

Columbia United Church Of Christ

April 12, 2026

“Second Sunday of Easter”



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**



April 12, 2026

10:30 a.m.

"Faithful Witnesses"

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

*"I keep the LORD always before me;
Because God is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.
Therefore, my heart is glad and my soul rejoices!"
-Psalm 16:8-9*

Welcome and Greetings

Rev. Mike Williams

Prelude

"Jesus Paid It All"

Steve Jannetti
Grape / Dockery

Carrying in the Light of Christ

*Call to Worship

(based on Psalm 16)

Jessica Lucas

In days of trouble, we cry out to God:
Protect us, O God; in You we take refuge!

**We take refuge in God and God's presence;
All good blessings come to us from God!**

God gives us counsel and guidance;
God instructs us and keeps our hearts centered.

**We keep God's wisdom as our guide.
With God as our guide, we shall not be moved.**

Our hearts are glad, our souls rejoice!
We are able to rest secure in God's presence.

**God's Wisdom is the path of life;
In God's presence there is fullness of joy!
Come, let us worship God!**

*Hymn

"Joy Dawned Again on Easter Day"

#241

*Opening Prayer

Jessica Lucas

God of resurrection promises; the songs of Easter morning still ring in our ears as we continue to celebrate Jesus' resurrection. As we hear stories of faithful witnesses to the resurrection, we contemplate the times we have doubted Your presence. Forgive us our fears, forgive us our doubts. Teach us to be faithful witnesses to Your glory, and the wisdom of Jesus' ministry. Comfort us and challenge us on this journey. In Jesus' name we pray; Amen.

*Assurance of Blessing

Rev. Mike Williams

The promises of Jesus' Resurrection both comfort and challenge us on this continued Easter journey. Even when we harbor fears or doubts, God never leaves us alone. Through our repentance and God's grace, we are forgiven, beloved and blessed. Praise be to God!

*Prayer Response

"Halle, Halle, Halle-lu-ja"

Halle, Halle, Halle-lu-ja!

Halle, Halle, Halle-lu-ja!

Halle, Halle, Halle-lu-ja!

Halle-lu-ja! Halle-lu-ja!

*Sharing God's Gift of Peace

Rev. Mike Williams

May God's Peace be with you!

And also with you!

Children's Time

Rev. Mike Williams

"Tell me the Stories of Jesus"

(Sung as children return to their seats)

Tell me the stories of Jesus I love to hear;

Things I would ask him to tell me, if he were near:

Scenes by the wayside, tales of the sea

Stories of Jesus, tell them to me!

Mission Moment

"Team Earth"

Mahree Skala

New Testament Lesson

Acts 2:22-32

Jessica Lucas

Fired up by the Holy Spirit, Peter preaches a sermon detailing the life of Jesus, and comparing Jesus' wisdom to that of King David. He quotes Psalm 16, which speaks about what God is like; how God never deserts God's faithful ones; and applies this to Jesus, and all who follow Jesus.

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Gospel Lesson

John 20:19-31

Jessica Lucas

Jesus appears to the disciples after the Resurrection and offers them a blessing. Thomas is not present at that time and, ever faithful, states his incredulity at their claims. Later, Jesus appears to Thomas as well and Thomas realizes that Christ, indeed, has risen from the dead.

Page #883

Anthem

"Feed My Lambs"

Youth Choir

Arr. Fettke

Sermon

"Peace be With You"

Rev. Mike Williams

*Hymn

"We Live by Faith and Not by Sight"

#256

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 "Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain" #230

Sharing our Announcements

Rev. Mike Williams

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

"Join In the Dance"

Steve Jannetti
Dan Schutte

*Prayer of Dedication

Jessica Lucas

God, we are faithful; yet we often have doubts. We give these gifts to you faithfully, knowing that You work with our doubts and our fears, our challenges and shortcomings, to bring Your Kingdom into fruition in the world. Take our meager offerings today, given faithfully to You, and use them to work miracles in Your world; even in the midst of our doubt. Amen.

*Benediction

Rev. Mike Williams

*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

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

Steve Jannetti
Phillip Keveren

CUCC STRATEGIC PLAN FOR 2026 (and beyond)

CARING FOR EACH OTHER

- Advocate for policies that provide support for others
- Incorporate everyone's talents into the work and life of the church
- Formulate support & education classes for parents and children
- Improve staff training and professional development
- Ensure that our staff are paid just wages
- Discern and address the needs of our older members
- Strive to meet the needs of our members where they are

ESTABLISHING OUR IDENTITY

- Increase public awareness of our mission and location
- Increase our advertising/marketing efforts
- Consistently canvass the neighborhood north of the church
- Attract more members, focusing on youth and diversity
- Strive for intentionality incorporating youth and young adults into the life of the church
- Strive for intentionality incorporating a diverse community into the life of the church

DEVELOPING OUR FACILITY

- Continue to modernize and maintain our building and grounds
- Develop a comprehensive maintenance manual with records, goals and strategies for modernization and maintenance
- Seek out new ways to utilize our building to enhance our ministry and generate income
- Establish financial security for our ongoing ministry programs
- Establish our facility as a host site for music groups, choirs, concerts, lecturer series, and other public events

SERVING GOD'S WORLD

- Partner with other agencies that share our goals & interests
- Create a fulfilling, engaging, inclusive Sunday morning experience
- Develop partnerships with others to share our facility
- Strive for intentionality in connecting children, youth and adults to outreach and service opportunities
- Look for ways to reach out to other UCC congregations and work together for justice
- Strive to identify ways that we can be socially responsible and educated in areas of ecological justice, international mission, and other justice issues at home and abroad

Columbia United Church of Christ

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Organist/Accompanist: Steve Jannetti steve.jannetti@yahoo.com
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: Jessica Lucas
Song Leader: Katie Jones
Ushers: Llona Weiss & Pat Forward
Greeters: Jolene Kirchoff
Technology: Adam Veteto & Josh Muench
Council Stewards: Lena Muench & Kristin Veteto



Online Giving

NEXT SUNDAY IN WORSHIP:

Worship Leader: Judi Privitt
Song Leader: Mike Pierson
Ushers: Christine Staelens & Deborah Long Birkes
Greeters: Carol Duermeyer
Technology: Doug Privitt & Ted Dachroeden
Council Stewards: Judi Privitt & Ashley Ramirez

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!

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR TODAY

Come to the Fellowship Hall and check out the LODO Scholastic Book Fair! There are many great selections of books for your child; and maybe something for yourself! All proceeds will go to the LODO Designated Fund for our preschool ministry program.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Our elementary school age singers are scheduled to sing alongside adult choir members again on Mother's Day, 5/10. We'd love to have you join us! Questions? Ask Linda Neale or Connie Loveless.

EARTH DAY - 4/26

Earth Day is two weeks from now, and CUCC will have a booth at Peace Park! There are opportunities available to staff this book in two hour shifts from 12:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. To sign up, talk to Mahree Skala or Rev. Mike Williams.

TEAM EARTH MEETING TODAY

All are invited to come to the Team Earth meeting today! We will be discussing next steps in our discernment process to becoming a designated Creation Justice Church in the United Church of Christ. Questions? Ask Mahree Skala or Rev. Mike Williams.

SAVE THE DATE - VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Get ready to blast off! This year's Vacation Bible School will be out of this world. Save the date for Tuesday July 14 and Wednesday, July 15 for two days full of cosmic Christian fun. More information will be available after Easter from our Nurture & Education Ministry Team.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING/POT LUCK - 5/17

Save the date for our Annual Meeting! There will be a pot luck meal prior to the meeting, at noon. Plan to stick around and bring a dish!

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Sun	4/12	Scholastic Book Fair	9:00 a.m.
		Bible Study/Sunday School	9:00 a.m.
		Fellowship	10:00 a.m.
		Worship (in person and livestream)	10:30 a.m.
		Team Earth Meeting	12:00 p.m.
Mon	4/13	Scouts	7:00 p.m.
Tue	4/14	Staff Meeting	10:00 a.m.
		Quilters	10:00 a.m.
		Finance & Stewardship Ministry Team	5:30 p.m.
Wed	4/15	Good Dads at Alpha Hart Lewis Elementary	7:00 a.m.
		Pastor Rick leads worship at The Bluffs	10:00 a.m.
		Chapel Ringers/Celebration Singers	6:00/7:00 p.m.
Sun	4/19	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 . . .

Shirley Gallaher... recovering from hip replacement

Patty Schroeder... recovering from broken hip

Kenny & Jane Holtgrewe... health issues (Marsha Posz's parents)

Evie Marcks... health issues

Marshia Beckmann... health issues

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

Michael Butterworth... recovering from surgery

Christopher Tennill... on deployment in the Middle East

Fred Wilke (Alethea's Father)... more 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,

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

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

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

Garrett Holtgrewe... (Marsh Posz's nephew)

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

Joy Dawned Again on Easter Day

241

Latin, c. 5th century

Luke 24:36-37

Transl. John Mason Neale, 1851; alt.

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is two sharps (F# and C#), and the time signature is 3/4. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line. The first system contains three lines of lyrics. The second system contains three lines of lyrics. The third system contains three lines of lyrics. The piano accompaniment consists of chords and moving lines in the bass clef.

1 Joy dawned a - gain on Eas - ter Day, the sun shone
2 O Je - sus, Sav - ior, Gen - tle One, come take our
3 O Sov - ereign One, with us a - bide in this our

out with bright ar - ray; For when the A - pos - tles
hearts to be your own, That we may give you
joy - ful Eas - ter - tide; From ev - ery weap - on

hid in fear, the Ris - en Christ to them ap - peared.
all our days the will - ing trib - ute of our praise.
death can wield, your own re - deemed for - ev - er shield.

This anonymous Latin hymn of uncertain date is one of the two earliest hymns assigned to a special season. From that beginning grew a full list of medieval Latin hymns assigned to specific times and seasons.

Tune: PUER NOBIS NASCITUR L.M.
German carol, 15th century
Adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1609
Harm. George R. Woodward, 1910

We Live by Faith and Not by Sight

256

Henry Alford, 1844; alt.

John 20:24-29

Unison

1 We live by faith and not by sight;
 2 We may not touch Christ's hands and side,
 3 Help then, O Christ, our un - be - lief;
 4 That, when our life of faith is done,

no gra - cious words we hear From Christ who spoke as
 nor fol - low where Christ trod; But in con - fess - ing
 and may our faith a - bound To call on you when
 in realms of clear - er light We may be - hold you

none e'er spoke, who still we know is near.
 we re - joice; our Sav - ior and our God!
 you are near and seek where you are found:
 as you are, with full and end - less sight.

As dean of Canterbury, Henry Alford exemplified ecumenism by working closely with non-Anglican groups. He promoted New Testament scholarship with his famous commentary on the Greek New Testament, one of fifty books he published during his lifetime.

Tune: DUNLAP'S CREEK C.M.
 Samuel McFarland, c. 1816
 Harm. Richard Proulx, 1986

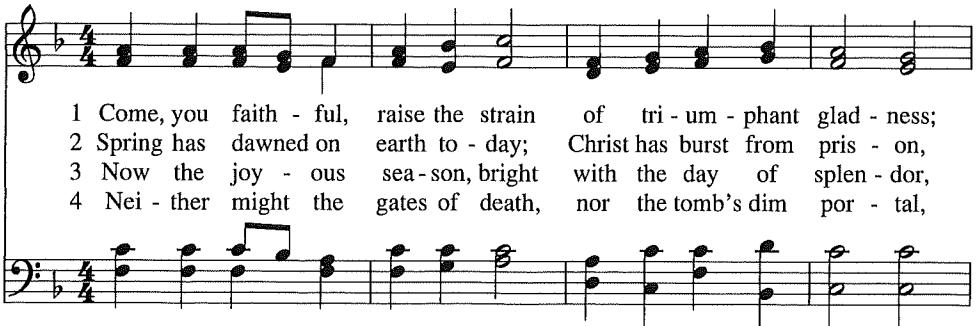
Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain

230

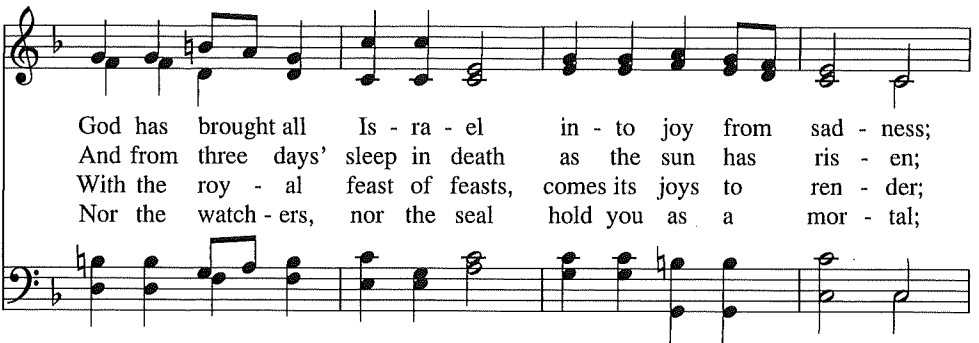
Attrib. to John of Damascus (c. 696–c. 754 c.E.)

Exod. 15; Luke 24

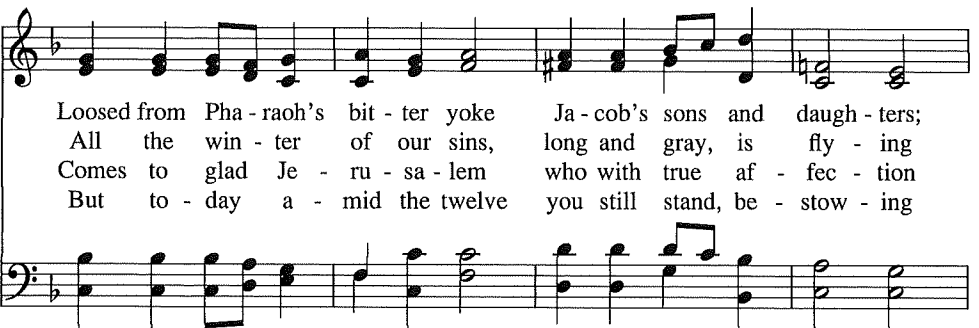
Transl. John Mason Neale, 1872; alt.



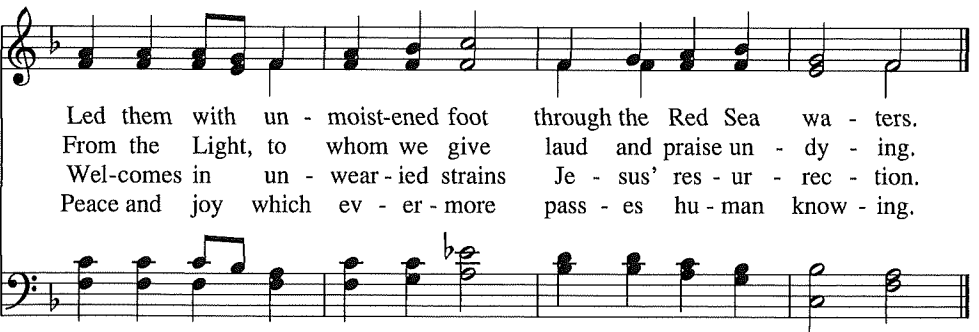
1 Come, you faith - ful, raise the strain of tri - um - phant glad - ness;
 2 Spring has dawned on earth to - day; Christ has burst from pris - on,
 3 Now the joy - ous sea - son, bright with the day of splen - dor,
 4 Nei - ther might the gates of death, nor the tomb's dim por - tal,



God has brought all Is - ra - el in - to joy from sad - ness;
 And from three days' sleep in death as the sun has ris - en;
 With the roy - al feast of feasts, comes its joys to ren - der;
 Nor the watch - ers, nor the seal hold you as a mor - tal;



Loosed from Pha - raoh's bit - ter yoke Ja - cob's sons and daugh - ters;
 All the win - ter of our sins, long and gray, is fly - ing
 Comes to glad Je - ru - sa - lem who with true af - fec - tion
 But to - day a - mid the twelve you still stand, be - stow - ing



Led them with un - moist-ened foot through the Red Sea wa - ters.
 From the Light, to whom we give laud and praise un - dy - ing.
 Wel-comes in un - wear - ied strains Je - sus' res - ur - rec - tion.
 Peace and joy which ev - er - more pass - es hu - man know - ing.

Little is known of St. John of Damascus, an early Greek theologian, but his writings have survived. Among these are poems that have been made into hymns and some that have been integrated into Greek Orthodox liturgy.

Tune: ST. KEVIN 7.6.7.6.D.
 Arthur S. Sullivan, 1872

Acts 2:22-32

22 “Fellow Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know—

23 this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law.

24 But God raised him up, having released him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power.

25 For David says concerning him, ‘I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken;

26 therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; moreover, my flesh will live in hope.

27 For you will not abandon my soul to Hades or let your Holy One experience corruption.

28 You have made known to me the ways of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.’

29 “Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day.

30 Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne.

31 Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying, ‘He was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh experience corruption.’

32 “This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.

John 20:19-31

19 When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.”

20 After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.

21 Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.”

22 When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit.

23 If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

24 But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came.

25 So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.”

26 A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.”

27 Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.”

28 Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!”

29 Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”

30 Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book.

31 But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.