

# Columbia United Church Of Christ

January 15, 2023  
"Baptism of Jesus"



# 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**



**January 15, 2023**

**10:30 a.m.**

**"Baptism of Jesus"**

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

*"The voice of God is over the waters;  
the God of Glory thunders over mighty waters!"*

*-Psalm 29:3*

Welcome and Greetings

Pastor Rick

Prelude

"I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry"

Amy Crousore

*Ylvisaker/arr. Christiansen*

Carrying in the Light of Christ

\*Call to Worship

*(Based on Psalm 72)*

Aidan Pierson

Praise God's glory and strength;

Worship God in Holy splendor!

**God's voice is over the waters;**

**God's glory thunders from the deep.**

God's voice is powerful, full of majesty.

God's voice shakes the wilderness and strips the forests bare.

**God is enthroned over the waters;**

**God gives strength and blessing to God's people.**

Listen for the voice of God;

Calling out, blessing us, and calling us by name.

**Our mouths will sing of God's praise for generations,**

**And we will bless God's Holy Name forever and ever.**

**Come, let us worship God!**

\*Gathering Hymn

"Down by the Jordan"

*Written by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, in "Songs of Grace" (2009)*

*To the tune "LOBE DEN HERREN" (NCH #22)*

***Down by the Jordan, a prophet named John was baptizing,***

***Preaching a message the people found bold and surprising***

***"God will forgive! Show that you'll change how you live!***

***Surely God's new day is rising!"***

***There by the river, the crowd came with great expectation!***

***"Are you God's chosen one, sent here to rescue our nation?"***

***“No!” John replied. “He who is mightier than I  
Will come and offer Salvation.”***

***Jesus, you went to be baptized with all of the others.  
Taking your place among sinners, God’s lost sons and daughters.  
Then with great love, God’s Spirit came as a dove!  
Your work began in those waters.***

***Here in the Church, we are baptized and filled with God’s Spirit.  
Freed and forgiven, we’re welcomed with Joy; can you hear it?  
This is God’s sign! This is how God says, “You’re mine!”  
Let’s take the Good News and share it!***

\*Opening Prayer

Lawson Flood-Lorber

**God of Light, in this Epiphany Season, we hear the story of Jesus’ baptism in the River Jordan and Your presence and proclamation that day. We rejoice in this story and look for ways you are making proclamations in our lives, as well. Open our ears that we may hear you calling us your beloved. Just as Jesus’ baptism set him on a path of service, we pray that as we remember our baptisms today, we may also be set on a path of service. In Jesus’ name we pray; Amen.**

\*Assurance of Blessing

Pastor Rick

Jesus was baptized and set out to serve. In like manner, through our baptisms, we are also called to serve. Even when we forget this call to service, God continues to forgive us and bless us. Through our repentance and God’s unconditional love, all receive the gift of New Life. Christ is born, even today! Alleluia!

\*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

Pastor Rick

**May God’s Peace be with you!  
And also with you!**

Children’s Time

Pastor Rick

Response:

“This Little Light of Mine”

#525

*(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!***

Gospel Reading

Matthew 3:1-17

Aidan Pierson

*John the Baptizer comes into town from the wilderness of Judea, preaching a message of repentance and speaking of the glory that is possible if the people were to embrace the message of Jesus. Then, Jesus appears and asks to be baptized by John.* (page #784)

Anthem

“Like a Mighty Stream”

Celebration Singers

Moses Hogan

Sermon

“Baptized into What?”

Pastor Rick

\*Hymn

“Precious Lord, Take My Hand”

#472

\*The Sacrament of Baptism (Remembering your baptism)

*Whether you have been baptized or not, you have been named and claimed by God. God blesses and redeems you just as you are.*

*Today we celebrate the baptisms of everyone in the congregation: members and guests alike. Pastor Rick will be inviting everyone who wishes to come forward via the center aisle to recall being named and claimed by God and to remember their baptism.*

*Pastor Rick will give more instructions about how to proceed forward and participate in this ritual.*

*If you have not been baptized, you are welcome to participate, as well. Come forward and when you are told to “remember your baptism” know that you are being reminded that God loves you and claims you, even if you have not participated in the Sacrament of Baptism.*

*If you have not been baptized yet and wish to be baptized today, you are invited to come up on the chancel with Pastor Rick and be baptized. If you would like to schedule a baptism in the future, talk to Pastor Rick after worship.*

*After everyone who wishes comes forward to participate, we will all rise and join together in our hymn, celebrating the ways God names us and claims us and carries us through all the challenges of life.*

Meditation Hymn

“I Was There to Hear Your Boring Cry”

#351

Community Prayer & Silent Prayer

The LORD’S Prayer

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



# Columbia United Church of Christ

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<b>Admin. Assistant:</b>	MJ King	<a href="mailto:office@columbiaucc.com">office@columbiaucc.com</a>
<b>Moderator:</b>	Kristy Hayward	<a href="mailto:kristyodneal@gmail.com">kristyodneal@gmail.com</a>
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<b>Financial Secretary:</b>	Raj Tolani	<a href="mailto:finance.cucc@gmail.com">finance.cucc@gmail.com</a>
<b>Pastor Emeritus:</b>	Rev. Fred Brandenburg	

## TODAY IN WORSHIP:

Worship Leader: Aidan Pierson  
Acolyte:  
Ushers: Llona Weiss & Melba Shaffer  
Greeters: Helen Schultz  
Technology Booth: Mike Pierson & Judi Privitt  
Hospitality: Sue Ann Schaefer  
Council Stewards: Sue Ann Schaefer

## NEXT SUNDAY IN WORSHIP:

Worship Leader: Mahree Skala  
Acolyte:  
Ushers: Llona Weiss & Pat Forward  
Greeters: Jessica Lucas  
Technology Booth: Dominick Lee & Josh Muench  
Hospitality: Mark Duncan  
Council Stewards: Mark Duncan & Kristy Hayward

Online giving QR code



## COLUMBIA UCC CHURCH COUNCIL

<b>Moderator:</b>	Kristy Hayward	<a href="mailto:kristyodneal@gmail.com">kristyodneal@gmail.com</a>
<b>Vice Moderator:</b>	Kurt Heine	<a href="mailto:heinekurt@gmail.com">heinekurt@gmail.com</a>
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<b>Inclusion &amp; Affirmation:</b>	Tricia Price	<a href="mailto:tricialprice@gmail.com">tricialprice@gmail.com</a>
<b>Little One's Day Out:</b>	Lorry Dreier	<a href="mailto:llhd01@gmail.com">llhd01@gmail.com</a>
<b>Membership &amp; Care:</b>	Jessica Lucas	<a href="mailto:jlucas@cpsk12.org">jlucas@cpsk12.org</a>
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<b>Outreach &amp; Advocacy:</b>	Mark Duncan	<a href="mailto:markduncan2@mchsi.com">markduncan2@mchsi.com</a>
<b>Worship &amp; Music:</b>	Mike Pierson	<a href="mailto:mike.pierson.1969@gmail.com">mike.pierson.1969@gmail.com</a>

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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 CLASS WITH SHELLY ADAMS**

Shelly Adams will be leading the Adult Contemporary Class the next four Sundays, 1/22-2/12, focusing on the topic, "How to Heal our Divides." The text for the class is the book "How to Heal our Divides: A Practical Guidebook." If you would like to order a copy, talk to Shelly, or look it up online!

### **HEALTH MINISTRY**

The **Health Ministry Care Team** is a new initiative through our Membership and Care Committee with the goal to assist members in meeting their health care needs through education, support, transportation, and advocacy as needed. If you need help getting to a health care appointment or a hospital procedure, or if you have questions about your health, call Anne Heine at 573-529-1543.

### **100TH ANNIVERSARY KICKOFF NEXT SUNDAY**

Crack open the cookbook! 2023 is our 100th year, and we will be celebrating all year long! Our first celebration will be NEXT SUNDAY January 22. We will have a potluck meal after worship with special historical presentations in worship and at the meal. Bring a dish or two to share with everyone!

### **ALPHA HART LEWIS READING WEEK**

Alpha Hart Lewis Elementary School (AHL) is celebrating Reading Week the week of February 27-March 2, 2023. If you would like to participate with our Columbia Public Schools Partner Friend AHL and read to some students for about 15-20 minutes, please let Llona Weiss know!

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

Sun	1/15	<b><i>Baptism of Christ/Rev. Dr. ML King Sunday</i></b>	
		Sunday School	9:00 a.m.
		Fellowship Time	10:00 a.m.
		Worship (in person and livestream)	10:30 a.m.
Mon	1/16	<b><i>Church Office Closed- MLK Holiday</i></b>	
		NO Staff Meeting	
		Loaves & Fishes	4:30 p.m.
		Finance & Stewardship Ministry Team	6:30 p.m.
Tue	1/17	Quilters	10:00 a.m.
		Fellowship & Hospitality Ministry Team	5:30 p.m.
		Church Council Meeting	6:30 p.m.
Wed	1/18	Chapel Ringers/Celebration Singers	6:00/7:00 p.m.
Thu	1/19	COMO Values Diversity Breakfast	7:00 a.m.
Sun	1/22	<b><i>100th Anniversary Year Kickoff Sunday</i></b>	
		Sunday School	9:00 a.m.
		Fellowship Time	10:00 a.m.
		Worship (in person and livestream)	10:30 a.m.
		100th Anniversary Potluck Party	12:00 p.m.

# Columbia UCC Prayer List

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

Autumn Lear & Jay Chase... on the birth of their new baby!

Alex & Emma Tennill (and grandparents Alethea & Ron)... on the birth of new baby Tommy Oliver Tennill– December 31, 2022 at 11:36pm!

Sharon Crousore... anticipating cardiac surgery February 8

The students and staff of Alpha Hart Lewis Elementary... our partnership friend

Sheila... challenges in life and faith  
The Koerkenmeier & Malicoat Families

### *Health Issues:*

Glenn Duermeyer;  
Levi Markway; Christine Mseke;

### *Living in Care Facilities:*

Bea Gordon, Neal Sprick, Gary Ehrhardt,  
Mark Brumbach, Vernie Blank

### *Living in Independent Living Facilities:*

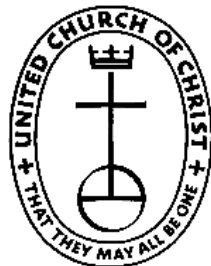
Helen Graves

### *Serving us in the military:*

Alexander & Christopher Tennill, Jeffrey Sanderson,  
Dane Wilson, Aaron Dachroeden, Tim Isom (Oberles' friend)  
James Walker (Don Helmreich's nephew)

### *Pregnancies in our church family:*

Hannah Duncan & Ben Bashinski  
Shelby Oberle & Ryan Furney



*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*