Columbia United Church Of Christ

October 25, 2026
"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 25, 2026 ***10:30 a.m.*** ***"95 Theses"***

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

"LORD, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.
From everlasting to everlasting, you are God."
-Psalm 90:1-2

Welcome and Greetings — Pastor Rick

Prelude — "Jesus, The Very Thought of Thee" — Tim Guillaume
John B. Dyke, arr. Michel Bailey

Carrying in the Light of Christ

*Call to Worship *(based on Psalm 90)* — Ashley Ramirez

You, who live under God's Shelter;
Who abide in God's expansive shadow;
Cry out to God, "my refuge and my fortress;
My God, in whom I trust!"

God delivers us from the deadly pestilence;
God covers us with God's wings.
Under God's wings we find refuge;
Our shield and our strength!
Come, let us worship God!

*Hymn — "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" — #439

*Prayer — Ashley Ramirez

God of love, 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 wisdom, so in the tradition of the Reformers, we may also speak boldly about justice, righteousness, and Shalom. Inspire us to speak up against injustice, so as Your prophets, we may realize Your Kingdom here on earth. In Jesus' name we pray; Amen.

*Assurance of Blessing Pastor Rick

God challenges us to proclaim justice, righteousness, and Shalom for all of Their children. But even when we forget this mandate, 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 "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 Pastor Rick

May God's Peace be with you!
And also with you!

Children's Time "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!

The Sacrament of Baptism

Today we are celebrating the Baptism of
Aahana Shree Bharadwaj

Welcome and Proclamation

Questions for the Baptismal Candidate

*Congregational Assent

Congregation is invited to stand as we offer our support to Aahana in her faith journey. You will be invited to reply with the words, "We promise our love, support and care."

Baptism & Blessing; Baptismal Prayer

Team Earth Moment "Solar Power" Aimee Andersen

New Testament Lesson Acts 10:44-48 Ashley Ramirez

Peter brings the Good New to the Gentiles in the Roman Cohort of Cornelius. In an act of radical inclusion, he baptizes these Gentiles into the faith. Until this time, only proper Jews could be true followers of God. This radical act of inclusion widened the circle of love greatly and embraced entirely new communities of God's Children.

Page #895

Gospel Lesson Matthew 22:34-40 Ashley Ramirez

Jesus is questioned by the Pharisees, who are trying to trick him. Turning the tables on them, he condenses all of God's commands into one concise instruction. This simplification of the law was an insult to the Pharisees, who delighted in complexity. Page #804

Anthem "God is Our Refuge" *Allen Pote*

Celebration Singers with Patrick Ferguson & Sophie Bock, Trumpets

Sermon "Sola Scriptura" Pastor Rick

*Hymn "We Worship You, God" #26

(verses 1,2,5)

Community Prayer & Silent Prayer; The Lord's Prayer

In an effort to encourage inclusion, we suggest using expansive language in our unison recitation of The Lord's Prayer. You are certainly welcome to use more traditional words 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 from evil. For Yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

*Hymn "O God, Our Help in Ages Past" *#25*

(verses 1-4)

Sharing Our Announcements 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 Tim Guillaume

*Prayer of Dedication Ashley Ramirez

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 Tim Guillaume

All Saints Day- Next Sunday

Next Sunday, we will be celebrating All Saints Day in worship. We will light a candle in remembrance of all who have died in our community this past year, and recognize the new births in our faith family. If you have someone you wish to be recognized, contact Pastor Rick or Alexandra in the church office.

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Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Fred Brandenburg

TODAY IN WORSHIP:

Worship Leader:	Ashley Ramirez
Song Leader:	Mike Pierson
Ushers:	Mark & Jane Duncan
Greeters:	Carol Duermeyer
Technology:	Carissa Graves & John Graves
Council Stewards:	Ashley Ramirez & Jerry Kiesling

NEXT SUNDAY IN WORSHIP:

Worship Leader:	Pat Forward
Song Leader:	Katie Jones
Ushers:	John & Brenda Muench
Greeters:	Jolene Kirchhoff
Technology:	Brent Marcks & Ted Dachroeden
Council Stewards:	

COLUMBIA UCC CHURCH COUNCIL

Moderator:	Jerry Kiesling
Vice Moderator:	Corinne Remeika
Secretary:	Tricia Soncasie
Treasurer:	Aimee Andersen
Recording Treasurer:	Christine Staelens
Building & Grounds:	Allen Posz
Fellowship & Hospitality:	Mary Lorber
Finance & Stewardship:	Sue Ann Schaefer
Inclusion & Affirmation:	Ashley Ramirez
Little One's Day Out:	Darla Privitt
Membership & Care:	Judi Privitt
Nurture & Education:	Jessica Lucas
Outreach & Advocacy:	Mahree Skala
Worship & Music:	Kitty Rogers

Online Giving

NURSERY CARE is available for children in kindergarten and younger in the educational wing. If you need help finding it, ask an usher!

FOOD BANK FUN - 10/27

Many hands make the workload light! We will be serving our monthly shift at the Food Bank on 10/27 starting at 5:30 p.m. Come and share in the joy of serving! To register, talk to Mahree Skala!

ETHICS IN SOCIETY LECTURE AT COLUMBIA COLLEGE - 10/29

The Rev. Dr. Bart Ehrman, the world-renowned author and expert on the New Testament and the history of early Christianity, will be in Columbia on 10/29 for the annual "Ethics in Society" lecture at Columbia College. The lecture is at 5:30 p.m. in Launer Auditorium. For more information, ask Pastor Rick.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM REHERSALS BEGIN

It's your time to shine! We're organizing the Sunday School Christmas Program, which will be December 20 during worship, and would love to have your help! We'll have a brief organizational meeting after worship on November 1. Rehearsals will start during Sunday School on November 8.

LENTEN PSALMS PROJECT

This year, we will be using the Psalms as a focus for our Lenten Devotions- based on reflections we are asking ***YOU*** to write! To select a psalm and sign up, check out the display in the rear of the Sanctuary. If you want to choose a different psalm than the ones suggested, that is okay, too! Questions? Ask Pastor Rick.

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Sun	10/25	Bible Study/ Sunday School Halloween Party Fellowship Worship (in person and livestream) Halloween Party & Pot Luck	 9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 12:00 p.m.
Mon	10/26	Scouting America	7:00 p.m.
Tue	10/27	Quilters Staff Meeting Food Bank	10:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 5:30 p.m.
Wed	10/28	Chapel Ringers/Celebration Singers	6:00/7:00 p.m.
Thu	10/29	Membership & Care Ministry Team Ethics in Society Lecture	9:30 a.m. 5:30 p.m.
Sun	11/1	***ALL SAINTS DAY*** Bible Study/Sunday School Fellowship Worship	 9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m.

Columbia UCC Prayer List

Please keep in your prayers this week . . .

Don Privitt, Jan Barry … recovering from health issues
The Veteto Family… welcoming baby boy Veteto!
Jan Keithley… health issues (Donna Marsh's friend)
Fairview United Methodist Church… after several break-ins

Students and staff at Alpha Hart Lewis Elementary... our Partner in Education

All those whose lives are affected by state sanctioned terrorism...

Our US Military... deployed in the Middle East

In Hospice Care:
Joyce Andersen (Aimee's mother-in-law),
Julie Roper (Alexandra's mother), Fred Wilke (Alethea's father)

Health Issues:
Jeff Kies, Barry Kirchhoff, Glenn Duermeyer, Evie Marcks,
Julia Marsh, Becky Weston, Connie Fairley, Cody Kile, Dr. Ryan Link,
Kenny & Jane Holtgrewe (Marsha Posz's parents), Rev. Dale Parson
Cassandra Gartner (Edie's friend), Rev. Carolyn Held (Edie's niece),
Martha (friend of the Veteto family), Ken (Adam Veteto's cousin),
Mary Jane Johnson (Joe Remeika's sister)

Challenges in Life:
Sheila, The Koerkenmeier & Malicoat Families

Living in Assisted Living Facilities:
Dean & Jan Barry, Vernie Blank, Gary Ehrhardt

Living in Independent Living Facilities:
Sue Beckman, Linda Evans, Don Privitt, Walter & Patty Schroeder

Serving us in the military:
Aaron Dachroeden, Christopher Tennill, Dane Wilson,
Garrett Holtgrewe… (Marsha Posz's nephew)

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 melbamaes@gmail.com
or Tricia Soncasie (314) 374-7477 tsoncasie@aol.com

Acts 10:44-48

44 While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard
the word.
45 The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded
that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the gentiles,
46 for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter
said,
47 “Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have
received the Holy Spirit just as we have?”
48 So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then
they invited him to stay for several days.

Matthew 22:34-40

34 When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they
gathered together,
35 and one of them, an expert in the law, asked him a question to test him.
36 “Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?”
37 He said to him, “ ‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart
and with all your soul and with all your mind.’
38 This is the greatest and first commandment. 39 And a second is like it:
‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’
40 On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.”

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

439

Martin Luther, c. 1529
Transl. Frederick H. Hedge, 1853; adapt. Ruth Duck, 1981

Ps. 46



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 German princes protested the revocation of their liberties. It has been translated into more than fifty languages.

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 440

26 We Worship You, God

Ps. 104:2–6, 10–13 *Robert Grant, 1833; alt.*

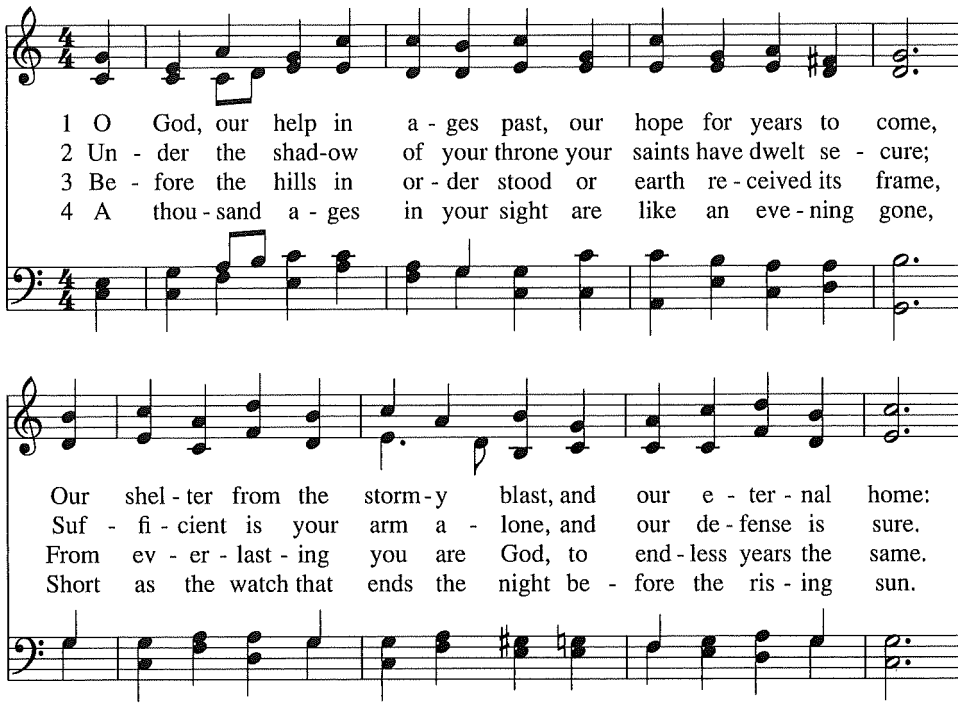


Born in Bengal, India, Robert Grant became a lawyer in England, a member of Parliament, and for the last four years of his life was governor of Bombay. This text was inspired by William Kethe's paraphrase of Psalm 104.

Tune: LYONS 10.10.11.11.
Attrib. to J. Michael Haydn (1737–1806)
Alternate tune: HANOVER

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

Isaac Watts, 1719; alt. *Ps. 90:1–2, 4–5*



5 Time, like an ev-er-roll-ing stream,
soon bears us all away;
We fly for-got-ten, as a dream
fades at the o-pening day.

6 O God, our help in a-ges past,
our hope for years to come,
Still be our God while trou-bles last,
and our e-ter-nal home!

Watts, minister of a Congregational church in London, wrote theological and philosophical works and hundreds of "hymns of human composure" (everyday language). He augmented the congregational singing of psalms with a new style of hymnody.

Tune: ST. ANNE C.M.
William Croft, 1708