

Columbia United Church Of Christ

December 18, 2022
"Advent IV"



CUCC
Columbia United Church of Christ

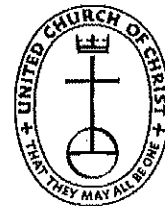
CUCC Open and Affirming/Inclusion Covenant:

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*



December 18, 2022

10:30 a.m.

"Advent IV- LOVE"

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

Welcome and Greetings

Pastor Rick

Prelude

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

Amy Crousore

English Hymn/arr. McLean

Carrying in the Light of Christ

*Call to Worship

(based on Psalm 80)

Judi Privitt

Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel,
Stir up your might and come to save us!

Restore us, O God;

Let your face shine, that we may be saved!

You brought a vine out of Egypt;
You drove out the nations and planted it.

Turn again, O God of hosts; look and see your people;

Have regard for this vine that your hand planted.

We will never turn back from you;
Give us life, and we will call upon your name!

Restore us, O God;

Let your face shine, that we may be saved!

Come, let us worship God!

*Gathering Hymn "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

#43

*Opening Prayer

Judi Privitt

God of LOVE, we celebrate your Advent this morning as we enjoy the innocent faith of our children, proclaiming your glory. As we hear the familiar scriptures and share in the wisdom of our traditions, we marvel in the LOVE that is exemplified by your incarnation. Today we celebrate this LOVE story as if we were hearing it for the first time. Forgive us for the times we let the negativity of the world interfere with the wisdom of your message. Teach us to approach the manger with innocent LOVE, like our children do this morning. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

*Assurance of Blessing Pastor Rick

The Advent Season prepares us for the coming of the Lord once more in our lives! But even when we are distracted by the commercialism of the season, God loves us and forgives us and points us toward the manger. Through our repentance and God's grace we are forgiven, beloved, and blessed. Praise be to God!

*Prayer Response "Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus"

***Turn your eyes upon Jesus;
Look full in his wonderful face!
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim
In the light of his glory and grace!***

*Sharing God's Gift of Peace Pastor Rick

May God's Peace be with you!

And also with you!

Children's Time & Lighting the Advent Candle Pastor Rick

Response

"Like a Child"

(Sung as children return to their seats)

***Like a child love would send to reveal and to mend,
Like a child and a friend, Jesus comes!
Like a child we may find claiming heart, soul, and mind,
Like a child, strong and kind, Jesus comes!***

Gospel Reading Luke 1:46-56 Judi Privitt

Mary's Magnificat, her song of praise that God would choose her among all women to bear the Savior into the world, is presented here. She lifts up her role as bearer of the Christ Child, and praises God for doing great things through her. (page #832)

Anthem "Lift Up Your Heads" Celebration Singers
Sophie Heimerl, soloist *E.L. Ashford*

Gospel Reading Matthew 1:18-25 Judi Privitt

The traditional nativity story by the author of the Gospel attributed to Matthew tells us of Jesus' birth, and the acknowledgment that he is the personification of God's presence in their midst. They name him "Emmanuel" which means, "God Is With Us." (page #783)

A Christmas Window

featuring our Sunday School Children and Youth

Linda Neale, director

Layne Hayward, assistant Director

Amy Crousore, accompanist

Cast:

Child 1 - Caleb Muench

Child 2 - Landon Muench

Child 3 - Katelin Odneal

Narrators- Danielle Dreier, Aidan Pierson,
Trevor Pierson, Lawson Flood-Lorber

Carolers - Chantal Kakozi, Esther Kakozi, Lola Lee, Russell Eveler
Abe Heine, Gus Heine, Everleigh Oberle, Grayson Oberle,
Norah Schultz, Emily Malicoat, Marcia Crousore

Congregational Hymn "My Soul Gives Glory to My God" *(insert)*

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; and 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! Amen!**

Sharing our Announcements of Community Life

Pastor Rick

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

“The Holly and the Ivy ”

Amy Crousore
Traditional English /arr. Flynn

*Prayer of Dedication

Judi Privitt

God of LOVE, you LOVE us unconditionally and challenge us to LOVE your world in response. Through our offerings today we LOVE you back. Take these gifts and use them to express your LOVE to all the world, especially those for whom LOVE seems so far away. Amen.

*Benediction

Pastor Rick

*Response

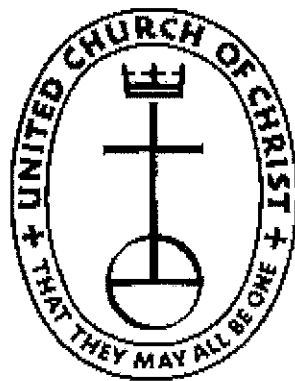
“Let There be Peace on Earth”

**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

“O Come, All Ye Faithful ”

Amy Crousore
Arr. Eugene Gigout



*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.*

Columbia United Church of Christ

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LODO Director:	Erika Maltsbarger	littleonesdayout@yahoo.com
Custodian:	Caleb Berry	calebprenticeberry@gmail.com
Financial Secretary:	Raj Tolani	finance.cucc@gmail.com
Pastor Emeritus:	Rev. Fred Brandenburg	

TODAY IN WORSHIP:

Worship Leader: Judi Privitt
Acolyte:
Ushers: Mahree Skala & Llona Weiss
Greeters: Jessica Lucas
Technology Booth: Mike Pierson & Doug Privitt
Hospitality: Jo Ellen Grace
Council Stewards: Lydia Whitacre

NEXT SUNDAY IN WORSHIP:

Worship Leader:
Acolyte:
Ushers:
Greeters: Susan Dunham
Technology Booth: Brent Marcks
Hospitality:
Council Stewards:

Online giving QR code



COLUMBIA UCC CHURCH COUNCIL

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Worship & Music:	Mike Pierson	mike.pierson.1969@gmail.com

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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!

TURNING POINT

One of the many services Turning Point offers is a place for guests to shower. Turning Point is in need of hotel size toiletries - particularly soap and shampoo. Please place donations in the container in the coat room.

EAT WITH EIGHT- SIGN UP TODAY

Don't be left out in the cold! Sign up for Eat with Eight. This is an opportunity to get together over great food and fellowship once a month between January and April. Ideally, you'll be with different people each month. It's a great way to meet others in the church and enjoy some great food and fellowship. For questions, contact Anne Heine. We have a sign-up sheet in the Narthex.

HEALTH MINISTRY

The **Health Ministry Care Team** is a new initiative through our Membership and Care Committee with the goal to assist members in meeting their health care needs through education, support, transportation, advocacy as needed. If you need help getting to a health care appointment or a hospital procedure...or have questions about your health, call Anne Heine at 573-529-1543. Also, let us know your thoughts of how our Health Ministry Care Team can help you!

CHRISTMAS EVE/CHRISTMAS DAY WORSHIP

Christmas Eve worship will be at 7:00pm and 11:00pm with communion served at both services. We will have worship at 10:30am on Sunday, Christmas Day. 12/25 worship will be casual, with carols, prayers, and a brief devotional. We will have cookie communion on Christmas morning!

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Sun	12/18	<i>Sunday School Christmas Program</i>	
		Men's Fellowship breakfast at Hy-Vee	7:30 a.m.
		Sunday School Christmas Program rehearsal	9:00 a.m.
		Fellowship Time	10:00 a.m.
		Worship (in person and livestream)	10:30 a.m.
Mon	12/19	Staff Meeting	10:30 a.m.
		Loaves and Fishes	4:30 p.m.
		Nurture & Education Ministry Team	6:30 p.m.
Tue	12/20	Quilters	10:00 a.m.
		Church Council Meeting	6:30 p.m.
Wed	12/21	Pastor Rick leads worship at the Bluffs	10:00 a.m.
		Chapel Ringers Rehearsal	5:30 p.m.
		Celebration Singers Rehearsal	7:00 p.m.
Sat	12/24	<i>Christmas Eve</i>	
		Worship	7:00 & 11:00 p.m.
Sun	12/25	<i>Christmas Day</i>	
		Fellowship Time	10:00 a.m.
		Worship (in person and livestream)	10:30 a.m.

Columbia UCC Prayer List

Please keep in your prayers this week...

Ed Kaiser... recovering from surgery
Autumn Lear & Jay Chase... baby due any day now!
The family of Andrea Waner . . . especially baby Millie; home from ICU!
The students and staff of Alpha Hart Lewis Elementary... our partnership friend

Sheila... challenges in life and faith
The Koerkenmeier & Malicoat Families
The Williams, Piersee, Marsh Families

Health Issues:

Tiffany Brookshire; Glenn Duermeyer; David Martin;
Levi Markway; Christine Mseke; Joan & Troy Bentlage
Gene Kelly... living with cancer (Jim & Connie Loveless's friend)

Living in Care Facilities:

Bea Gordon, Neal Sprick, Gary Ehrhardt,
Mark Brumbach, Vernie Blank

Living in Independent Living Facilities:

Helen Graves

Serving us in the military:

Alexander & Christopher Tennill, Jeffrey Sanderson,
Dane Wilson, Aaron Dachroeden, Tim Isom (Oberles' friend)
James Walker (Don Helmreich's nephew)

Pregnancies in our church family:

Autumn Lear & Jay Chase
Hannah Duncan & Ben Bashinski
Shelby Oberle & Ryan Furney

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

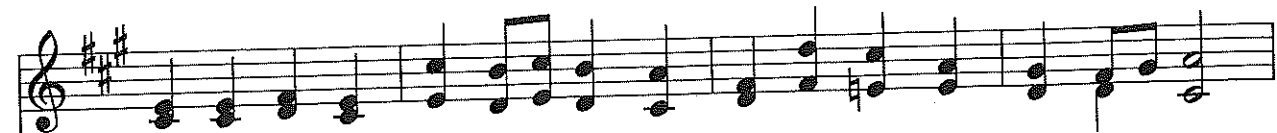
Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Charles Wesley, 1747; alt.

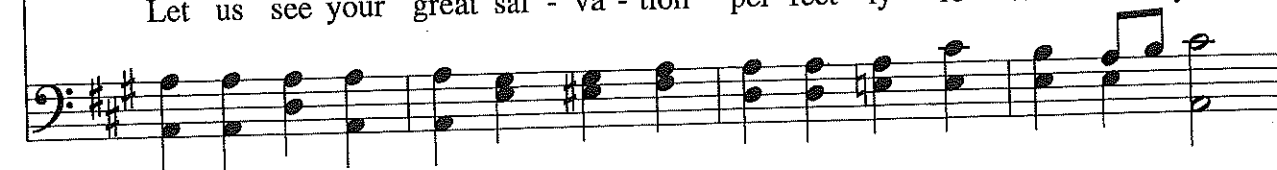
Mal. 3:1; 2 Cor. 3:18; 5:17; Eph. 5:27



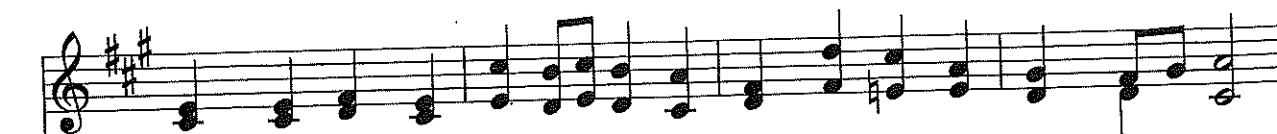
1 Love di-vine, all loves ex-cel-ling, joy of heaven, on earth be found,
 2 Breathe, O breathe your lov-ing Spir-it in-to ev-ery trou-bled breast;
 3 Come, al-might-y to de-liv-er, let us all your life re-ceive;
 4 Fin-ish, then, your new cre-a-tion; pure and spot-less may we prove;



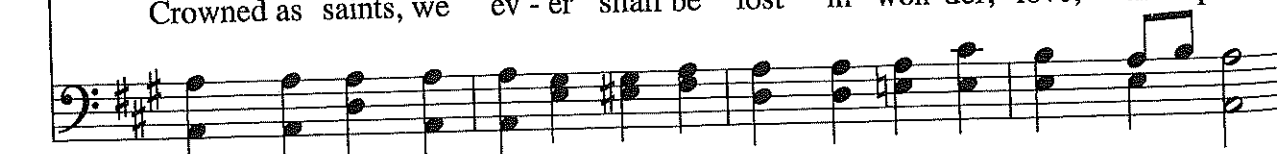
Fix in us a hum-ble dwell-ing, all your faith-ful mer-cies crown;
 Let us all in you in-her-it, let us find your prom-ised rest;
 Sud-den-ly re-turn, and ne-ver, ne-ver-more your tem-ples leave.
 Let us see your great sal-va-tion per-fect-ly re-stored in you;



Je-sus, you are all com-pas-sion; pure, un-bound-ed love im-part.
 Take a-way our love of sin-ning; Al-pha and O-me-ga be;
 You we would be al-ways bless-ing, love you as your an-gels love,
 Changed from glo-ry in-to glo-ry, till in heaven we take our place,



Vis-it us with your sal-va-tion, en-ter ev-ery trem-bling heart.
 End of faith, as its be-gin-ning, set our hearts at lib-er-ty.
 Pray and praise for your un-fail-ing, wound-ed arms out-stretched a-bove.
 Crowned as saints, we ev-er shall be lost in won-der, love, and praise.



Conclusion

My Soul Gives Glory to My God 198

1. My soul gives glo - ry to my God. My
 2. My God has done great things for me: yes,
 3. From age to age, to all who fear, such
 4. Love casts the might - y from their thrones, pro -
 5. Praise God, whose lov - ing cov - e - nant sup -

heart pours out its praise. God lift - ed up my
 ho - ly is this name. All peo - ple will de -
 mer - cy love im - parts, dis - pens - ing jus - tice
 motes the in - se - cure, leaves hun - gry spir - its
 ports those in dis - tress, re - mem - ber - ing past

low - li - ness in man - y mar - ve - lous ways.
 clare me blessed, and bless - ings they shall claim.
 far and near, dis - miss - ing self - ish hearts.
 sat - is - fied, the rich seem sud - den - ly poor.
 prom - is - es with pres - ent faith - ful - ness.

WORDS: Miriam Therese Winter, 1987 (Lk. 1:46b-55)
 MUSIC: Wyeth's *Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second*, 1813;
 harm. by Charles H. Webb, 1988

MORNING SONG
 CM