Columbia United Church Of Christ

July 2, 2023
"Independence Day"



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



July 2, 2023

9:30 Worship

"Freedom"

"... I will sing songs to God; for They have dealt bountifully with me!" -Psalm 13:6

Welcome and Greetings

Pastor Rick

Prelude

"Children of the Heavenly Father"

ner" Amy Crousore
Swedish Melody/Berry

Bringing in the Light of Christ

Call to Worship

(based on Psalm 13)

Lloyd Mickelson

How long, O God? Will You forget me forever? How long will You hide Your face from me?

The voices of those who have been oppressed cry out; Diverse communities, crying out for inclusion.

How long must I bear pain in my soul? How long must I have sorrow in my heart?

The pain of exclusion; the agony of dismissal; Only when we unite as one is this pain diminished.

We gather this morning for Worship, Praising God by loving God's children. Come, let us worship God!

*Gathering Hymn

"For the Healing of the Nations"

(insert)

*Opening Prayer

Lloyd Mickelson

(written by Rev. Michelle Torigian for UCC General Synod gathering)

God of small sanctuaries and large halls, we listen and look for Your presence immediately surrounding us, energizing us to serve the world outside. Forgive us for the times we fail to see Your presence around us. Open our eyes to Your Glory.

Today we know that many of our neighbors and friends are gathering in Indianapolis for General Synod as they celebrate faith, reflect on Your calling, seek justice and kindness, and inhale the invigorating breath of the Spirit. We pray for their wisdom, Holy One. May Your wisdom carry them from one moment to the next as they search for the depths of Your love.

We pray for their endurance, Loving Spirit. Throughout the long days of Synod, may they find rest and renewal, moments of hopeful silence and joyous laughter.

We pray for their strength, Divine Redeemer. May Your courage permeate their hearts as they speak and vote, and may Your Holy Curiosity open their souls to new stories. May each of us be willing to open our souls to new words, new sounds, new stories, and new songs.

Your Kingdom can be found from the conversation between two people drinking coffee to the most distant of galaxies across the universe. May we see how to serve the Church and Your children within the walls of our sanctuary to the streets surrounding us to the farthest spaces in our world. In Jesus' name we pray; Amen.

*Assurance of Blessing

Pastor Rick

God's inclusive and affirming love is a gift for all of God's children; and we are called to be reflective of that gift. But even when we fall short of that ideal, 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

"Spirit of the Living God"

#283

Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me! Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me! Melt me. Mold me. Fill me. Use me! Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me!

*Sharing God's Gift of Peace

Pastor Rick

May God's Peace be with you!

And also with you!

Children's Time

Pastor Rick

"Sweet, Sweet, Spirit" Response:

#293

(Sung as children return to their seats)

There's a Sweet, Sweet, Spirit in this place, And I know that it's the Spirit of the Lord! There are sweet expressions on each face, And I know they feel the presence of the Lord!

Sweet Holy Spirit! Sweet Heavenly Dove! Stay right here with us, filling us with Your love; And for these blessings we lift our hearts in praise! Without a doubt we'll know that we have been revived when we shall leave this place!

This is a very difficult passage for us to understand today because we project our 21st Century values upon it. In Abraham's day, however, people sacrificed the best of everything to God, and it would not be unrealistic to sacrifice a valued son such as this. Abraham shows his devotion to God in this instance by his willingness to sacrifice Isaac.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 10:40-42

Lloyd Mickelson

A prophet is someone who is willing to speak the truth to power, even when it is difficult or dangerous to do so. Jesus tells his disciples that they, too, must be willing to embody this difficult and dangerous challenge so they can fully represent him to the world.

Anthem

"God Provides"

Brandon Brown

Sermon

"Freedom"

Pastor Rick

*Hymn

"O For a World"

(insert)

*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, this Sunday we are suggesting using the term "Creator God" in our unison recitation of The Lord's Prayer.)

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.

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!

General Synod Moment

Pastor Rick

Sharing our Announcements of Community Life

Pastor Rick

Mission Moment

"Mobility Worldwide"

Mahree Skala

Invitation to the Offering

To give online text "GIVE" to 573.240.4041

Offertory

"Allemande"

Amy Crousore

J. S. Bach

*Prayer of Dedication

Pastor Rick

*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 God, Our Help in Ages Past"

Amy Crousore Croft/Berry

Columbia United Church of Christ

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LODO Director: Erika Maltsbarger
Custodian: Caleb Berry amycrousore@gmail.com
littleonesdayout@yahoo.com
calebprenticeberry@gmail.com

Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Fred Brandenburg

TODAY IN WORSHIP:

Worship Leader: Lloyd Mickelson
Ushers: Mahree Skala
Greeters: Helen Schultz
Technology: Brent Marcks
Hospitality: Brent Marcks
Council Stewards: Mike Pierson

NEXT SUNDAY IN WORSHIP:

Worship Leader: Lloyd Mickelson Ushers: Llona Weiss Greeters: Susan Dunham

Technology:

Hospitality: Jo Ellen Grace

Council Stewards: Mary Lorber/Ted Dachroeden

Jerry Kiesling/Mark Duncan

COLUMBIA UCC CHURCH COUNCIL

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Online giving

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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!

NEW CENTURY SANCTUARY WORK BEGINS

As of June 30, we have received over \$150,000 (pledges included) towards our New Century Sanctuary! We anticipate worshipping in the Fellowship Hall during the summer months while construction happens in our Sanctuary. We hope to have the project done and be back in the Sanctuary by Rally Day 9/10, but that depends on contractors. Stay tuned for more details as the project unfolds! (Plan on worshipping in the Fellowship Hall most of the summer.)

MUSIC THIS SUMMER

The summer breaks for the Celebration Singers and Chapel Ringers are here.

The music ministry is seeking your musical talents during Sunday morning worship services from June 18 through August 20. You can sing or play an instrument during the "anthem" portion of the service or participate as the song leader. If you would like to sign up to either do the anthem and/ or be the song leader, scan this QR code, email Brandon Brown. or email MJ in the Church office.



Summer Worship

RSVP FOR ANNIVERSARY WEEKEND TODAY

Have you registered for our Anniversary weekend yet? attendees must register ahead of time for catering counts. If you have not done so yet, you can do so today by filling out a card on the table by the door, you can scan the QR code to the right, or call MJ in the church office. Be included!



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Registration for VBS has opened, and will continue thru July 15! Sign up today to be a volunteer or to bring your kids! Go to our church website to sign up, or call MJ in the church office. Questions? Talk to Lena Muench or Gina Pierson.

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Sun	7/2	Bible Study Fellowship Time Worship (in person and livestream)	8:30 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m.
Tue	7/4	Church Office Closed/MJ off	
Sun	7/9	Bible Study Fellowship Time Worship (in person and livestream)	8:30 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m.

We are on Summer Schedule! Fellowship Time - 9:00 a.m. Worship - 9:30 a.m. 9:00 Sunday School and 10:30 worship resume September 10

Columbia UCC Prayer List

Please keep in your prayers this week . . .

The family of Mark Brumbach . . . on their loss Cliff Beckman . . . more health challenges this week Ed Kaiser . . . health challenges

Jessica Jenks . . . Recovering from knee replacement 6/30 Mary Jean King (MJ's grandmother) . . . Suffering with Congenital Heart Failure

Health Issues:

Glenn Duermeyer; John Adams; Andrea Waner; Jessica Raymond; Neal Stumbo (Jean Strothmann's nephew) Terry & Mike Freeman (friends of the Remeikas); Stephanie Porter (Phillip Neale's niece)

Alisa Lau Sieckman & Lynne Tsapelas . . . recovering from surgery 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

Serving us in the military:
Alexander & Christopher Tennill, Dane Wilson,
Aaron Dachroeden, 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.

576

For the Healing of the Nations



Fred Kaan's most widely published text was first sung at Pilgrim Church in Plymouth, England, at a service of worship marking Human Rights Day in 1965. It has been used for many subsequent occasions, including the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations.

Tune: WESTMINSTER ABBEY 8.7.8.7.8.7.

Henry Purcell, c. 1680

Arr. Ernest Hawkins, 1842

In Egypt under Pharaoh

574

Doxia Carlson, 1989

1

Exod. 1:1-14; 7:8-11-0; 14:21-31

- 1. In E-gypt un-der Pha-raoh the Is-rael-ites were bound, from plagues and trib-u-la-tions no re-spite could be found. Praise God who in sur-pris-ing ways gave pas-sage through the waves. Our Lib-er-a tor res-cues, our Lib-er-a-tor saves.
- 2. From Af-ri-ca to gang-planks, a-cross a friend-less sea, black cap-tives harsh-ly treat ed all strug-gled to be free. Praise God who strength-ened ad vo-cates with power that does and dares. Our Lib-er-a-tor res-cues, our Lib-er-a-tor cares.
- 3. Wherever hurt-ing hu-mans un-just-ly live in pain the hun-gry, home-less, hope-less, cry out for growth and gain.

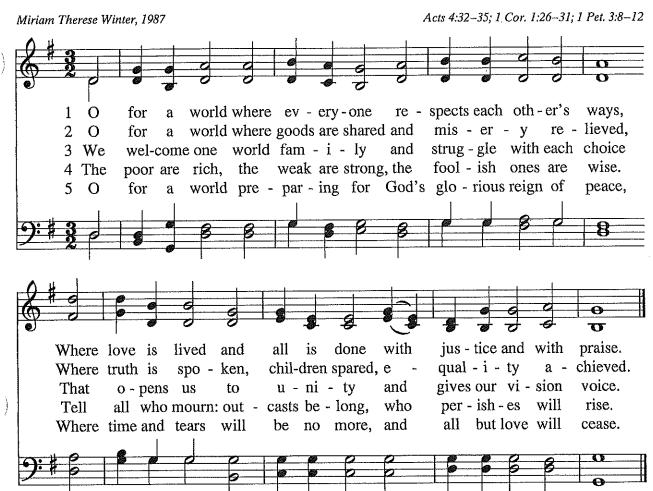
 Praise God whose great re-deem-ing love each ser-vant free-ly gives. Our Lib-er-a-tor res-cues, our Lib-er-a-tor lives!

Dosia Carlson wrote this text in 1989 for the United Church of Christ celebration of the 150th anniversary of the Amistad event. Tune: LANCASHIRE 7.6.7.6.D.

Henry T. Smart, 1836

O for a World

575



Inspired by Charles Wesley's phrase "O for a thousand tongues" and the familiar tune Azmon, Miriam Therese Winter wrote this hymn envisioning a new world order for the Presbyterian Women's Triennial Conference in 1982. It was later recrafted

Tune: AZMON C.M.

Carl G. Gläser, 1828

Adapt. Lowell Mason in Modern Psalmody, 1839

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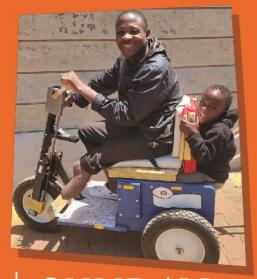
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Calling all SUPERHEROES to Vacation Bible School for Youth Ages 3 to Finishing 5th Grade!

Volunteers Needed, too!

July 30 - August 1 5:45 - 8:15 p.m.

Register NOW through July 15: www.columbiaucc.com

Available to all attendees at no charge by the CUCC Nurture & Education Ministry Team.

