

Columbia United Church Of Christ

January 19, 2025

“Martin Luther King Weekend”



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*



January 19, 2025

10:30 a.m.

"Temptation"

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

*"How precious is Your steadfast love, O God!
All the people take shadow in the refuge of Your wings."
-Psalm 36:7*

Welcome and Greetings

Pastor Rick

Prelude

"Charakterstück"

Steve Jannetti
Felix Mendelssohn

Carrying in the Light of Christ

*Call to Worship

(based on Psalm 36)

Audrey Lasley

Your steadfast love, O God, extends to the heavens;
Your faithfulness extends to the clouds.

**God's righteousness is like mighty mountains;
God's judgements are like the ocean depths.**

You save all of Creation; the earth and all who are on it.
How precious is Your steadfast Love, O God!

**We take refuge in the shadow of God's wings;
We feast on the abundance of God's provision.**

With You is the fountain of life, O God.
In Your light, we see light.

**May God's steadfast love ever be with us;
And may salvation ever be in our hearts!
Come, let us worship God!**

*Hymn

"Arise, Your Light Is Come"

#164

*Opening Prayer

Audrey Lasley

God of strength and presence; we know that sometimes the temptations of the world and our culture infect the ministries toward which we strive in unintended ways. Your wisdom, meant to inspire, is often used to condemn. Forgive us all for the times we have failed to stand up to temptation and let Your opportunities be lost. Remind us again of Your strength and presence in our lives, that we may always glorify You in all that we say and all that we do. In Jesus' name we pray; Amen.

*Assurance of Blessing

Pastor Rick

After communing with God, Jesus was tempted; but his faith allowed him to be strong in the face of adversity. Even when we falter in the temptations of our lives, God 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

May God's Peace be with you!

And also with you!

Children's Time

Pastor Rick

“This Little Light of Mine”

(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!***

New Testament Lesson

Acts 7:51-60

Audrey Lasley

This is the story of the stoning of Stephen, the first Christian martyr. Stephen was bold and prophetic, speaking the truth to power even when it was difficult or dangerous to do so. He was killed by the crowds for holding a mirror up to their transgressions. Nevertheless, he was faithful to the end.

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Gospel Lesson

Luke 4:1-15

Audrey Lasley

After being baptized, Jesus fasts in the wilderness for 40 days to prepare himself for the time that is to come. After 50 days, he is tempted by the devil. The devil uses scripture to tempt Jesus, and Jesus uses scripture to thwart temptations of the devil.

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Anthem

“Celtic Blessing”

Celebration Singers

John Rutter

Sermon

“Temptation”

Pastor Rick

*Hymn

“Precious Lord, Take My Hand”

#472

Community Prayer & Silent Prayer

The LORD'S Prayer

In an effort to encourage inclusion, we suggest using the address "Creator God" in our unison recitation of The Lord's Prayer. You are certainly welcome to say "Our Father" instead of "Creator," "Trespases" instead of "debts," or "Thy" instead of "Your" if you prefer.

Creator God in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come, Your 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 Yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

*Meditation Hymn "Lift Every Voice and Sing" #593

Inclusion Moment "Martin Luther King Jr. Legacy" Pastor Rick

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 "Idylle" Steve Jannetti
Moritz Moskowski

*Prayer of Dedication Audrey Lasley

Accept these gifts, we humbly pray, O God. May they be used to bring new life and new hope to Your children and to strengthen all in times of challenge. We give these gifts as a portion of ourselves, dedicated and devoted to You. Use them to further Your mission of unity and love in Your creation. Amen.

*Benediction Pastor Rick

*Response: "Jesus, the Light of the World" (*verse 3 only*) #160

***Christ, by highest heaven adored; Jesus, the Light of the World;
Christ, the everlasting Word, Jesus, the Light of the World.***

***We will follow the light, beautiful light,
Come where the dew drops of mercy are bright,
Shine all around us by day and by night,
Jesus, the light of the world.***

*Postlude "All Creatures of Our God and King" Steve Jannetti
Phillip Keveren

Wisdom from Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

“An individual has not started living until he can rise above the narrow confines of his individualistic concerns to the broader concerns of all humanity.”

“Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that.”

“We must develop and maintain the capacity to forgive. He who is devoid of the power to forgive is devoid of the power to love. There is some good in the worst of us and some evil in the best of us. When we discover this, we are less prone to hate our enemies.”

“Faith is taking the next step, even when you don’t see the whole staircase.”

“Life’s most persistent and urgent question is, What are you doing for others?”

“Never succumb to the temptation of bitterness.”

“Peace is not merely a distant goal that we seek, but a means by which we arrive at that goal.”

SCOUTING AMERICA AND CUCC

We are the Charter Organization for four Scouting America units, which includes over 150 children, youth, and adult leaders. These units are:

- **Cub Scout Pack 5183** – The younger group of Scouts, with boys and girls from kindergarten age through 5th grade. They meet every other Monday.
- **Scouting America Troop 4475** – The girls troop. They are a very active troop of girls from 6th-12th grades. They meet every Monday.
- **Scouting America Troop 708** – The boys troop. They are from 6th-12th grades and are very active. They meet every Monday, too.
- **Venture Crew 5334** – This is a focused co-educational group of older youth, from High School through college age.

As the Charter Organization for these four units, they are a part of us and we are a part of them. “They are our scouts, and we are their church.” Working together, in covenant, we will share the joys of common life and enhance one another’s mission, all to the glory of God.

The United Church of Christ:

“United in Christ’s Love, A Just World for All”

Columbia United Church of Christ

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Organist/Accompanist: Steve Jannetti	steve.jannetti@yahoo.com
LODO Director: Erika Maltsbarger	littleonesdayout@yahoo.com
Custodian: Caleb Berry	calebprenticeberry@gmail.com

Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Fred Brandenburg

TODAY IN WORSHIP:

Worship Leader:	Audrey Lasley
Ushers:	Christine Staelens & Llona Wiess
Greeters:	Helen Schultz
Technology:	Carissa Graves & Lorry Dreier
Council Stewards:	Christine Staelens & Tricia Price

NEXT SUNDAY IN WORSHIP:

Worship Leader:	Sue Ann Schaefer
Ushers:	Pat Forward & Jim Loveless
Greeters:	Mary Lorber
Technology:	Judi Privitt & Doug Privitt
Council Stewards:	Lena Muench & Judi Privitt



Online giving

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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!

COFFEE AND CONVERSATION WITH PASTOR RICK 1/20, 1/27, 2/3

Mondays in January, Pastor Rick will be hanging out at the Toasty Goat Coffee Company at 515 Scott Blvd. from 2:00 p.m. to about 3:30 p.m. Maybe the discussion will revolve around the previous Sunday's sermon, maybe current events, Bible questions, or things happening in the life of the church. Whatever you want to talk about, the Toasty Goat is the place!

HOW TO FIGHT RACISM BOOK STUDY CONTINUES 1/26

"How to Fight Racism" by Jemar Tisby is a very relevant book for our current context, investigating the Biblical mandate for racial justice in a constructive way. We will continue this study at 9:00 a.m. three Sundays in January, 1/12, 1/19 and 1/26. We will look at Part 2 of the book, focusing on "Relationships."

COMO VALUES DIVERSITY BREAKFAST 1/29

The annual "COMO Values Diversity" Breakfast, honoring the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., will be at 7:00 a.m. on January 29 at the Holiday Inn Expo Center. This annual event is a great celebration of the diversity we enjoy as a Columbia Community. CUCC has purchased a table, as we do every year; if you would like to attend, talk to Pastor Rick or Tricia Price.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY PANCAKE BREAKFAST 2/22

The annual CUCC Habitat for Humanity Pancake Breakfast will be 2/22 in the Fellowship Hall. The Men's Fellowship is coordinating this, but they could use your help serving-- and eating! If you want to help, talk to Brent Marcks or Doug Privitt. They also have tickets available-- bring a group! Tickets are \$8 for adults, \$4 for those ages 6-12, and free to those 5 and under. All profits are donated to Habitat for Humanity.

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Sun	1/19	Sunday School	9:00 a.m.
		Book Study with Pastor Rick	9:00 a.m.
		Fellowship Time	10:00 a.m.
		Worship (in person and livestream)	10:30 a.m.
		Lunch & Learn/Chili Cookoff	12:00 p.m.
Mon	1/20	Coffee & Conversation with Pastor Rick	2:00 p.m.
		Loaves & Fishes	4:30 p.m.
Tue	1/21	Staff Meeting	10:30 a.m.
		Church Council Meeting	6:30 p.m.
Wed	1/22	Chapel Ringers/Celebration Singers	6:00/7:00 p.m.
Thu	1/23	Outreach & Advocacy Ministry Team	6:30 p.m.
Fri	1/24	Pastor Rick's Day off	
Sun	1/26	Sunday School	9:00 a.m.
		Book Study with Pastor Rick	9:00 a.m.
		Worship (in person and livestream)	10:30 a.m.

Columbia UCC Prayer List

Please keep in your prayers this week . . .

Those affected by the wildfires in California

Neal Sprick... health issues

Lloyd Mickelson... health issues

Kristan Whelihan... health issues (Russell Eveler's teacher)

The family of Vonda Martindale... on their loss (Kasper Ramirez's grandmother)

Mary & Nathan Fritz... grieving the loss of Nathan's grandmother

The family of John Adams... on their loss (Shelly Adams' husband)

Garrett and Beth Walker– Congratulations! Baby Calvin born 12/26!

Ann Wilke... health issues (Alethea's mother)

Sharon Elliott... on hospice

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

The people of Palestine, Israel, and Ukraine

Health Issues:

Jim Elliott, Cheryl Cobb, Lauren Helmreich, Pat Schroeder

Stephanie Porter (Phillip Neale's niece), Jennifer (Edie Diel's niece),

Julia Marsh (Donna Marsh's Daughter),

Joanne Good (Sue Beckman's friend), Mark Fairley & Connie Hackman Fairley

Marilyn Coronado (Corinne Remeika's friend)

Challenges in Life:

Sheila, The Koerkenmeier & Malicoat Families

Living in Care Facilities:

Neal Sprick, Gary Ehrhardt, Vernie Blank, Helen Graves, Sharon Elliott

Living in Independent Living Facilities:

Don Privitt, Alice Moon

Serving us in the military:

Christopher Tennill, Dane Wilson, Aaron Dachroeden

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

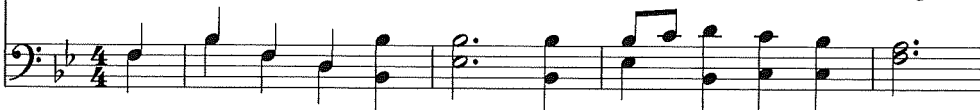
Melba Shaffer (573) 474-2997 whals@centurytel.net

Or Tricia Soncasie (314) 374-7477 tsoncasie@aol.com

Arise, Your Light Is Come

*Isa. 60:1; 61:1-2; Luke 4:14-21**Ruth Duck, 1973*

1 A - rise, your light is come! The Spir - it's call o - bey;
 2 A - rise, your light is come! Fling wide the pris - on door;
 3 A - rise, your light is come! All you in sor - row born,
 4 A - rise, your light is come! The moun-tains burst in song!



Show forth the glo - ry of your God which shines on you to - day!
 Pro - claim the cap-tive's lib - er - ty, good tid - ings to the poor.
 Bind up the bro - ken - heart-ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.
 Rise up like ea - gles on the wing; God's power will make us strong.



This hymn was first published by the Ecumenical Women's Center of Chicago in the 1974 collection of hymn adaptations, Because We Are One People. Ruth Duck later included it in her own collection, Dancing in the Universe.

Tune: FESTAL SONG S.M.
 William Walter, 1872

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

472

Thomas A. Dorsey, 1932; alt.

1 Pre - cious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand,
 2 When my way grows drear, pre-cious Lord, lin - ger near,
 3 When the shad - ows ap - pear and the night draws near,

I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;
 when my life is al - most gone,
 and the day is past and gone,

Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light:
 Hear me cry, hear my call, hold my hand, lest I fall:
 At the riv - er I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand:

Refrain

Take my hand, pre - cious Lord, lead me home.

Thomas A. Dorsey was known as "Georgia Tom" when he played piano for blues singer Ma Rainey. He started writing gospel songs after what he called "a definite spiritual change." This inspirational song, composed following the deaths of his wife, Nettie, and a newborn child, derives from the tune Maitland.

Tune: PRECIOUS LORD Irr. with refrain
 Thomas A. Dorsey, 1932

Lift Every Voice and Sing

James Weldon Johnson, 1921; alt.

1 Lift ev-ery voice and sing, till earth and heav - en ring, ring with the
 2 Ston-y the road we trod, bit-ter the chas-tening rod, felt in the
 3 God of our wea - ry years, God of our si - lent tears, God who has

har - mo - nies of lib - er - ty; Let our re - joic - ing
 days when hope un - born had died; Yet with a stead - y
 brought us thus far on the way; God, who by your

rise, high as the lis - tening skies, let it re - sound loud as the
 beat, have not our wea - ry feet, come to the place for which our
 might, led us in - to the light, keep us for - ev - er in the

roll - ing sea. Sing a song full of the
 peo - ple sighed? We have come o - ver a
 path, we pray. Lest our feet stray from the

Poet James Weldon Johnson was the first African-American to pass the bar examination in the state of Florida, and served as U.S. consul in Venezuela and Nicaragua. He collaborated with his composer brother, John Rosamond Johnson, to write Broadway operettas and edit song collections. John appeared in vaudeville, directed London musicals, and headed the Music School Settlement in New York.

Tune: LIFT EVERY VOICE Irr.
 J. Rosamond Johnson, 1921

faith that the harsh past has taught us, Sing a song full of the
 way that with tears has been wa - tered, We have come, tread - ing our
 plac - es, our God, where we met you, Lest our hearts, drunk with the

hope that the pres - ent has brought us; Fac - ing the
 path through the blood of the slaugh - tered, Out from the
 wine of the world, for - get you; Shad - owed be -

ris - ing sun of our new day be - gun, let us march
 gloom - y past, till now we stand at last where the white
 neath your hand, may we for - ev - er stand, true to our

on till vic - to - ry is won.
 gleam of our bright star is cast.
 God, true to our na - tive land.

Acts 7:51-60

51 “You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you are forever opposing the Holy Spirit, just as your ancestors used to do.

52 Which of the prophets did your ancestors not persecute? They killed those who foretold the coming of the Righteous One, and now you have become his betrayers and murderers.

53 You are the ones that received the law as ordained by angels, and yet you have not kept it.”

54 When they heard these things, they became enraged and ground their teeth at Stephen.

55 But filled with the Holy Spirit, he gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God.

56 “Look,” he said, “I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!”

57 But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him.

58 Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul.

59 While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.”

60 Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” When he had said this, he died.

Luke 4:1-15

4 Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness,

2 where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished.

3 The devil said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread.”

4 Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘One does not live by bread alone.’ ”

5 Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world.

6 And the devil said to him, “To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please.

7 If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.” 8 Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.’ ”

9 Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here,

10 for it is written, ‘He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,’

11 and ‘On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’ ”

12 Jesus answered him, “It is said, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’ ”

13 When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

14 Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country.

15 He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.