

Columbia United Church Of Christ



October 29, 2023

“Reformation Sunday”



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*



October 29, 2023

10:30 Worship

"Reformation"

*"... Turn, O LORD! How long?
Have compassion on your servants!"*

-Psalm 90:13

Welcome and Greetings

Pastor Rick

Prelude

"Courante"

Steve Jannetti
Bob Moore

Bringing in the Light of Christ

*Call to Worship

(based on Psalm 89)

Lloyd Mickelson

I will sing of your Steadfast Love, O God, forever;
With my mouth, I will proclaim your faithfulness.

**Your Steadfast Love is established forever;
Your Faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.**

Let all the earth sing of God's glory!
God has made a covenant with us, established forever.

**God is our Creator; the Rock of our Salvation!
We will sing of God's Steadfast Love forever!
Come, let us worship God!**

*Gathering Hymn "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

#439

*Opening Prayer

Lloyd Mickelson

God of our traditions and of new beginnings, we know that you call us to speak your word of truth in the midst of the poverty of the world. Forgive us for the times we fail in prophetic proclamation. Open our hearts to your will and our minds to your wisdom, so in the tradition of the Reformers, we may also speak boldly about justice, righteousness, and Shalom. Inspire us to speak up against those who would take your name in vain and twist the purposes of the church, so as your prophets, we may realize your Kingdom here on earth. In Jesus' name we pray; Amen.

*Assurance of Blessing

Pastor Rick

God calls us to speak prophetically and justly, to bring about God's Kingdom of Justice, Righteousness, and Shalom. But even when we falter in this call, 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

“Sanctuary”

*Lord, prepare me to be a Sanctuary
Pure and Holy; tried and true!
With thanksgiving, I'll be a living
Sanctuary for you!*

*Sharing God's Gift of Peace

Pastor Rick

May God's Peace be with you!

And also with you!

Children's Time

Pastor Rick

Response:

“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!

Old Testament Lesson

Ezekiel 37:1-14

Lloyd Mickelson

God is speaking to the prophet Ezekiel, and tells him to prophesy to a valley of dry bones. He does so, and the bones are knit with new muscles and tendons and come to life at God's command. God does this as a symbol of Restoration, symbolically showing Ezekiel and the people of Israel that they will be restored.
pg. #704

Gospel Reading

Mark 5:1-20

Lloyd Mickelson

In this great Halloween story, Jesus comes to a place of tombs and finds a man possessed by a legion of demons, howling and hiding among the tombs. Jesus exorcises the demons from this man, sending them into a herd of swine which run off a cliff to their death. The man is restored and then goes about proclaiming God's glory as seen in Jesus.
pg. #816

Anthem

“I Will Sing with the Spirit”

Celebration Singers

John Rutter

Sermon

“Tricks and Treats”

Pastor Rick

*Hymn

“We Worship You, God”

#26

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.

Sharing our Announcements of Community Life Pastor Rick

Mission Moment “Fifth Sunday Food Bank” Mahree Skala

Invitation to the Offering

*As we have been blessed, we give to be blessings in God’s World.
To give online text “GIVE” to 573.240.4041*

Offertory “Sonata Pathetique: *Adagio Cantabile*” Steve Jannetti
Ludwig van Beethoven

*Prayer of Dedication Lloyd Mickelson

We thank you, God, for overflowing cups and abundance of gifts. We offer these gifts and our lives as expressions of our gratitude and joy. We pray that in our giving, we may be part of the answer to the cries of the poor, the hungry, the disenfranchised, those without hope. Bless these gifts, as you have blessed us. 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 “Finale from *Water Music Suite*” Steve Jannetti
George Frideric Handel

PRAYERS FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Churches for Middle East Peace (CMEP) is deeply grieved by the news coming out of Israel and Gaza. CMEP condemns all acts of violence against civilians that have occurred as fighting has escalated between Hamas and Israel. As of late Saturday, reports indicated that hundreds have been killed and thousands wounded, both Israelis and Palestinians. CMEP mourns with the victims of the violence and their families.

The actions of Hamas and the Israeli response in Gaza in no way advance peace, but rather cause loss of life and harm, grief, and devastation, not only to the individuals affected, but also to the legitimate cause of the Palestinian people in seeking an end to the decades long occupation of the Gaza Strip.

Throughout this year, CMEP and allies have urgently been calling attention to the evolving context, characterized by escalating levels of violence between settlers, soldiers, and Palestinians. The increased nationalism and radicalization within Israeli society have led to more frequent and numerous incidents of hatred, racialized tensions, settler attacks, and incursions onto Muslim and Christian holy sites. These realities have long been ignored by the international community, including the longstanding frustration and desperation of the Palestinian people who seek an end to the oppression of the occupation and Israeli desires for lack of fear and for security. It is time for the United States and the international community to strengthen efforts to de-escalate the systemic violence that has gone on for decades.

CMEP reiterates its consistent call for a negotiated, just, and peaceful resolution to the conflict that advances security and self-determination for Israelis and Palestinians. A just peace will only be realized when all parties respect and protect the full human rights of all. In light of the current war, we make the following desperate pleas:

- CMEP calls on all parties to end all acts of violence and aggression and to pursue peaceful and diplomatic resolutions to accomplish desired outcomes.
- CMEP is concerned that Israel's response is disproportionate and urges it not to engage in military actions that devastate Palestinian civilian populations.
- CMEP opposes Israel's practice of collective punishment of all people in Gaza, including the turning off of electricity and water.
- CMEP calls on Hamas to stop all acts of aggression, the targeting of Israeli civilians, and the taking of civilian hostages.
- CMEP calls on the United States government not to act rashly but to prioritize immediate diplomatic measures to bring an end to the violence, including through the United Nations.

CMEP urges the U.S. government to focus on the protection of all civilians, especially the most vulnerable. Churches for Middle East Peace (CMEP) calls upon all Christians and people of faith to pray for peace — not an empty peace devoid of justice, equality, and hope for all people, but a deep, lasting, and just peace that addresses core systemic issues of the conflict, from Palestinian needs for self-determination and freedom to Israel's needs for safety and security.

Columbia United Church of Christ

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Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Fred Brandenburg

TODAY IN WORSHIP:

Worship Leader: Lloyd Mickelson

Ushers: Pat Forward & Phillip Neale

Greeters: Anne Heine

Technology: Brent Marcks & Dominick Lee

Hospitality: Pat Forward & Tricia Price

Council Stewards: Pat Forward & Tricia Price

NEXT SUNDAY IN WORSHIP:

Worship Leader: Mahree Skala

Ushers: Fred & Carolyn Malicoat

Greeters: Helen Schultz

Technology: Ted Dachroeden & Brent Marcks

Hospitality: Mike Pierson & Christine Staelens

Council Stewards: Mike Pierson & Christine Staelens



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!

ALL SAINTS DAY 11/5

Next Sunday, we will remember all who have died this past year, the Saints of the Church who have gone before us. We will light a candle in their memory and celebrate communion with all who have gone before us – the great Cloud of Witnesses. If you have someone you want to be recognized, contact MJ in the church office.

LUNCH AND LEARN NEXT WEEK 11/5

Stick around next Sunday for a “Lunch and Learn” about Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction training! Terry Wilson, R.N., a certified MBSR trainer, and practitioner for over 21 years, will be leading the session. Lunch will be prepared by the Women’s Fellowship. Please RSVP today so we have a count for food preparation; sign up sheet is in the rear of the Sanctuary, or talk to Anne Heine!

ALL CHURCH BREAKFAST 11/12 TO HONOR VETERANS

On November 12, we will be honoring Veterans in our church and in our community with an all-church breakfast at 9:00 a.m.! Come to the breakfast and hear a presentation by Stephen Gaither about Fisher House, a home for Veterans here in the Columbia area. Similar to Ronald McDonald House, they provide temporary lodging for veterans and their families who travel to Columbia for healthcare needs. Come eat and learn and honor our veterans!

CONGEGATIONAL BUDGET/VISION MEETING

Our mandated Congregational Budget/Visioning meeting will be November 12, 2023 right after worship! We will discuss the proposed 2024 Budget and seek congregational approval and also go over the new 5-year plan for this congregation articulated by the Vision Team. This is the start of something big for CUCC! Don’t miss out! (Copies of the proposed 2024 budget were emailed to the congregation last week; hard copies are available in the gathering area.)

THIS WEEK’S CALENDAR

Sun	10/29	Sunday School	9:00 a.m.
		Fellowship Time	10:00 a.m.
		Worship (in person and livestream)	10:30 a.m.
		Outreach & Advocacy Ministry Team	12:00 p.m.
Tue	10/31	Quilters	10:00 a.m.
		Staff Meeting	10:30 a.m.
Wed	11/1	Chapel Ringers/Celebration Singers Rehearsal	6:00/7:00 p.m.
Thu	11/2	Vision Team Meeting	6:00 p.m.
Sun	11/5	<i>All Saints Day</i>	
		Sunday School	9:00 a.m.
		Fellowship Time	10:00 a.m.
		Worship (in person and livestream)	10:30 a.m.
		Lunch & Learn	12:00 p.m.

Columbia UCC Prayer List

Please keep in your prayers this week . . .

The People of Israel/Palestine . . . targeted by violent attacks this week

Sharon Crousore . . . Recovering from eye surgery
Don Privitt . . . Recovering from hip replacement
Linda Evans . . . anticipating knee replacement surgery 11/1
Ed Kaiser . . . hospitalized this week, health issues
Patty Schroeder . . . hospitalized this week, health issues
Bea Gordon . . . on hospice at The Bluffs

Health Issues:

Cliff Beckman, John Adams
Neal Stumbo (Jean Strothmann's nephew)
Terry & Mike Freeman (friends of the Remeikas)
Stephanie Porter (Phillip Neale's niece)

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

Sheila . . . challenges in life and faith
The Koerkenmeier & Malicoat Families

Living in Care Facilities:

Bea Gordon, Neal Sprick, Gary Ehrhardt, Vernie Blank

Living in Independent Living Facilities:

Helen Graves, Don Privitt

Pregnancies in our Church Family:

Kurt & Emmalee Heine

Serving us in the military:

Christopher Tennill, Dane Wilson, Aaron Dachroeden, Jeffrey Sanderson,
James Walker (Don Helmreich's nephew)

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***



***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.***

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

439

Martin Luther, c. 1529

Ps. 46

Transl. Frederick H. Hedge, 1853; adapt. Ruth Duck, 1981

1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a bul - wark nev - er fail - ing,
 2 Did we in our own strength con - fide, our striv - ing would be los - ing,
 3 And though this world with dev - ils filled should threat - en to un - do us,
 4 That word be - yond all earth - ly powers for - ev - er is a - bid - ing;

Our pres - ent help a - mid the flood of mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing.
 But there is one who takes our side, the One of God's own choos - ing.
 We will not fear for God has willed the truth to tri - umph through us.
 The Spir - it and the gifts are ours, for Christ is with us sid - ing.

For still our an - cient foe does seek to work us woe with craft and pow - er
 You ask who that may be? Christ Je - sus sets us free! With might - y power to
 The powers of e - vil grim, we trem - ble not for them; their rage we can en -
 Let goods and kin - dred go, this mor - tal life al - so; the bod - y they may

great, and armed with cru - el hate, on earth with - out an e - qual.
 save, vic - to - rious o'er the grave, Christ will pre - vail tri - um - phant.
 dure, for lo, their doom is sure: one lit - tle word shall fell them.
 kill; God's truth shall tri - umph still; God's reign en - dures for - ev - er.

There is speculation that this psalm paraphrase was written in 1527 when Martin Luther's friend was burned at the stake, or in 1529, when Lutheran princes protested the revocation of their liberties. It has been translated into more

Tune: EIN' FESTE BURG (isometric) 8.7.8.7.6.6.6.6.7.

Martin Luther, c. 1529

Harm. The New Hymnal for American Youth, 1930; alt.

For another version see Ad 0

We Worship You, God

Ps. 104:2-6, 10-13

Robert Grant, 1833; alt.

1 We wor - ship you, God; your power and your love
 2 We tell of your might, we sing of your grace,
 3 The earth, with its store of won - ders un - told,
 4 Your boun - ti - ful care, what tongue can re - cite?
 5 Frail chil - dren of dust, and fee - ble as frail,

are bla - zoned a - broad, a - round, and a - bove:
 whose robe is the light, whose can - o - py space;
 Al - might - y, your power has found - ed of old,
 It breathes in the air, it shines in the light;
 in you do we trust, nor find you to fail;

Our Shield and De - fend - er, the An - cient of Days,
 Your char - iots of wrath the deep thun - der - clouds form,
 Es - tab - lished it fast by a change-less de - cree,
 It streams from the hills, it de - scends to the plain,
 Your mer - cies how ten - der, how firm to the end,

pa - vil - ioned in splen - dor, and gird - ed with praise.
 and broad is your path on the wings of the storm.
 and round it you cast, like a man - tle, the sea.
 and sweet - ly dis - tills in the dew and the rain.
 our Mak - er, De - fend - er, Re - deem - er, and Friend!

Born in Bengal, India, Robert Grant became a lawyer in England, a member of Parliament, and for the last

Tune: LYONS 10.10.11.11.
 Attrib. to J. Michael Haydn (1737-1806)