

Columbia United Church Of Christ

March 22, 2026
"Lazarus Sunday"



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 22, 2026

10:30 a.m.

“Raised by Faith”

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

“out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD...”

-Psalm 130:1

Welcome and Greetings

Pastor Rick

Prelude

“Air”

Steve Jannetti
Bob Moore

Carrying in the Light of Christ

*Call to Worship

(based on Psalm 130)

Tricia Soncasie

God redeems us, God renews us.

God crowns us with Steadfast love and mercy!

Bless the LORD, O my soul; Bless God’s Holy Name!

God does not deal with us according to our sins;

God forgives all our iniquities!

Bless the LORD, O my soul;

And do not forget all God’s benefits!

God works vindication and justice for the oppressed;

God is slow to anger and abounding in Steadfast Love!

As a parent has compassion for their children,

God has compassion for those who know God.

Come, let us worship God!

*Hymn

“Bring Many Names”

#11

*Opening Prayer

Tricia Soncasie

God of resurrection promises; we come to You this day reflecting on losses we have endured in our lives. Forgive us for the times when we doubt Your presence and provision. Forgive us for the times when we believe that earthly endings are the final word. We hear the story of Lazarus and ponder the miracle of that day. What wisdom does this story hold for us today? Remind us again that ear has not heard, nor has eye seen, nor human imagination envisioned the glory You hold for each one of us. Teach us to rejoice in all that we do, and glorify God with every fiber of our being. In Jesus’ name we pray; Amen.

*Assurance of Blessing

Pastor Rick

As we walk this Lenten path, we draw ever closer to God. Through discipline and service, we see God's presence offering us forgiveness, grace, and new life. Through our repentance and God's grace, we are forgiven, beloved and blessed. 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

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

Children's Time

Pastor Rick

"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!*

Gospel Lesson John 11:1-53 (selected verses) Tricia Soncasie

This is the story of the raising of Lazarus. Through this miracle, Jesus proclaimed God's glory in ways unimaginable prior. It was hard for Mary to imagine what was possible when Lazarus died, but the raising of Lazarus glorified God in new ways and opened her eyes to new things. It was this action that set the Pharisees against Jesus and caused them to plot against him. From that day on, they planned to put him to death. Page #874

Anthem "Soon and Very Soon" Celebration Singers
Arr. Jack Schrader

Sermon "What Can We Imagine?" Pastor Rick

*Hymn "O Come to Me, You Weary" #484

*Affirmation of Faith *(United Church of Christ Statement of Faith)*

We believe in You, O God, Eternal Spirit, God of our Savior Jesus Christ and our God, and to Your deeds we testify:

You call the worlds into being, create persons in Your own image, and set before each one the ways of life and death.

You seek in holy love to save all people from aimlessness and sin.

You judge people and nations by Your righteous will declared through prophets and apostles.

In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth, our crucified and risen Savior, You have come to us and shared our common lot, conquering sin and death, reconciling the world to Yourself.

You bestow upon us your Holy Spirit, creating and renewing the church of Jesus Christ; binding in covenant faithful people of all ages, tongues, and races.

You call us into Your church to accept the cost and joy of discipleship, to be Your servants in the service of others, to proclaim the gospel to all the world and resist the powers of evil, to share in Christ's baptism and eat at his table, to join him in his passion and victory.

You promise to all who trust You forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace, courage in the struggle for justice and peace, Your presence in trial and rejoicing, and eternal life in Your realm, which has no end. Blessing and honor, Glory and power be unto You. Amen.

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.

*Meditation Hymn "Before Your Cross, O Jesus"

#191

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

"Create a Clean Heart"

Steve Jannetti
Cyprian Consiglio

*Prayer of Dedication

Tricia Soncasie

**God of challenge, You send us out to serve You in many ways.
Today, we respond with our offerings. May these gifts we give be
used to glorify You all across the world. 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

“O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go”

Steve Jannetti
Peace/Keveren

SCOUTING AMERICA AND CUCC

CUCC is the Charter Organization for four Scouting America units, over 150 children, youth, and adult volunteers. These units are:

- **Cub Scout Pack 5183** – The younger group of Scouts, with boys and girls from kindergarten age through 5th grade. They meet every other Monday.
- **Scouting America Troop 4475** – The girls troop. They are a very active troop of girls from 6th-12th grades. They meet every Monday.
- **Scouting America Troop 708** – The boys troop. They are from 6th-12th grades and are very active. They meet every Monday, too.
- **Venture Crew 5334** – This is a focused co-educational group of older youth, from High School through college age.

As the Charter Organization for these four units, they are a part of us and we are a part of them. “They are our scouts, and we are their church.” Working together, in covenant, we will share the joys of common life and enhance one another’s mission, all to the glory of God.

Columbia United Church of Christ

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LODO Director: Sara Koenig lodo.sara.koenig@gmail.com
Custodian: Caleb Berry calebprenticeberry@gmail.com
Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Fred Brandenburg

TODAY IN WORSHIP:

Worship Leader: Tricia Soncasie
Song Leader: Mike Pierson
Ushers: Brenda & John Muench
Greeters: Tricia Price & Norah Schultz
Technology: Carissa Graves & John Graves
Council Stewards: Ted Dachroeden & Edie Diel



Online Giving

NEXT SUNDAY IN WORSHIP:

Worship Leader: Pat Forward
Song Leader: Mike Pierson
Ushers: Jane & Mark Duncan
Greeters: Paula Wilson
Technology: Brent Marcks & Lorry Dreier
Council Stewards: Mary Lorber & Deborah Birkes

COLUMBIA UCC CHURCH COUNCIL

Moderator: Jerry Kiesling rollzierp50@gmail.com
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Worship & Music: Edie Diel edie@thedandegroup.com
Pastor: Rev. Rick Oberle rick@columbiaucc.com

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

AED TRAINING - TODAY

You may know that we have an AED here at CUCC; but do you know how to operate it? The more who know the better– it could save a life! Stick around after worship to learn the basics about CPR, AED machines, etc.

CUCC SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS DUE - 4/1

CUCC Scholarship applications for the 2026-2027 school year are due 4/1. Applications are available in the church office. Talk to Pastor Rick, Lena Muench, or Corinne Remika to receive one.

FOOD BANK FUN - 3/24

Our next fun shift at the Food Bank will be 3/24. Sign up using the link that was in the Friday email, or talk to Mahree Skala.

HOLY WEEK AT CUCC

Holy Week is almost upon us! We will begin with Sunday School on Palm Sunday (3/29) and special Palm Sunday activities. Good Friday (4/3) worship will be in the Sanctuary at 7:00 p.m. with special readings and music. Easter Sunrise worship will be at 6:30 a.m. outside in the Shelter House, followed by breakfast. Our Easter Egg hunt and activities will begin at 9:00 a.m. and Celebration Worship at 10:30 a.m. Come join us!

DAY CAMP REGISTRATION ENDS SOON

LODO is hosting a Day Camp the first three weeks of June on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Registration ends on March 31! Sign up now to secure a spot for your child aged 2-6. Talk to Sara Koenig or Kristin Veteto for more information.

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Sun	3/22	Bible Study/Sunday School	9:00 a.m.
		Fellowship	10:00 a.m.
		Worship (in person and livestream)	10:30 a.m.
		AED Training	12:00 p.m.
Mon	3/23	Troop 708 Merit Badge Workshop	5:30 p.m.
Tue	3/24	Quilters	10:00 a.m.
		Food Bank	5:30 p.m.
		Troop 708 Merit Badge Workshop	5:30 p.m.
Wed	3/25	Fellowship Hall booked– Association event	9:00 a.m.
		Troop 708 Merit Badge Workshop	5:30 p.m.
		Chapel Ringers/Celebration Singers	6:00/7:00 p.m.
Thu	3/26	Fellowship Hall booked– Association event	9:00 a.m.
		Troop 708 Merit Badge Workshop	5:30 p.m.
Sun	3/29	<i>PALM SUNDAY</i>	
		Bible Study/Sunday School	9:00 a.m.
		Fellowship	10:00 a.m.
		Worship (in person and livestream)	10:30 a.m.

Columbia UCC Prayer List

Please keep in your prayers this week . . .

The Family of Harry Besleme... on their loss

The Family of Stephen Price... on their loss

The Family of John Lund... on their loss (Edie's friend)

Michael Butterworth... recovering from surgery

Patty Schroeder... recovering from broken hip

Christopher Tennill... on deployment in the Middle East

Fred Wilke (Alethea's Father)... more health issues

Evie Marcks... health issues

Jen Siebert... challenges in life

Jonathon Schultz... recovering from ankle surgery

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

All those whose lives are affected by state sanctioned terrorism including:

Owen Ramsingh and family,

The family of Renee Good, The family of Alex Pretti,

Jack and Claudia (Pastor Rick's friends), and so many others

Our US Military... deployed in the Middle East

Health Issues:

Jeff Kies, Barry Kirchhoff, Glenn Duermeyer,

Theresa Westgate (Tracie Huffman's Grandmother)

Julie Roper (Alexandra's Mother), Karleen Martindale (Kasper's Mother),

Mark & Connie Fairley, Cody Kile, Dr. Ryan Link, Peri Ann Gulerson;

Julia Marsh (Donna Marsh's Daughter),

Martha (friend of the Veteto family), Ken (Adam Veteto's Cousin);

Marilyn Coronado & Beverly Wilcox (Corinne Remeika's friends)

Challenges in Life:

Sheila, The Koerkenmeier & Malicoat Families, Kieran Armstrong

Living in Care Facilities:

Gary Ehrhardt, Vernie Blank

Living in Independent Living Facilities:

Don Privitt, Sue Beckman, Linda Evans, Walter & Patty Schroeder

Serving us in the military:

Christopher Tennill, Dane Wilson, Aaron Dachroeden

Pregnancies in our Church Family:

Shelby Oberle & Ryan Furney; Chloe & Mark Eveler

*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

Bring Many Names

Brian Wren, 1989

Gen. 1:27

Unison

1 Bring man - y names, beau - ti - ful and good, cel - e - brate, in
 2 Strong moth - er God, work - ing night and day, plan - ning all the
 3 Warm fa - ther God, hug - ging ev - ery child, feel - ing all the
 4 Old, ach - ing God, grey with end - less care, calm - ly pierc - ing

par - a - ble and sto - ry, ho - li - ness in glo - ry, liv - ing, lov - ing God.
 won - ders of cre - a - tion, set - ting each e - qua - tion, gen - i - us at play:
 strains of hu - man liv - ing, car - ing and for - giv - ing till we're rec - on - ciled:
 e - vil's new dis - guis - es, glad of good sur - pris - es, wis - er than de - spair:

Hail and Ho - san - na! bring man - y names! great, liv - ing God!
 Hail and Ho - san - na, strong moth - er God!
 Hail and Ho - san - na, warm fa - ther God!
 Hail and Ho - san - na, old, ach - ing God!

5 Young, grow - ing God, ea - ger,
 on the move,
 say - ing no to false - hood and
 un - kind - ness,
 cry - ing out for jus - tice,
 giv - ing all you have:
 Hail and Ho - san - na,
 young, grow - ing God!

6 Great, liv - ing God, nev - er ful - ly known,
 joy - ful dark - ness far be - yond our see - ing,
 clos - er yet than breath - ing,
 ev - er - last - ing home:
 Hail and Ho - san - na,
 great, liv - ing God!

The author states that aspects of the divine are revealed in our maleness, femaleness, youth, and age in a moving, growing matrix of life in God. The tune Westchase was composed especially for this text.

Tune: WESTCHASE 9.10.11.9.
 Carlton Young, 1989

O Come to Me, You Weary

*Matt. 11:28-30; John 6:35-40; 11:25-26**William C. Dix, 1867; alt.*

1 "O come to me, you wea - ry, and I will give you rest."
 2 "O come to me, you wan - derers, and I will give you light."
 3 "O come to me, you faint - ing, and I will give you life!"
 4 "All you who come and seek me will nev - er be cast out."



The bless - ed voice of Je - sus, which comes to hearts op - pressed!
 The lov - ing voice of Je - sus, which comes to cheer the night!
 The cheer - ing voice of Je - sus, which stills our in - ner strife!
 The wel - come voice of Je - sus, which drives a - way our doubt!



It tells of ben - e - dic - tion, of par - don, grace, and peace,
 Our hearts were filled with sad - ness, and we had lost our way;
 The e - vil one sur - rounds us and would our faith sub - due,
 And though we are un - wor - thy of love so free and true,



of joy that has no end - ing, of love which does not cease.
 but morn - ing brings us glad - ness and songs for each new day.
 but you are strong with - in us, our cour - age brave and true.
 we hear your call to sin - ners; in trust we come to you.



William C. Dix, manager of a marine insurance company, wrote this hymn after many weeks of illness. Shortly thereafter, he began to recover. William Lloyd, a Welsh farmer and cattle drover, had a good voice and conducted singing classes.

Tune: MEIRIONYDD 7.6.7.6.D.
 Welsh hymn tune
 Attrib. to William Lloyd, 1840

Before Your Cross, O Jesus

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Ferdinand Q. Blanchard, 1929; alt.

Mark 8:34; Gal. 6:14; Phil. 1:27; 3:7-10

- 1 Before your cross, O Je-sus,
our lives are judged to-day;
the mean-ing of our ea-ger strife
is test-ed by your way.
A-cross our rest-less liv-ing
the light streams from your cross,
and by its clear, re-veal-ing beams
we mea-sure gain and loss.
- 2 The hopes that lead us on-ward,
the fears that hold us back,
our will to dare great things for God,
the cour-age that we lack,
The faith we keep in good--ness,
our love, as low or pure,
on all, the judg-ment of the cross
falls stead-y, clear, and sure.
- 3 Yet hum-bly, in our striv-ing,
we rise to face its test.
We crave the power to do your will
as once you did it best.
On us let now the heal--ing
of your great Spir-it fall,
and make us brave and full of joy
to an-swer to your call.

Ferdinand Q. Blanchard, moderator of the General Council of Congregational Churches (1942-1944), was active in missions and was a leading advocate of educational opportunity for African-Americans. This hymn was written for Euclid Avenue Congregational Church in Cleveland, Ohio, which he served for forty years.

Tune: ST. CHRISTOPHER 7.6.8.6.8.6.8.6.
Frederick C. Maker, 1881