

Columbia United Church Of Christ

March 2, 2025

"Stewardship 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**



March 2, 2025

10:30 a.m.

“Changed by God”

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

“... the LORD is great in Zion; he is exalted over all the nations.”

-Psalm 99:2

Welcome and Greetings

Pastor Rick

Prelude

“Pastorale”

Steve Jannetti

arr. Richard Shephard

Carrying in the Light of Christ

*Call to Worship

(based on Psalm 99)

Lena Muench

God, Your Kingdom is established over all;

The earth rejoices in the vision of Your economy of justice!

God is exalted over all; we rejoice in God’s name!

Let all people praise God’s great and glorious name!

Mighty God, lover of justice, You have established equity.

You have established justice and righteousness in Your people!

We remember the stories of our traditions;

Those who cried out to you, O God for justice;

You answered them, O God, by establishing relationship.

They kept Your decrees and the statutes You gave them!

We know that God is Still Speaking to us today;

Challenging us towards Justice, Righteousness and Shalom!

Come, let us worship God!

*Hymn

“We Have Come at Christ’s Own Bidding”

#182

*Opening Prayer

Lena Muench

God of justice; You create a bountiful world and challenge us to be stewards of it. You establish covenant with us and celebrate that covenant in glorious revelation. You transform us into more than we were, stewards of Your Creation and servants of Your Grace. Forgive us, gracious God, for the times we forget Your covenant or act in ways that diminish that relationship. Remind us again of our call to take care of Your world and be stewards of all we have been given; so that we may glorify You in all that we say and all that we do. In Jesus’ name we pray; Amen.

*Assurance of Blessing

Pastor Rick

God gifts us with abundance and challenges us to be faithful stewards of all our blessings. But even when we forget this mandate, God 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

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

Children's Time

Pastor Rick

“This Little Light of Mine”
(Sung as children return to their seats)

***This little light of mine; I'm gonna let it shine!
This little light of mine; I'm gonna let it shine!
This little light of mine; I'm gonna let it shine!
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!***

Stewardship Moment

“Stewardship Sunday”

Shelly Adams

Old Testament Lesson

Exodus 34:29-35

Shelly Adams

Moses communes with God on Mt. Sinai, and receives the tables containing God's commandments. He is visibly transfigured by this experience. His transfiguration is frightening to the Israelites, even though it was a sign of divine communion.
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Gospel Lesson

Luke 9:28-36

Rev. Dr. Kristen Leslie

In a scene similar to mountaintop experiences related in the Old Testament, Jesus ascends Mt. Tabor with Peter, James, and John to commune with God. While there, a spectacular event takes place and Jesus is transfigured. God's voice is heard proclaiming words of affirmation. From this moment, Jesus' ministry changes as his sights are set on Jerusalem.
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Anthem

“A Call to Alleluia”

Celebration Singers
arr. Joseph Martin

Sermon

“Stewardship”
Pastor Rick & The Rev. Dr. Kristen Leslie

*Hymn

“Jesus, Take Us to the Mountain”

#183

Invitation to Communion

Jesus reached across human borders and boundaries, seeing in everyone a common heritage as a child of God. Whether they were a child, a tax collector, a Samaritan, or a leper, even when others turned them away, Jesus welcomed them. In like manner, all are welcome to partake in communion today, no matter who you are or where you are on life's journey.

Just as God was gloriously revealed on Mt. Tabor with Jesus, Peter, James and John, as we gather around the communion table, God's love is gloriously revealed most clearly to us. We remember the Wisdom of Christ's ministry that is represented by the bread and the promise of Eternal Living that is represented by the cup. As God's children, let us gather together for this meal.

Communion Prayer, Pastoral Prayer, & Silent Prayer; Invocation

Blessing the Children "Come, Share the Lord" (insert)

In the Sacrament of Communion, we most clearly see Jesus in our midst. Our desire to share this presence prompts us to celebrate with our children, granting them a special blessing. During the hymn, our children are invited to come forward via the center aisle and receive a blessing from Pastor Rick.

Institution; Fraction; Distribution

Communion Music "Hungry" Steve Jannetti
arr. Kathryn Scott

*Prayer of Thanksgiving Pastor Rick

God of love, as we come to this table we reflect on the blessings You have given us and the call You place before us to serve. We pray that this meal might energize us, so we can go out into Your world and be effective stewards of Your Creation. Fire us up and send us forth from this table, speaking Your word and doing Your work. Open our eyes to Your blessings and remind us of what truly matters in life; glorifying You. Now we gather, Creator God, as one family, singing the prayer that you taught us,

*The LORD's Prayer (sung by the congregation, led by Casey Wood)

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; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

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

"Air from Suite #3"

Steve Jannetti
arr. Johann Sebastian Bach

*Prayer of Dedication

Lena Muench

O Generous God, we give thanks to You for Your Steadfast Love which endures forever. May these gifts be used to feed the hunger and satisfy the thirst of those in need, as we embody stewardship of Your Creation. We offer our gifts and our selves to You. Amen.

*Benediction

Pastor Rick

*Response: "Jesus, the Light of the World" (*verse 3 only*) #160

***Christ, by highest heaven adored; Jesus, the Light of the World;
Christ, the everlasting Word, Jesus, the Light of the World.***

***We will follow the light, beautiful light,
Come where the dew drops of mercy are bright,
Shine all around us by day and by night,
Jesus, the light of the world.***

*Postlude

"Festive Recessional"

Steve Jannetti
arr. Owain Edwards

The Rev. Dr. Kristen Leslie, our guest this morning in worship and the speaker at our Potluck Luncheon, is the emerita Professor of Pastoral Theology and Care at Eden Seminary. An ordained United Methodist clergywoman, she has served as a local pastor, a college chaplain, a counselor for sexual violence survivors, and for the past 27 years as a seminary professor at Yale University Divinity School and then Eden Theological Seminary.

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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***

Columbia United Church of Christ

3201 1-70 Drive NW; Columbia, MO 65202

Phone: 573-445-7931

Pastor's cell: 573.241.2027

Website: www.columbiaucc.com

Pastor: Rev. Richard Oberle

rick@columbiaucc.com

Student Pastor: Shelly Adams

shellyraeadams@gmail.com

Admin. Assistant: Alexandra Roper

office@columbiaucc.com

Moderator: Kurt Heine

heinekurt@gmail.com

Music Coordinator: Casey Wood

caseyseanwood@gmail.com

Organist/Accompanist: Steve Jannetti

steve.jannetti@yahoo.com

LODO Director: Erika Maltsbarger

littleonesdayout@yahoo.com

Custodian: Caleb Berry

calebprenticeberry@gmail.com

Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Fred Brandenburg

TODAY IN WORSHIP:

Worship Leader: Lena Muench

Ushers: Jerry Kiesling & Christine Staelens

Greeters: Jolene Kirchhoff

Technology: Brent Marcks & Judi Privitt

Council Stewards: Lena Muench & Kristin Veteto

NEXT SUNDAY IN WORSHIP:

Worship Leader: Judi Privitt

Ushers: Pat Forward & Charlie Marcks

Greeters:

Technology: Mike Pierson & Doug Privitt

Council Stewards: Lena Muench & Kristin Veteto



Online giving

COLUMBIA UCC CHURCH COUNCIL

Moderator: Kurt Heine

heinekurt@gmail.com

Vice Moderator: Jerry Kiesling

rollzierp50@gmail.com

Secretary: Alethea Tennill

atennill108@gmail.com

Treasurer: Deborah Birkes

dlong@elonedu.com

Recording Treasurer: Christine Staelens

tigersfour@gmail.com

Building & Grounds: Ted Dachroeden

gpadoc4gd@gmail.com

Fellowship & Hospitality: Mary Lorber

eldercow@gmail.com

Finance & Stewardship: Shelly Adams

shellyraeadams@gmail.com

Inclusion & Affirmation: Tricia Price

tricialprice@gmail.com

Little One's Day Out: Kristin Veteto

kristinnoelveteto@gmail.com

Membership & Care: Judi Privitt

judiprivitt811@gmail.com

Nurture & Education: Lena Muench

cfg323@yahoo.com

Outreach & Advocacy: Mark Duncan

markduncan2@mchsi.com

Worship & Music: Jedd Schneider

elusive4thtenor@hotmail.com

Pastor: Rev. Rick Oberle

rick@columbiaucc.com

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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!

FASTNACHT IS COMING UP FAST– 3/4

Fastnacht will be here before you know it! “The feast before the fast” will be on Tuesday, March 4; right before Ash Wednesday. German food, German music, a costume contest, and lots of fun! Don’t miss it! Talk to Mary Lorber for more details. Sign up using the link in the Friday Email or the sign up sheets in the coat room.

ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP– 3/5

We will gather for worship next week as we welcome the season of Lent. Ash Wednesday worship will be Wednesday, March 5 at 7:00 p.m. We will celebrate communion and the traditional imposition of ashes, symbolizing the season of penance. As we do, we invite you to walk even more closely with Jesus to Jerusalem and the events of Holy Week.

TAIZÉ WORSHIP RESUMES DURING LENT 3/12-4/16

For the six Wednesdays of Lent, Steve Jannetti will be leading us in Taizé worship once more. Each Wednesday from March 12-April 16 we will gather at 5:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary for a half hour of meditation and reflection. All are invited to join us for these special Lenten services.

TEAM EARTH LUNCH & LEARN 3/16

Stick around for lunch on March 16! Dr. Michael Chippendale will be our guest speaker, talking about our ecological footprint and ways to reduce our impact on the earth. His discussion is titled “Steps Toward a Sustainable Future.” Come join us on 3/16!

THIS WEEK’S CALENDAR

| | | | |
|-----|-----|--|------------|
| Sun | 3/2 | <i>Stewardship Sunday/Potluck</i> | |
| | | Sunday School | 9:00 a.m. |
| | | Fellowship Time | 10:00 a.m. |
| | | Worship (in person and livestream) | 10:30 a.m. |
| | | Potluck Luncheon | 12:00 p.m. |
| Mon | 3/3 | Scouting America | 7:00 p.m. |
| Tue | 3/4 | Quilters | 10:00 a.m. |
| | | Staff Meeting | 10:30 a.m. |
| | | Fastnacht | 5:30 p.m. |
| Wed | 3/5 | Ash Wednesday Service | 7:00 p.m. |
| Thu | 3/6 | Troop 4475 Meeting | 6:30 p.m. |
| Fri | 3/7 | Pastor Rick’s day off | |
| Sun | 3/9 | Sunday School | 9:00 a.m. |
| | | Fellowship Time | 10:00 a.m. |
| | | Worship (in person and livestream) | 10:30 a.m. |
| | | Nurture & Education Ministry Team | 12:00 p.m. |

Columbia UCC Prayer List

Please keep in your prayers this week . . .

Sharon Elliott... on hospice

The Family of Neal Sprick... on their loss

Cas Bureson...health issues (Mahree's cousin)

Mahree Skala... health issues, upcoming procedure

Students and staff at Alpha Hart Lewis Elementary . . . our partnership friend

The people of Palestine, Israel, and Ukraine

Health Issues:

Edie Diel, Lloyd Mickelson, Bryan Crousore, Jim Elliott, Cheryl Cobb,

Mark Fairley & Connie Hackman Fairley

Kristan Whelihan (Russell Eveler's teacher)

Ann Wilke (Alethea's mother)

Stephanie Porter (Phillip Neale's niece), Jennifer (Edie Diel's niece),

Julia Marsh (Donna Marsh's Daughter), Joanne Good (Sue Beckman's friend),

Marilyn Coronado (Corinne Remeika's friend)

Challenges in Life:

Sheila, The Koerkenmeier & Malicoat Families

Living in Care Facilities:

Gary Ehrhardt, Vernie Blank, Helen Graves, Sharon Elliott

Living in Independent Living Facilities:

Don Privitt, Alice Moon

Serving us in the military:

Christopher Tennill, Dane Wilson, Aaron Dachroeden

Did you know we have a Prayer Team here at CUCC, lifting up the prayer concerns of our congregation? 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 whals@centurytel.net

Or Tricia Soncasie (314) 374-7477 tsoncasie@aol.com

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Welcoming all God's Children;

Nurturing Faith and Spiritual Growth;

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***Transforming both the congregation and community
through service and outreach***

We Have Come at Christ's Own Bidding

Matt. 17:1-8; Mark 9:2-8; Luke 9:28-36

Carl P. Daw, Jr., 1988

1 We have come at Christ's own bid - ding to this high and
 2 Light breaks through our clouds and shad - ows, splen - dor bathes the
 3 Strength-ened by this glimpse of glo - ry, fear - ful lest our

ho - ly place, Where we wait with hope and long - ing for some
 flesh-joined Word, Mo - ses and E - li - jah mar - vel as the
 faith de - cline, We, like Pe - ter, find it tempt-ing to re -

to - ken of God's grace. Here we pray for new as -
 heav - enly voice is heard. Eyes and hearts be - hold with
 main and build a shrine. But true wor - ship gives us

sur - ance that our faith is not in vain, Search - ing
 won - der how the Law and Proph - ets meet: Christ with
 cour - age to pro - claim what we pro - fess, That our

like those first dis - ci - ples for a sign both clear and plain.
 gar - ments drenched in bright - ness, stands trans - fig - ured and com-plete.
 dai - ly lives may prove us peo - ple of the God we bless.

Exodus 34:29-35

29 Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant in his hand, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God.

30 When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him.

31 But Moses called to them; and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them.

32 Afterward all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the LORD had spoken with him on Mount Sinai.

33 When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face;

34 but whenever Moses went in before the LORD to speak with him, he would take the veil off, until he came out; and when he came out, and told the Israelites what he had been commanded,

35 the Israelites would see the face of Moses, that the skin of his face was shining; and Moses would put the veil on his face again, until he went in to speak with him.

Luke 6:27-38

28 Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray.

29 And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white.

30 Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him.

31 They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem.

32 Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him.

33 Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, “Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah”—not knowing what he said.

34 While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud.

35 Then from the cloud came a voice that said, “This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!”

36 When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

Jesus, Take Us to the Mountain

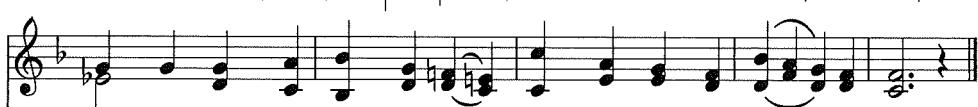
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*Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1991; alt.**Matt. 17:1-8; Mark 9:2-8; Luke 9:28-36;
John 19:30; Matt. 27:50-54; Mark 15:37-39**Unison*

1 Je - sus, take us to the moun-tain, where, with Pe - ter, James, and John,
2 What do you want us to see there, that your close com-pan - ions saw?
3 What do you want us to hear there, that your dear dis - ci - ples heard?
4 Take us to that oth - er moun-tain where we see you glo - ri - fied,
5 We who have be - held your glo - ry, ris - en and as - cend - ed Christ,



We are daz-zled by your glo - ry, light as blind-ing as the sun.
Your di - vin - i - ty re - vealed there fills us with the self - same awe.
Once a - gain the voice from heav - en says of the In - car - nate Word:
Where you shout-ed, "It is fin - ished!" where for all the world you died.
Can - not help but tell the sto - ry, all that you have sac - ri - ficed;



There pre - pare us for the night by the vi - sion of that sight.
Clothed in flesh like ours you go matched to meet our dead - liest foe.
"Lis - ten, lis - ten, ev - ery-one, this is my be - lov - ed One!"
Hear the stunned cen - tu - ri - on: "This was God's be - lov - ed One!"
Say with Pe - ter, James, and John: "You are God's be - lov - ed One!"



Both text and tune were commissioned by St. Luke Lutheran Church, Silver Spring, Maryland, to commemorate its fiftieth anniversary. The hymnwriter, Jaroslav Vajda, tells of being "as at a loss for words contemplating the glory of the transfigured Christ as were the disciples."

Tune: SILVER SPRING 8.7.8.7.7.7.
Carl F. Schalk, 1991
Alternate tune: IRBY

Come, Share the Lord

Refrain

1. We gath - er here in Je - sus' name,
 2. He joins us here, he breaks the bread,
 3. We'll gath - er soon where an - gels sing;

his love is burn - ing in our hearts like liv - ing flame;
 the Lord who pours the cup is ris - en from the dead;
 we'll see the glo - ry of our Lord and com - ing King;

for through the lov - ing Son the Fa - ther makes us one:
 the one we love the most is now our gra - cious host:
 now we an - ti - ci - pate the feast for which we wait:

Fine
 Come, take the bread, come, drink the wine, come, share the Lord.
 Come, take the bread, come, drink the wine, come, share the Lord.
 Come, take the bread, come, drink the wine, come, share the Lord.

1. No one is a stran - ger here, ev - ery - one be - longs;
 2. We are now a fam - i - ly of which the Lord is head;

D. C.
 find - ing our for - give - ness here, we in turn for - give all wrongs.
 though un - seen he meets us here in the break - ing of the bread.

FASTNACHT

Tuesday, March 4, 2025

Starts at 5:30 p.m.

Join us for our annual Fastnacht Festival! It will be an evening full of delicious brats, tasty fastnachts, incredible live music, and the exciting Duck Dance. For more information, contact us at office@columbiaucc.com or call 573-445-7931.

Sign up here!

Columbia UCC | Fellowship Hall
3201 I-70 Dr. NW
Columbia, MO 65201



C U C C
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