

# Columbia United Church Of Christ

November 21, 2021  
Testimony Sunday



# CUCC

**Columbia United Church of Christ**

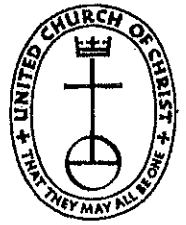
## **CUCC Open and Affirming/Inclusion Covenant:**

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



November 21, 2021

10:30 Worship

"Testimony"

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

*"Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening..."*

*-1 Samuel 3:9*

Welcome and Greetings

Pastor Rick

Prelude

"With Thankful Hearts"

Chapel Ringers  
Wagner

Carrying in the Light of Christ

Trevor Pierson

\*Call to Worship

Kennedy Lucas

The stories of our traditions tell us of testimony;  
God's children, testifying their faith for all to hear.

**Even when it was difficult or dangerous to do so,  
God's children prophetically testified to God's inclusive love.**

God calls us to offer testimony as well,  
Telling all of our faith through words and deeds.

**May we always be as bold as the prophets of old;  
Testifying to our faith, against all who would silence us.**

We gather today giving testimony; we gather proclaiming our faith.  
We gather as God's prophets of today, sharing our faith with all.

**Our stories speak of God's Love working through us;  
Our testimony speaks of God's enduring provision.  
Come, let us worship God!**

\*Opening Hymn

"God our Author and Creator"

#530

\*Opening Prayer

(Written by 2021 Confirmation Class)

Abby Dennis

**God of unity; you bring us together as one family of faith, praising your name. Thank you for helping us learn about you as both confirmation students and as a congregation. Thank you for walking with us on this confirmation journey. Forgive us for the times we fall short of your goals for us and forget your place in our lives. Help us continue our faith journey together as we grow as people and support each other as a church family, living into all of our confirmation promises. We offer these prayers in Jesus' name; Amen.**

\*Assurance of Blessing

Pastor Rick

God's blessing is upon all of us; and even when we waver in our devotion to God, when we repent and turn back to God, we receive God's forgiveness 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

Pastor Rick

May God's Peace be with you!

**And also with you!**

Children's Time

Abby, Kennedy & Zabibu

Response

"I Have Decided to Follow Jesus"

*I have decided to follow Jesus!  
I have decided to follow Jesus!  
I have decided to follow Jesus!  
No turning back, no turning back!*

Recognition of Servanthood- Ordination

Pastor Rick

*Last Sunday, Quinn Rosenthal was ordained to ministry in the United Church of Christ. Ordination is the rite whereby the United Church of Christ recognizes and authorizes that member whom God has called to ordained ministry, setting that person apart by prayer and the laying on of hands. By this rite, ordained ministerial standing is conferred and authorization is given to perform the duties of ordained ministry in the United Church of Christ.*

\*Blessing

**Eternal God, in wisdom you govern all things and from the beginning you have chosen faithful people to serve you in ministry, for building up the body of Christ.**

**Now bless and sanctify by your Holy Spirit your servant, Quinn Rosenthal, whose ordination we recognize and celebrate today. Bestow on him the power of your Holy Spirit. Let the same mind be in him that was also in Christ Jesus. Enable him to nourish your people in the faith of the Gospel. Fill his speech with truth, his life with purity, and increase his faith in you always; that your name may be glorified through his actions. In the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ, we pray; Amen.**

Old Testament Lesson

1 Samuel 3:1-10

Zabibu Kibaro

*Hannah's baby, Samuel, has grown into a young boy and is serving in the Temple. While he is serving under the prophet Eli, God call Samuel. He thinks it is Eli calling him, but Eli helps Samuel understand that it is God's call to service.* (pg. 213)

Anthem

"I Will Give Thanks Unto Thee, O LORD"

Celebration Singers with Lena Muench, solo

Mary McDonald

Reflection on Confirmation

Pastor Rick

*Our Confirmation journey began in October, 2020. In the past 11 months we have met in person, on Zoom, and in hybrid ways; masked, unmasked, socially distanced and other considerations. This has been a trying year for these three students; but they have persevered well and grown considerably in their faith.*

### Testimonies of Faith- 2021 Confirmation Class

Abby Dennis, Zabibu Kibaro, Kennedy Lucas

Abby Dennis

Psalm 100:1-3

*"Make a Joyful Noise to the LORD, all the earth. Worship the LORD with gladness; come into God's presence with singing. Know that the LORD is God. It is God who made us, and we belong to God."*

Zabibu Kibaro

John 8:12

*"Again Jesus spoke to them saying, 'I am the light of the world; whoever follows me will not walk in darkness but will have the light of life.'"*

Kennedy Lucas

Matthew 5:6

*"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, For they shall be satisfied."*

\*Meditation Hymn

"I Love to Tell the Story"

#522

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; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine 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!*

Mission Moment	“VAC/City of Refuge”	Mahree Skala
Stewardship Moment	“Giving Tuesday”	Doug Privitt
Sharing our Announcements of Community Life		Pastor Rick
Presenting our Gifts		

*To give online text “GIVE” to 573.240.4041 and follow the prompts  
You can also give online by visiting our website:  
www.columbiaucc.com*

Offertory	“Now Thank We All Our God”	Chapel Ringers <i>Stephenson</i>
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*Response	“For the Fruit of All Creation”	
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*For the Fruit of all Creation, thanks be to God!  
For God’s gifts to every nation, thanks be to God!  
For the wonders that astound us,  
for the truths that still confound us,  
Most of all that love has found us, thanks be to God!*

*Prayer of Dedication	<i>(Written by 2021 Confirmation Class)</i>	Abby Dennis
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**God of many blessings; we receive and interpret your blessings by the way we give back. So take these gifts, receive them as blessings back from us. Help us to be thankful for the many gifts we have in our lives already. Inspire us to share our gifts with the people around us, transforming your world into something even better. Amen.**

*Benediction		Abby, Zabibu & Kennedy
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*Response:	“Let There be Peace on Earth”	
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**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 God from Whom All Blessings Flow”	
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Amy Crousore  
*Pachelbel*

# Columbia United Church of Christ

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**Pastor Emeritus:** Rev. Fred Brandenburg

## TODAY IN WORSHIP:

**Worship Leader:** Mahree Skala  
**Acolyte:** Trevor Pierson  
**Ushers:** Brent Marcks  
**Greeters:** Helen Schultz  
**Technology Booth:** Phillip Dennis & Josh Muench  
**Hospitality:** Jo Ellen Grace  
**Council Steward:** Linda Neale & Tricia Price



## NEXT SUNDAY IN WORSHIP:

**Worship Leader:** Llona Weiss  
**Acolyte:** Abby Dennis  
**Ushers:** Jim Loveless  
**Greeters:** Susan Dunham  
**Technology Booth:** Doug & Judi Privitt  
**Hospitality:** Melba Shaffer  
**Council Stewards:** Jessica Jenks & Brent Marcks

## COLUMBIA UCC CHURCH COUNCIL

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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!

### CHAPEL RINGERS AND CELEBRATION SINGERS

Have you ever thought about joining one of our choirs? Now is a great time! Brandon Brown is coordinating some great musical opportunities for this year. We are also preparing for an Advent Cantata, which will be presented in worship on December 12. Now is the time to jump in and praise God in song!

### GIVING TUESDAY

Giving Tuesday is on Tuesday, November 30, 2021. Last year was a tremendous success, and we hope to exceed the \$22,000 that we raised in 2020. Our goal for 2021 will be to collect \$25,000. 10% of what is collected for Giving Tuesday will be split among VAC and The City of Refuge. 90% of what is collected will go toward Joyful Giving. Plan now to contribute to CUCC on Giving Tuesday!

### COOKIES BY THE POUND

The Nurture & Education Ministry Team will be hosting "Cookies by the Pound" again this year on December 12! This annual event raises funds to send our youth to Camp MoVal each summer, and facilitates other Education programming in the church. Plan to donate and purchase on that day! See insert for more info.

### ADVENT BANQUET

Our annual Advent Banquet will be December 12 at noon! On that day we will gather after worship for food, fun and fellowship. You must RSVP to attend! You can do so using the QR code in the bulletin or Friday email. Food allergy options are being considered. For more information, talk to Stefanie Zimny.

### THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Sun	11/21	<b>TESTIMONY SUNDAY</b>	
		Sunday School	9:00am
		Fellowship Time	10:00am
		Worship (in person and livestream)	10:30am
		Worship & Music Ministry Team Meeting	12:00pm
Mon	11/22	Membership & Care Ministry Team Meeting	6:30pm
Tue	11/23	Quilters	10:00am
Thu	11/25	<b>HAPPY THANKSGIVING!</b> (Church office closed)	
Fri	11/26	Church office closed	
Sun	11/28	<b>FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT/CONFIRMATION</b>	
		Sunday School	9:00am
		Fellowship Time	10:00am
		Worship (in person and livestream)	10:30am

*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.*

# Columbia UCC Prayer List

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

Barry Kirchhoff... recovering from procedure  
Laura Lentz... recovering from health issues  
Jim Gordon... health issues (Edie Diel's friend)

Sharon Tiemann... on hospice (April Rothwieler's Aunt)

Linda Lau... living with cancer (Alisa Lau-Sieckman's sister)

Sheila... challenges in life and faith  
The Koerkenmeier, Malicoat,  
Williams, Piersee & Marsh Families

## *Health Issues:*

Deborah Heather (Edie Diehl's niece); Christine Mseke;  
Irene Hurst... living with cancer (Sue & Cliff Beckman's friend)

## *Living in Care Facilities:*

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

## *Serving us in the military:*

Alexander & Christopher Tennill, Jeffrey Sanderson  
James Walker (Don Helmreich's nephew)  
Tim Isom, Tyler Gibson (Oberles' friends);  
Daisia Baker (Isaiah's cousin)

## *Pregnancies in our Church Family:*

Yvonne Piersee

## *UCC/DOC Global Ministries Missionary of the Week:*

Kahala Cannon... serving in eSwatini

## *2021 Confirmation Class:*

Abby Dennis, Zabibu Kibaro, Kennedy Lucas

## *2022 Confirmation Class:*

Danielle Dreier, Aidan Pierson, Trevor Pierson

*CUCC celebrates God's boundless love by:*

*Welcoming all God's People;*

*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*



Rom. 8:26-27; Eph. 5:18-20

Ruth Duck, 198:

1 In sol - i - tude, in sol - i - tude, I come to God in prayer.  
 2 When-e'er the world is troub-ling me, and stress is all a - round,  
 3 In sea - sons of per - plex - i - ty, in times of deep de - spair,  
 4 And when my heart is bur - dened down with cares for those I love,  
 5 With psalms and hymns and songs of praise be - fore my God I'll come,

In si - lence and sim - plic - i - ty, my spir - it blos - soms there.  
 I seek the pres - ence of my God, and heal - ing light is found.  
 I light a can - dle in the night and turn to God in prayer.  
 too deep for words, with groans and sighs, de - scends the ho - ly dove.  
 till death it - self is past and gone, and I ar - rive at home.

Ruth Duck has commented that "these words were inspired by a pentatonic melody which came to me as I taught myself to play the mandolin." They are an expression of her "deep-rooted southern spirituality."

Tune: LAND OF REST C.M  
 Traditional United States melod.  
 Harm. Annabel Morris Buchanan, 193

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Katherine Hankey, 1866; al

1 I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove.  
 2 I love to tell the sto - ry; more won - der - ful it seems  
 3 I love to tell the sto - ry; it's pleas - ant to re - peat  
 4 I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best

Born in Clapham, England, Katherine Hankey belonged to the Clapham Sect of Evangelicals and established a Bible class for girls in London's West End. This hymn is drawn from her extended poem on the life of Jesus, which also contains "Tell me the old, old story."

Tune: HANKEY 7.6.7.6.D. with refrain  
 William G. Fischer, 186

Of Je - sus' ra - diant glo - ry, of Je - sus' end - less love.  
 than all the gold - en vi - sions of all our gold - en dreams.  
 what seems, each time I tell it, more won - der - ful - ly sweet.  
 seem hun - ger - ing and thirst - ing to hear it, like the rest.

I love to tell the sto - ry, be - cause I know it's true;  
 I love to tell the sto - ry, I tell it now to you  
 I love to tell the sto - ry, for some have nev - er heard  
 And when I sing in glo - ry, I know the new, new song

it sat - is - fies my long - ings as noth - ing else can do.  
 be - cause I want to share it, be - cause I know it's true.  
 the mes - sage of sal - va - tion from God's own ho - ly Word.  
 will be the old, old sto - ry that I have loved so long.

*Refrain*

I love to tell the sto - ry; and when I am in glo - ry

I'll tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus' end - less love.

## God Our Author and Creator

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Carl P. Daw, Jr., 1985

Gen. 1:1-2:3; Acts 17:22-31; Rom. 12:2; John 3:16-17

Unison

1 God our Au - thor and Cre - a - tor, in whose life we find our own,  
 2 Like those first a - pos - tles, Sav - ior, give us strength to love and serve:  
 3 Keep us faith - ful, Ho - ly Spir - it, help us bear the mes - sage true,

make our dai - ly wit - ness great - er, by our lives make your love known.  
 when our faint - ing spir - its wa - ver, fire our hearts and steel our nerve.  
 that at last all lands may hear it: "God is love; Christ died for you."

Help us show how love em - brac - es those whom fear and greed down - trod;  
 Teach us wis - dom and com - pas - sion: bid our rest - less thoughts be still;  
 Join our lives in might - y cho - rus till we come from ev - ery place,

in all yearn - ing hearts and fac - es let us see a child of God.  
 by your guid - ance help us fash - ion lives con - formed un - to your will.  
 with all those who went be - fore us, to the full - ness of God's grace.

In 1985, a hymn competition was held to commemorate the centennial of the Women's Missionary Union of the Southern Baptist Convention. This winning text by Carl P. Daw, Jr., fulfilled the guideline that the hymn address mission in the context of daily life.

Tune: JEFFERSON 8.7.8.7.D.  
 Southern Harmony, 1835  
 Harm. John Ferguson, 1973