

# Columbia United Church Of Christ

March 17, 2019  
Mission with Mexico



**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*



*March 17, 2019*

*10:30 Worship*

*“Restoring Dignity”*

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

*“...now my head is lifted up; above my enemies all around me...”*

*-Psalm 27:6*

Welcome and Greetings

Pastor Rick

Prelude

“Distant Bells”

Raelyn Zimny  
*Elizabeth Greenleaf*

Carrying in the Light of Christ

Megan Schoeneberg

\*Call to Worship *(based on Psalm 27)*

Matt Lucas

God is our light; God is our Salvation.  
God is the Stronghold of our lives; our refuge and strength.

**With God as our light and Salvation,  
Whom shall we fear?**

**With God as our refuge and strength,  
Of whom should we be afraid?**

We gather to seek God’s goodness and grace;  
That we may envelop ourselves with God’s presence;  
That we may hear God graciously answering us  
When we cry out to God in desperation.

**We will sing and make melodies to God  
With strong and courageous hearts.  
Come, let us worship God!**

\*Opening Hymn *“O God, Our Creator, You Work Every Day”*  
*By Carolyn Gillette (tune: Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise)*

**O God, our Creator, you work every day;  
A potter, you form us, your people like clay.  
A shepherd, you guide us and seek out the lost.  
A parent, you love us, not counting the cost.**

**Christ Jesus, how rough were your hard-working hands!  
You labored among us; our God understands!  
Bless workers who struggle, their families to feed;  
Bless those who face hardship, oppression or greed.**

**Lord, some live among us who need special care,  
Whose work is to make us more humbly aware.  
They teach us the best of your lessons by far:  
Whatever we do, Lord you love who we are!**

**When baptized your Spirit gives new work to do,  
That we, through our serving, may glorify you.  
Each person's vocation, each calling has worth  
As you send us out to bring Christ's love on earth.**

\*Opening Prayer

Matt Lucas

**God of all Creation, as we gather this morning we remember that your children are also gathering for worship in towns and villages across the world; and we are united with them in your call to love one another. Often we distribute our love geographically, forgetting about those in need whom we do not see in our own circles. Forgive us when we forget about our brothers and sisters in neighboring countries or across the world. Forgive us when nationalism gets in the way of loving your world. Remind us to open our hearts and love generously, extravagantly, recklessly as your son Jesus taught us. We gather this morning to be reminded of your call to serve and love all. In Jesus' name we pray; Amen.**

\*Assurance of Blessing

Pastor Rick

**God loves each of us generously, recklessly and extravagantly. Even when we forget this lesson, God's Steadfast Love redeems our sins. Through God's love, we are all forgiven and free to go out and love one another. Praise be to God!**

\*Prayer Response

**"Jesus, Remember Me"**

**Jesus, Remember me...  
When you come into your Kingdom!  
Jesus, Remember me...  
When you come into your Kingdom!**

\*Sharing God's Gift of Peace

*At this time, you are invited to greet one another  
with a hug or a handshake and the words,  
"May God's Peace be with you!"*

Children's Time

Pastor Rick & Cara McKinney

**"I Have Decided to Follow Jesus"**  
*(Sung as children return to their seats)*

**I have decided to follow Jesus; (3x)  
No turning back, no turning back.**

**The world behind me, the cross before me (3x)  
No turning back, no turning back.**

Mission Moment      “One Great Hour of Sharing”      Cara McKinney

Anthem      “This is My Word”      Celebration Singers  
*Pepper Choplin*

Hebrew Scriptures:      Genesis 15:1-6; 12-18      Matt Lucas  
*Abram appeals to God for justice in his life; an heir to carry on his legacy, as God promised. God restores Abram’s dignity by creating a covenant with him; that through him a mighty nation would be realized, and God would be with him and his descendants for all time.*  
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Gospel Lesson:      Luke 15:1-10      Cara McKinney  
*Jesus tells several parables that relate to seeking out the lost and the alone. But searching for the lost one instead of embracing the many which are already there is counter-intuitive. Most would embrace the 99 sheep and write off the lost one, the same with the coins. Jesus calls us to be reckless and extravagant; somewhat “nonsensical” or “counter-cultural” in the way we distribute our love.*  
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Sermon      “Restoring Dignity”      Cara McKinney

\*Meditation Hymn  
    “Won’t You Let Me Be Your Servant”      #539  
*ushers will collect prayer request cards during hymn*

Community Prayer & Silent Prayer      Pastor Rick

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. 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!**

Sharing our Announcements of Community Life      Pastor Rick

Stewardship Moment– Dedicating our Pledge Cards/Time and Talent sheets

Presenting our Gifts      Amy Crousore  
    “Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed”      *Hugh Wilson*

*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)*

\*Response "Thanks Be to God" #425

**For the Fruits of all Creation, thanks be to God!  
For God's gifts to every nation, thanks be to God!  
For the wonders that astound us,  
for the truths that still confound us,  
Most of all that love has found us, thanks be to God!**

\*Prayer of Dedication Matt Lucas

**God of love; as we give our gifts to you we express our appreciation of your presence with us and your gracious love that forgives all our sins of separation. We dedicate to you not only the offerings of today, but the commitments of tomorrow; our time, our talents and our treasures. Take these time and talent sheets and these pledge cards that we have given from our hearts and see them as our commitment to you. Through them, we love you back; by committing our lives to your work through this church. Remind us every day of our commitment to serve. Amen.**

\*Closing Hymn "In the Bulb there is a Flower" #433

\*Benediction

\*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 Amy Crousore  
"Toccatà in C Major" *Dominico Zipoli*

*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

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**Pastor Emeritus:** Rev. Fred Brandenburg

## TODAY IN WORSHIP:

**Greeters:** Bryan & Sharon Crousore  
**Ushers:** Llona Weiss & Donna Marsh  
**Sound Booth:** Pete Jaberg  
**Worship Leader:** Matt Lucas  
**Hospitality:** Lena Muench  
**Acolyte:** Megan Schoeneberg



## NEXT SUNDAY IN WORSHIP:

**Greeters:** Helen Schultz & Audrey Lasley  
**Ushers:** Mahree Skala & Don Helmreich  
**Sound Booth:** Matt Lucas  
**Worship Leader:** Sophie Schupp & Ryan Schoeneberg  
**Hospitality:** Sue Ann Schaefer & Jo Ellen Grace  
**Acolyte:** Abby Dennis

## COLUMBIA UCC CHURCH COUNCIL

**Moderator:** John Graves [john@downtownappliance.com](mailto:john@downtownappliance.com)  
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**Worship & Music:** Peter Jaberg [petejaberg@gmail.com](mailto:petejaberg@gmail.com)

**WELCOME GUESTS!** If you are a guest visiting with us this morning, please fill out a green card found in your chair pocket; and be sure to introduce yourself to Pastor Rick! We would love to get to know you better!

**NAMETAGS** We strive to be a friendly and welcoming church! Members and frequent guests, please wear your nametag each Sunday so we can greet each other most effectively and become an even friendlier church!

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

### **CUCC MEN'S ADULT SOFTBALL TEAM**

Interested in Men's Softball? There is a sign up sheet in the narthex if you would like to play! If you have any questions, talk to Doug Privitt!

### **BRING A FRIEND SUNDAY AND LUNCH**

April 7 is "Bring a Friend" Sunday at CUCC sponsored by the Membership and Care Ministry Team! We will have activities to welcome your friends and lunch after worship. Start thinking now about who you will bring as your friend to CUCC that day! Lunch will be a taco bar.

### **THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR**

Sun	3/17	<b><i>UCC Missionary Cara McKinney Here</i></b>	
		Sunday School	9:00am
		Fellowship Time	9:30am
		Worship	10:30am
		High School Youth Scavenger Hunt & lunch	12:00pm
Mon	3/18	No Staff Meeting	
		Loaves and Fishes	4:30pm
Tue	3/19	Quilters	9:00am
		Church Council Meeting	6:30pm
Wed	3/20	Bible Study	6:00pm
		Chapel Ringers/Celebration Singers	6:30pm/7:30pm
		Confirmation	7:00pm
Thu	3/21	Finance & Stewardship Ministry Team	6:00pm
Fri	3/22	MS Fundraising Dinner for Conference Event	4:00pm-7:00pm
Sat	3/23	HS Fundraising Lunch for Conference Event	10:00am-1:00pm
Sun	3/24	<b><i>ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING SUNDAY</i></b>	
		Sunday School	9:00am
		Fellowship Time	9:30am
		Worship	10:30am

**Many new opportunities to serve CUCC!** We are forming an **Archival/Heritage Team** to work on our upcoming anniversary celebrations and archive our historical documents; a **By-Laws Team** to review our church By-Laws and suggest some amendments to the Council; and an **Inclusion Team** to look at ways we can live into our Open and Affirming/Inclusion Covenant. If you are interested in serving on either of these teams, talk to John Graves, James Melton or Pastor Rick!

John Bullerd is also pulling together a **Building and Grounds Ministry Team** to address issues with our physical plant. They will be meeting March 26 at 6:30pm. If you are interested in serving on this team, talk to John Bullerd.

# **Columbia UCC Prayer List**

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

Our church... as we discern next steps as an ONA congregation

The family and friends of Gene Heglund... on their loss (3/10)

Gladys Koepke... recovering from a fall (Gene's mother)

Rev. Fred Brandenburg... recovering from surgery

Gary Sieckman... recovering from back surgery 2/25

Sue Beckman... living with cancer; anticipating next steps

Ashley... diagnosed with thyroid cancer (April's friend)

Jane... anticipating knee surgery (April's mother)

Dale Gregory; Christine Mseke, Bea Gordon;

Gary Ehrhardt; Lasley Family; Margaret Abbott;

Amy Koerkenmeyer & the Malicoat Family; Remeika/Johnson family

## *Health Issues:*

Deborah Heather (Edie Diehl's niece); Sylvia Mosberger;

Nathan Schnell (Isaiah's friend); Christie O'Very;

Janet Shepard; Kathy Kindrick; Hal Shaffer

## *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:*

Jeanette Salley, serving in Nicaragua

## *2019 Confirmation Class:*

Noah Bredehoeft; Ember Piersee;

Andie Rapp; Ryan Schoeneberg; Sophie Schupp

*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.*