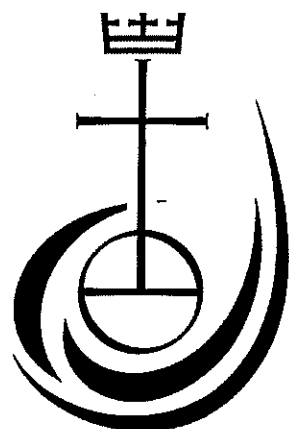


# Columbia United Church Of Christ

January 2, 2022  
Christmas Sunday II



# CUCC

**Columbia United Church of Christ**

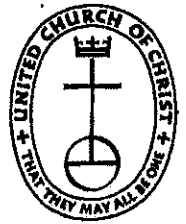
## **CUCC Open and Affirming/Inclusion Covenant:**

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 2, 2022*

*10:30 Worship*

*"Christmas"*

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

*"O God, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!"  
-Psalm 8:1*

Welcome and Greetings

Pastor Rick

Prelude

"From Heaven Above to Earth I Come"

Amy Crousore

*Hassler/Pachelbel*

Carrying in the Light of Christ

Danielle Dreier

\*Call to Worship

*(based on Psalm 8)*

Mark Duncan

O LORD, our God, how majestic is your name in all the earth!  
Your glory shines through the heavens and encompasses the earth.

**The moons and the stars proclaim God's Creative Wisdom;  
The works of God's fingers bring reverence and awe!**

What are we, O God; simple human beings; simple creatures;  
Yet you are mindful of us, you care for us, crowning us with honor.

**You have made us as your Creation partners and servants,  
Given us dominion over your works to care and protect.**

Birds of the air, fish of the sea, sheep and oxen, beasts of the field;  
All God's Creation is given to us to be stewards of it.

**Praise God who comes to us in the midst of that Creation;  
Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer; One God, evermore!  
Come, let us worship God!**

\*Petition

*(insert)*

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing; Jesus, the Light of the World"

\*Opening Prayer

Pastor Rick

**God of revelation; through the power of your Holy Spirit and the  
birth of Your Son, you break loose into the world in so many ways,  
challenging us to be harbingers of your will, bearers of your joy,  
standards of your peace. Open our eyes to the glory of your  
presence and help us to realize that you have always been here, from  
the beginning to this day and age, challenging your people and  
advocating for justice. Remind us to follow your example this  
Christmas Season and beyond. In Jesus' name we pray; Amen.**

\*Assurance of Blessing

Pastor Rick

God's blessing this Christmas Season is revealed in the manger; but has been with us since the beginning of time. We have all been created in God's Image and called to give God glory. Through our repentance and God's grace, we are forgiven, beloved and blessed. Praise be to God!

\*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

"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!*

*(Sung as children return to their seats)*

New Testament Lesson:

Revelation 21:1-6a

Mark Duncan

*The Revelation to John is an indictment against Rome and an important book of Hope for God's Creation. In these concluding chapters (21 & 22) God reveals to John what life could be like if people would follow God and God's ways instead of the ways of Rome and Caesar. This book is about life in John's day, not some future prediction.*

*(page #1007)*

Gospel Lesson:

John 1:1-18

Mark Duncan

*John's Gospel is very unique; it talks about the birth of Jesus from a cosmic perspective. He talks of Jesus being "In the Beginning" with God and tells us that all things came into being thru Jesus.*

*(page #862)*

\*Meditation Hymn:

"There's a Song in the Air"

*(insert)*

Sermon:

"Jesus- In the Beginning"

Pastor Rick

\*Hymn

"Good Christian Friends Rejoice"

*(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! A-men!*

Mission Moment

“City of Refuge”

Mark Duncan

Sharing our Announcements of Community Life

Pastor Rick

Presenting our Gifts

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

Offertory

“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”

Amy Crousore  
*German Carol*

\*Prayer of Dedication

Mark Duncan

**God of startling revelations, we give these gifts today in the hopes that they may be used to reveal your presence in the world. Take them and use them to love your people. As we give them, we love you back. 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

“Carol Fantasia”

Amy Crousore  
*Thygerson*

## **The Revelation to John and the Revelation from John**

Today's readings are from the Book of Revelation to John and the Gospel attributed to John. Revelations from two different "Johns". The Gospel attributed to John was written by followers of the Apostle John around 95 AD (after the Apostle's death) responding to other works that had been written about Jesus, his life and his ministry. The Revelation to John was written a bit later, and is attributed to another John (John of Patmos). In this letter, John of Patmos tells us about a vision God gave him about how wonderful life could be if the people of God would reject the ways of Caesar and embrace the ways of God, exemplified in the ministry of Jesus Christ.

The Revelation to John is not, and never was, a prediction of the end of the world. The scary imagery is an allusion to Rome and the Emperor. It is about John's context, not ours; and it was never intended to predict any event to come. It is about possibility, not prediction. It is a book of hope.

The Gospel attributed to John is also about hope. While the other three Gospels (all written prior to this one) talk about Jesus as a human being and the human interactions he has, this Gospel talks about Jesus as God incarnate. The birth narratives of Matthew and Luke start with the annunciation of Jesus' conception to Joseph and Mary. John's Gospel takes Jesus back to the beginning of time. John does not talk about Joseph or Mary at all; to him Jesus is simply God, always present from the beginning.

The author of this Gospel purposely leads with the words, "In the Beginning" to draw us back to the point of Creation to emphasize Jesus' divine identity. He also uses this to give his book credibility. The Book of Genesis was the most authoritative book in the Hebrew Scriptures; by using the same opening sentence in his book, the author of this Gospel was trying to promote the credibility of his testimony over the other Gospels.

All four of our Gospels were written in dialogue with each other, with the Hebrew Scriptures, and with other writings of the time. It is important that we don't try to see them as stand alone narratives.

*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*

# Columbia United Church of Christ

3201 1-70 Drive NW; Columbia, MO 65202

Phone: 573.445.7931

Pastor's cell: 573.241.2027

Website: [www.columbiaucc.com](http://www.columbiaucc.com)

**Pastor:** Rev. Richard Oberle                      rick@columbiaucc.com  
**Admin. Assistant:** April Rothweiler              office@columbiaucc.com  
**Moderator:** Kristy Odneal                      kristyodneal@gmail.com  
**Music Coordinator:** Brandon Brown      brandon.michael.brown@gmail.com  
**Organist/Accompanist:** Amy Crousore      amycrousore@gmail.com  
**LODO Director:** Erika Maltsbarger      littleonesdayout@yahoo.com  
**Financial Secretary:** Raj Tolani              finance.cucc@gmail.com

**Pastor Emeritus:** Rev. Fred Brandenburg

## TODAY IN WORSHIP:

**Worship Leader:** Mark Duncan  
**Acolyte:** Danielle Dreier  
**Ushers:** Brent Marcks  
**Greeters:** John & Carissa Graves  
**Technology Booth:** Carol Duermeyer  
**Hospitality:** Lorry Dreier  
**Council Steward:** Lorry Dreier & Brent Marcks

Online giving QR code



## NEXT SUNDAY IN WORSHIP:

**Worship Leader:** Lena Muench  
**Acolyte:** Abby Dennis  
**Ushers:** Llona Weiss  
**Technology Booth:** Phil Dennis & Lorry Dreier  
**Greeters:** Judi Privitt  
**Hospitality:** Sue Ann Schaefer  
**Council Stewards:** Sue Ann Schaefer

## COLUMBIA UCC CHURCH COUNCIL

**Moderator:** Kristy Odneal                      kristyodneal@gmail.com  
**Vice Moderator:** Kurt Heine                      heinekurt@gmail.com  
**Secretary:** Jessica Jenks                      Jessica.jenks@yahoo.com  
**Treasurer:** Sue Ann Schaefer              ssas3307@aol.com  
**Recording Treasurer:** Brent Marcks      brentmarcks@hotmail.com  
**Building & Grounds:** John Bullerd      jbullerd51@gmail.com  
**Fellowship & Hospitality:** Stefanie Zimny      stefanie.zimny@gmail.com  
**Finance & Stewardship:** Keith Birkes      kbirkes4@gmail.com  
**Inclusion & Affirmation:** Tricia Price      tricialprice@gmail.com  
**Little One's Day Out:** Lorry Dreier      llhd01@gmail.com  
**Membership & Care:** Jessica Lucas      jlucas@cpsk12.org  
**Nurture & Education:** Linda Neale      lnealej@aol.com  
**Outreach & Advocacy:** Mark Duncan      markduncan2@mchsi.com  
**Worship & Music:** Mike Pierson      mpierson@cpsk12.org

**ALL MUSIC** ...photocopied in the bulletin and reproduced on the video screen is done so using onelicense.net: License #A-727757

**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!

**2022 OFFERING ENVELOPES**

2022 giving envelopes are available. If you requested envelopes you can pick them up from Brent Marcks on Sundays or if you want to come by the church office during the week and pick them up April will help you out. If you haven't received envelopes in the past but are interested in receiving them in 2022 please contact Brent Marcks at [brentmarcks@hotmail.com](mailto:brentmarcks@hotmail.com)

**CHILI COOKOFF**

Our annual Chili Cookoff returns to CUCC! We will hold this major event on Epiphany Sunday, January 9, 2022. There is a sign up sheet in the Narthex; if you would like to enter the contest, sign up today! There will be many varieties of Chili to choose from, so plan now to stick around that Sunday!

**COMO VALUES DIVERSITY**

The annual COMO Values Diversity Banquet will be Thursday, January 13 at 7:00am. This is a great event every year celebrating the diversity of the Columbia Community and encouraging us to strive for even more diversity. As usual, CUCC will sponsor a table. We have eight tickets available– if you want to attend, please talk to Tricia Price or Pastor Rick!

**BOOK STUDY IN JANUARY**

Pastor Rick will be hosting a Book Study for four weeks starting January 13. The book we will be studying is, "Better, Not Bitter;" by Yusef Salaam. More information was in the Friday email and in the January Communicator. You can get your copy in the church office or order it online. For more information, talk to Pastor Rick!

**THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR**

Sun	1/2/22	<b><i>SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS</i></b>	
		Fellowship Time	10:00am
		Worship (in person and livestream)	10:30am
Tue	1/4	Quilters	10:00am
		Outreach & Advocacy	6:30pm
Wed	1/5	NO Chapel Ringers	
		NO Celebration Singers	
		Confirmation	6:00pm
Sun	1/9	<b><i>EPIPHANY– CHILI COOKOFF</i></b>	
		Sunday School	9:00am
		Fellowship Time	10:00am
		Worship (in person and livestream)	10:30am
		Chili Cookoff	12:00pm

# Columbia UCC Prayer List

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

The family of Gladys Koepke... on their loss (Laura Lentz' grandmother)

The family of Jamy Preul... on their loss

The Williams/Piersee Family.. Celebrating the birth of August Williams!

Eddie Diel... regaining her strength after radiation therapy

Barry Kirchhoff... regaining strength at home

Heather Myers... recovering from a fall

Sharon Tiemann... on hospice (April Rothwieler's Aunt)

Linda Lau... living with cancer (Alisa Lau-Sieckman's sister)

Sheila... challenges in life and faith

The Koerkenmeier, Malicoat,

Williams, Piersee & Marsh Families

## *Health Issues:*

Deborah Heather (Eddie Diehl's niece); Christine Mseke;

Irene Hurst... living with cancer (Sue & Cliff Beckman's friend)

## *Living in Care Facilities:*

Bea Gordon, Neal Sprick, Gary Ehrhardt,

Mark Brumbach, Vernie Blank, Helen Graves

## *Serving us in the military:*

Alexander & Christopher Tennill, Jeffrey Sanderson

James Walker (Don Helmreich's nephew)

Tim Isom, Tyler Gibson (Oberles' friends);

Daisia Baker (Isaiah's cousin)

## *UCC/DOC Global Ministries Missionary of the Week:*

Emmanuela Loccident... serving in Morocco

## *2022 Confirmation Class:*

Danielle Dreier, Aidan Pierson, Trevor Pierson

*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.*



# 127 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Jesus, the Light of the World

*With a gospel feel*

1 Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing.  
 2 Joy - ful all you na - tions, rise. Je - sus, the  
 3 Christ by high - est heaven a - dored;  
 4 Hail, the heaven - born Prince of Peace!

light of the world. Glo - ry to the  
 Join the tri - umph  
 Christ, the ev - er -  
 Hail, the Sun of

new - born King,  
 of the skies. Je - sus, the light of the world.  
 last - ing Lord;  
 righ - teous - ness!

This blues-tinged setting of a familiar Christmas carol participates in a longstanding African American practice of adapting Anglo-European texts, as is done here by incorporating a repeated internal line and by appending a refrain that expands that line's language and imagery.

JESUS CHRIST: BIRTH

Refrain

We'll walk in the light, beau - ti - ful light.

Come where the dew - drops of mer - cy shine bright.

O, shine all a - round us by day and by

night. Je - sus, the light of the world.

There's a Song in the Air!

1. There's a song in the air! There's a star in the sky!  
 2. There's a tu - mult of joy o'er the won - der - ful birth,  
 3. We re - joice in the light, and we ech - o the song

There's a moth - er's deep prayer and a ba - by's low cry!  
 for the Vir - gin's sweet boy is the Lord of the earth.  
 that comes down through the night from the heav - en - ly throng,

And the star rains its fire while the an - gel choirs sing,  
 See, the star rains its fire while the an - gel choirs sing,  
 and we wel - come the glo - ri - ous gos - pel they bring,

for the man - ger of Beth - le - hem cra - dles a king!  
 for the man - ger of Beth - le - hem cra - dles a king!  
 and we greet in the cra - dle our sav - ior and king.

# Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

164

1. Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice!  
 2. Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice!  
 3. Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice!

Lis - ten now to what we say: News! News! Je - sus Christ is born to - day.  
 Now you hear of end - less bliss: Joy! Joy! Je - sus Christ was born for this!  
 Now you need not fear the grave: Peace! Peace! Je - sus Christ was born to save!

Ox and ass be - fore him bow, and he is in the man - ger now.  
 He has o - pened heav - en's door, and we are blest for ev - er - more.  
 Calls you one and calls you all, to gain the ev - er - last - ing hall.

Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!  
 Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!  
 Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

IN DULCI JUBILO  
 Irr.

WORDS: Latin (14th century); tr. John Mason Neale, 1853, alt.  
 MUSIC: German melody (14th century); harm. David Hugh Jones, 1953

Harm. © 1955, renewed 1983, Westminster/John Knox Press