powers of sin
and, all their ram-parts break-ing,
with you the vic-tory win.
- 4 This is the mo-ment glo-rious
when Christ who once was dead
shall lead the church vic-to-rious,
their cham-pion and their head.
The Sov-ereign of cre-a-tion
a new do-min-ion brings,
the fi-nal con-sum-ma-tion,
the glo-ry of all things.

Tune: AURELIA 7.6.7.6.D.
Samuel S. Wesley, 1864

Help Us Accept Each Other

Fred Kaan, 1974; alt.

- 1 Help us ac-cept each oth-er
as Christ ac-cept-ed us;
teach us as sis-ter, broth-er,
each per-son to em-brace.
Be pres-ent, God, a-mong us,
and bring us to be-lieve
we are our-selves ac-cept-ed
and meant to love and live.
- 2 Teach us, O God, your les-sons,
as in our dai-ly life
we strug-gle to be hu-man
and search for hope and faith.
Teach us to care for peo-ple,
for all, not just for some,
to love them as we find them,
or as they may be-come.

Dutch theologian Fred Kaan was ordained in the United Reformed Church in England and Wales and has served as an international church administrator. Author of more than 200 hymns, Kaan frequently has addressed contemporary issues in his texts.

John 15:12; 17:20-23; Eph. 4:1-6, 11-16

- 3 Let your ac-cep-tance change us,
so that we may be moved
in liv-ing sit-u-a-tions
to do the truth in love;
To prac-tice your ac-cep-tance,
un-til we know by heart
the ta-ble of for-give-ness
and laugh-ter's heal-ing art.
- 4 God, for to-day's en-coun-ters
with all who are in need,
who hun-ger for ac-cep-tance,
for righ-teous-ness and bread,
Bring us new eyes for see-ing,
new hands for hold-ing on;
re-new us with your Spir-it;
God! Free us, make us one!

Tune: AURELIA 7.6.7.6.D.
Samuel S. Wesley, 1864