

# Columbia United Church Of Christ



October 15, 2023

*"Children's Sabbath"*



# C U C C

**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 15, 2023

10:30 Worship

"Stewardship"

"... Give thanks to God, for God is good!"

-Psalm 106:1

Welcome and Greetings

Pastor Rick

Prelude

"Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring"

Steve Jannetti

*Johann Sebastian Bach*

Bringing in the Light of Christ

Call to Worship

*(based on Psalm 106)*

Pat Forward

God's Kingdom is established over all;  
The earth rejoices in God's vision of justice!

**God is exalted over all; we rejoice in God's name!  
Let all people praise God's great and glorious name!**

Our loving God has established equity,  
Justice and righteousness in God's people!

**We remember the stories of our traditions;  
Those who cried out to God for justice;**

God answered them by establishing relationship.  
God kept the relationship God gave them!

**We know that God is Still Speaking to us today;  
Challenging us towards Justice, Righteousness, and Shalom!  
Come, let us worship God!**

\*Gathering Hymn

"Now in the Days of Youth"

#350

\*Opening Prayer

Pat Forward

*(by Marian Wright Edelman, in honor of Children's Sabbath Sunday)*

With all our heart and with all our mind, we offer our prayers to God.  
For the body of Christ, that every child is made in your image; that we  
welcome every child as you welcomed the children, and that we bring  
good news to the poor, let us pray;

**Bless us, Loving God, that we may be a blessing.**

For our nation and our leaders, grant wisdom and courage to change  
what is unjust and recognize that until all the children are well, none of  
us is well, we offer our prayers to God.

**Bless us, Loving God, that we may be a blessing.**

In a world where children hunger, where they face bullets and bombs, where they know the exile of prison and refugee camp, help us protect and defend them, loving God.

**Bless us, Loving God, that we may be a blessing.**

On this Children's Sabbath day, for our nation's more than 16.4 million children in poverty, that we use all that we have and all that we are to nurture the next generation, we pray to the Lord.

**Bless us, Loving God, that we may be a blessing.**

For all children whose lives were cut short by poverty and injustice, we pray to the Lord.

**Bless us, Loving God, that we may be a blessing.**

**God of all mercy, we confess that we have failed to live our lives as ones made in your image. We have not loved each other as children in Christ, we have not welcomed all children and so welcomed you. We have left stumbling blocks in the way of too many children. Forgive us our sins and uphold us by your Spirit, that we may do justice, love in kindness, and walk humbly with you. In Jesus' name we pray; Amen.**

\*Assurance of Blessing

Pastor Rick

God calls us to be Stewards of all Creation; most especially, each other. But even when we fail in this call, God loves us and forgives us, God's beloved children. 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!***

# The Sacrament of Baptism

*Today we are celebrating the Baptism of Von Walker,  
son of Garrett and Beth Walker*

Welcome and Proclamation

Questions for the Parents

\*Congregational Assent

Baptism & Blessing; Baptismal Prayer

Hymn: "Borning Cry" #351

New Testament Lesson 1Thessalonians 1:2-8 Pat Forward

*In Paul's letter to the Thessalonians, he praises them for their work in living out the Gospel of Jesus Christ. In their lives, they have fully expressed Jesus' message, and their faith has become a beacon to all who witness them.* pg. #959

Gospel Reading Matthew 22:15-22 Pat Forward

*Again, the Pharisees try to trick Jesus, but he turns the tables on them. He tells them to give Caesar what belongs to Caesar and give to God what belongs to God. This brings to mind the definition of Stewardship: "everything belongs to God, and we are called to be stewards of everything that is God's." This includes our children...* pg. #803

Anthem "Grace" Celebration Singers  
Mark Hayes

Sermon "Stewardship of Our Children" Pastor Rick

\*Hymn "Little Children, Welcome" #323

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

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

"Air from the Suite in D"

Steve Jannetti

*Johann Sebastian Bach*

\*Prayer of Dedication

Pat Forward

**Creator of all that is, you call us into your church to dedicate our time, our talents, our treasures, and our very lives to you. We also dedicate our children to you. We promise, as your people, to offer our love, support, and care to your children as they live and grow in Christ. Take our financial offerings, take our children, and take our very lives, and use them as instruments forwarding your glorious reign of peace. As you came to us as a child, we come to you as children too, offering ourselves. 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

"Postlude in G"

Steve Jannetti

*Engel*

**"World peace must develop from inner peace. Peace is not just mere absence of violence. Peace is, I think, the manifestation of human compassion."**

**- Dalai Lama XIV**

**"Peace is not something you wish for, it is something you make, something you are, something you do and something you give away."**

**- Robert Fulghum**

# Columbia United Church of Christ

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**Pastor Emeritus:** Rev. Fred Brandenburg

## TODAY IN WORSHIP:

Worship Leader: Pat Forward

Ushers: Charlie Marcks & Brent Marcks

Greeters: Audrey Lasley

Technology: Lorry Dreier & Josh Muench

Hospitality: Lorry Dreier & Pat Forward

Council Stewards: Lorry Dreier & Pat Forward

## NEXT SUNDAY IN WORSHIP:

Worship Leader: Llona Weiss

Ushers: Christine Staelens

Greeters: Melba Shaffer

Technology: Doug & Judi Privitt

Hospitality: Mary Lorber

Council Stewards: Mary Lorber



Online giving

## COLUMBIA UCC CHURCH COUNCIL

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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!

### **SUNDAY SCHOOL FALL PARTY**

Mark your calendar for Sunday, October 22! We're having a Fall Party, Festival, Hoopla- whatever you want to call it! This is for EVERYONE, not just the kiddos. Costumes are welcome, but certainly not required. We look forward to seeing you all there!

### **NEEDED - CLEAN PLASTIC GALLON MILK JUGS**

Mobility Worldwide uses CLEAN plastic gallon milk jugs to pack their mobility carts for shipping. After delivery, people in developing countries then use the jugs to carry water. The jugs cannot be crushed, they must still have the lids, and they must be **VERY, VERY CLEAN**. There will be a container to collect these in the coat room through the end of October.

### **TURNING POINT NEEDS TOILETRIES**

Turning Point is in need of travel size soap and shampoo. One of the biggest services Turning Point offers is showers for the clients; so, they go through a lot of single use soap. Large bars are cut up to avoid waste. There is a Turning Point collection basket in the coat room. Please bring your toiletry donations for Turning Point!

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

Sun	10/15	Sunday School	9:00 a.m.
		Fellowship Time	10:00 a.m.
		Worship (in person and livestream)	10:30 a.m.
		Walker Family in Fellowship Hall	12:00 p.m.
		Cub Scouts in the Fellowship Hall	3:00 p.m.
Mon	10/16	Serving at Loaves & Fishes	4:30 p.m.
		Inclusion & Affirmation Ministry Team	6:30 p.m.
Tue	10/17	Quilters	10:00 a.m.
		Staff Meeting	10:30 a.m.
		Council Meeting	6:30 p.m.
Wed	10/18	Chapel Ringers/Celebration Singers Rehearsal	6:00/7:00 p.m.
		Confirmation	6:30 p.m.
Thu	10/19	Race Onward Meeting in Gathering Space	11:00 a.m.
Fri	10/20	LODO Pumpkin Day	9:30 a.m.
Sun	10/22	<b><i>Sunday School Fall Party</i></b>	
		Sunday School	9:00 a.m.
		Fellowship Time	10:00 a.m.
		Worship (in person and livestream)	10:30 a.m.

***The United Church of Christ:***

***"United in Christ's Love, A Just World for All"***

# Columbia UCC Prayer List

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

The People of Israel . . . targeted by Hamas attacks this week

Sharon Crousore . . . anticipating eye surgery  
Don Privitt . . . Recovering from hip replacement

## *Health Issues:*

Ed Kaiser, 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.*



# Now in the Days of Youth

350

Walter J. Mathams, 1913; alt.  
Adapt. Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1992

Eccles. 12:1; 1 Cor. 16:13; Deut. 30:19-20

1 Now in the days of youth when life is filled with choice, when  
2 Teach us to use our lives with pur - pose and with power for  
3 Teach us to love in truth, to give and to re - ceive with  
4 Teach - er, Cre - a - tor, God, en - fold us in your arms; be

hope and doubt touch ev - ery hour, when all thoughts find a voice,  
vi - sions of a bet - ter world and for de - ci - sion's hour;  
joy - ful and with o - pen hearts, with all that we be - lieve;  
with us as we try our wings, and keep us safe from harm.

We turn, O God, to you for guid - ance and for grace. In  
To choose the way of life, re - ject the way of death, un -  
To seek an - oth - er's good, to hon - or what is right, to  
All good and per - fect gifts come to us from your hand. O

all our days, in all our ways, help us to seek your face.  
til the ra - dian't force of God fills mind and strength and breath.  
let our will and our de - sire be held in ho - ly light.  
help us use them care - ful - ly and live by love's com - mand.

When the Rev. Walter J. Mathams of London wrote this hymn for use at Christian Endeavor and Sunday School conventions, he did not realize it would receive wide circulation. It was

Tune: DIADEMATA S.M.D.  
George J. Elvey, 1868

# I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry

John Ylvisaker, 1985; alt

*Unison*

D7 G D G D G D

1 I was there to hear your born - ing cry, I'll be  
 2 When you found the won - der of the Word, I was  
 3 In the mid - dle a - ges of your life, not too  
 4 I was there to hear your born - ing cry, I'll be

G D G D7 G D

there when you are old. I re - joiced the day you  
 there to cheer you on; You were raised to praise the  
 old, no long - er young, I'll be there to guide you  
 there when you are old. I re - joiced the day you

G D G C D7 G

were bap - tized, to see your life un - fold.  
 liv - ing God, to whom you now be - long.  
 through the . night, com - plete what I've be - gun.  
 were bap - tized, to see your life un - fold. *St. 4, end*

G/B C G

I was there when you were but a child, with a  
 Should you find some-one to share your time and you  
 When the eve - ning gent - ly clos - es in and you

Am D G G/B C

faith to suit you well; I'll be there in case you  
 join your hearts as one, I'll be there to make your  
 shut your wea - ry eyes, I'll be there as I have

G A7 D to beginning

wan - der off and find where de - mons dwell.  
 vers - es rhyme from dusk till ris - ing sun.  
 al - ways been with just one more sur - prise.

# My God, Accept My Heart This Day

352

Matthew Bridges, 1848; alt.

Gal. 4:5; Eph. 1:5

1 My God, ac - cept my heart this day, and make it al - ways yours,  
 2 Be - fore the cross of One who died, I bow in deep re - gret.  
 3 A - noint me with your love and grace, a - dopt me for your own,  
 4 Let ev - ery thought and work and word be given, O God, to you.

That I from you no more may stray as long as life en - dures.  
 Let ev - ery sin be cru - ci - fied, and ev - ery wrong off - set.  
 That I in heaven may find my place and wor - ship at your throne.  
 In life and death, may I be stirred your pur - pose to pur - sue.

Influenced by the Oxford Movement, Matthew Bridges left the Church of England and became a Roman Catholic in 1848, the year this confirmation hymn was published. He wrote numerous

Tune: ST. STEPHEN C.M.  
 William Jones, 1789



ter, take me to the wa - ter to be bap - tized.  
 teous, none but the righ - teous . . . shall see God.  
 sus, I love Je - sus, . . . yes, I do.  
 ior, Je - sus is my Sav - ior for ev - er more.

*During the antebellum era the enslaved either worshipped secretly in the woods or in small one-room churches built on the plantations. This spiritual reminds us that in either case baptisms were done down at the riverside.*

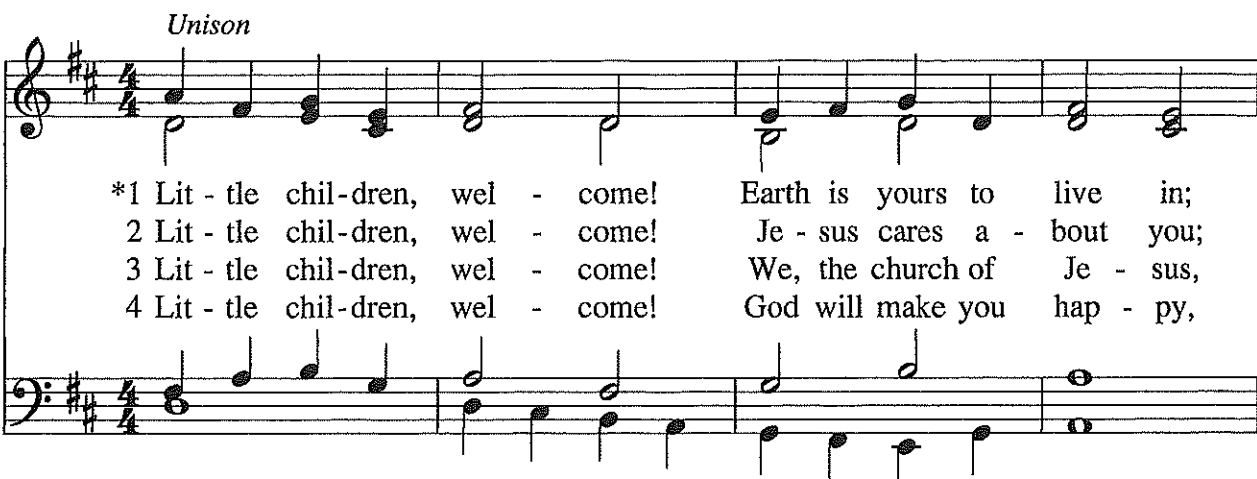
Tune: African-American spiritual  
 Arr. Jeffrey Radford, 1993

## Little Children, Welcome

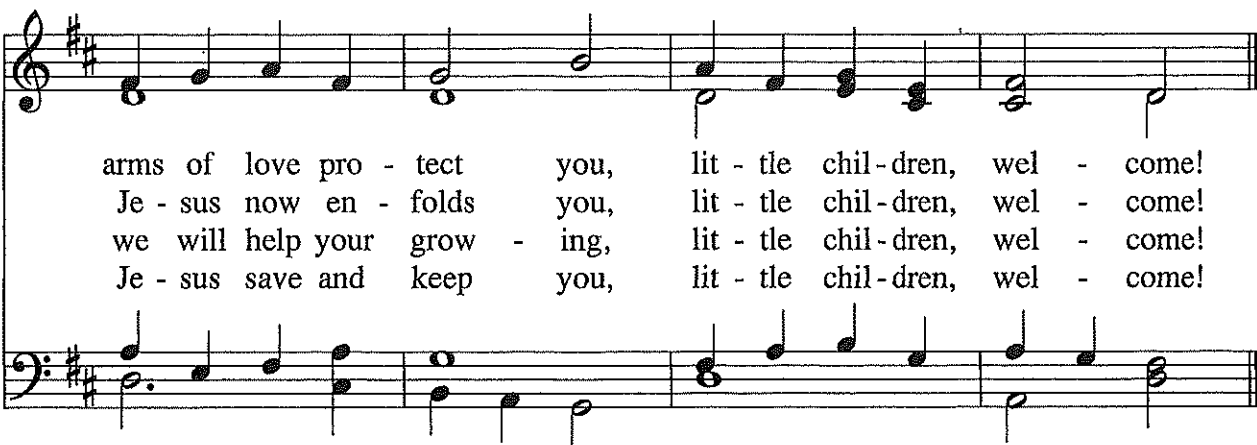
323

Fred Pratt Green, 1973

*Unison*



\*1 Lit - tle chil - dren, wel - come! Earth is yours to live in;  
 2 Lit - tle chil - dren, wel - come! Je - sus cares a - bout you;  
 3 Lit - tle chil - dren, wel - come! We, the church of Je - sus,  
 4 Lit - tle chil - dren, wel - come! God will make you hap - py,



arms of love pro - tect you, lit - tle chil - dren, wel - come!  
 Je - sus now en - folds you, lit - tle chil - dren, wel - come!  
 we will help your grow - ing, lit - tle chil - dren, wel - come!  
 Je - sus save and keep you, lit - tle chil - dren, wel - come!

*\*Other words may be substituted as appropriate; for example, "Sisters, brothers, welcome!" "Little sister, welcome!" or "Little brother, welcome!"*

*Fred Pratt Green is a noted British hymnwriter who was awarded an honorary doctorate from Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia, where his papers will be held. The uncomplicated tune by contemporary composer Roy Hopp makes this an easy hymn for people of all ages.*

Tune: SAIPAN 6.6.6.6  
 Roy Hopp, 1988