

Columbia United Church Of Christ

October 5, 2025

“World Communion Sunday”



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**



October 5, 2025

10:30 a.m.

"One World"

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

*"By the rivers of Babylon; there we sat down,
And there we wept when we remembered Zion!'"*
-Psalm 137:1

Welcome and Greetings

Pastor Rick

Prelude

Gina Pierson

Carrying in the Light of Christ

*Call to Worship *(based on Psalm 138)*

Judi Privitt

We give thanks to God with grateful hearts.
Before all others, we sing praises to God.

**We gather in God's Holy Place,
Singing praises, gathering for worship!**

God's Steadfast Love endures forever;
God's faithfulness is worthy of our praise.

**God's Wisdom is exalted over everything else;
When God calls, our Spirits soar!**

All the earth shall sing praises to God.
God's glory and God's love endure forever!

**Though we walk in the midst of trouble, God preserves us.
God's hand reaches out, delivering Steadfast Love.**

We gather in the name of Christ, sharing God's love.
Come, let us worship God!

*Hymn "In the Midst of New Dimensions"

#391

*Opening Prayer

Judi Privitt

**God of challenge and call, You summon us to be Your disciples
and set before us the duties of discipleship. Forgive us for the
times we fail to follow Your call. Open our hearts to the wisdom
of our ancestors, as we seek to live into the faith You have set
before us. Remind us that we are one world, neighbors in need,
serving in Your name. Teach us to serve, that we may glorify
You in all that we do. In Jesus' name we pray; Amen.**

*Assurance of Blessing

Pastor Rick

God challenges us to work in unity with one another across human-created barriers to God's glory. But even when we forget this call, God still 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

“I Have Decided to Follow Jesus”
(Sung as children return to their seats)

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

Mission Moment

“Neighbors in Need”

Mahree Skala

Anthem

“One World, One Communion ” Celebration Singers
Pepper Choplin

New Testament Lesson

2 Timothy 1:3-14

Judi Privitt

In Paul's second letter to Timothy, he encourages him to have the faith that existed in his family for the previous two generations, lifting up Timothy's mother and grandmother. He encourages Timothy not to be ashamed of the Gospel but to stand firm in the teachings of Jesus Christ and the testimony of those who followed Jesus since his Ascension.

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Gospel Lesson

Luke 17:5-10

Judi Privitt

In another difficult message, Jesus talks about duty and doing the work appointed to a person. The images used are difficult to embrace, but the wisdom of the message is not about servitude, it is about humility and following one's vocation or call. What is our duty as Christians, and how can we live into it?

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Sermon:

“One World”

Pastor Rick

*Hymn

“In Christ There is No East or West”

#394

*Invitation to Communion

Luke the Evangelist wrote of our Risen Savior who, at table with two of his disciples, took bread; blessed it; broke it and gave it to them. Their eyes were opened and they recognized the Risen Christ in the breaking of the bread. As we symbolically join together in this sacred memory meal on this World Communion Sunday, it is in community with all of our siblings from above and below the equator; from the North and from Down Under; with our friends in Chiapas and Congo and Jamaica and Japan and Thailand; from every time zone all across the globe. As today's sunlight inches across land and sea, one Global Community gathers to celebrate their unity. All are invited, all are welcome, all are called. Come, join in the feast!

In company with all believers in every time and beyond time; in the presence of the Triune God whom we worship and adore; with hearts open to all of creation and to our siblings all across the globe, we come together in one world communion to know the risen Christ through this symbolic 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.

Institution; Fraction; Distribution

Communion Music

Gina Pierson

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

Let us give thanks to God in unison with each other, with Christians everywhere, and with the poor and suffering neighbors in need, in whom we daily meet the living Christ.

Thank you, God, for the ministry of Jesus; for gladness in this bread and cup, for love that cannot die, for peace the world cannot give, for joy in the company of friends, for the glory of creation, and for the mission of justice You have made our own. Give us the gifts of this holy communion; oneness of heart, love for our neighbors both globally and locally, peace in our families, forgiveness of our enemies, the will to serve You every day, and Eternal Living in this life and beyond. Now we gather with our siblings all across the globe, offering the prayer You taught us...

*The LORD's Prayer (sung by the congregation)

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.

Sharing our Announcements of Community Life

Pastor Rick

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

Gina Pierson

*Prayer of Dedication

Judi Privitt

God of Grace; You call us into Your church to embrace Your Wisdom, then You send us out to do Your work in the world. Take our hearts and our minds and let them be focused on Your mission. Take also the gifts we offer today. Let them be used to further Your mission of justice and provide voice for those who are seeking an alternative to the ways of the world. May these gifts help provide restoration and wholeness to Your Creation. Amen.

*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

Gina Pierson

Columbia United Church of Christ

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Organist/Accompanist:	
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:	Judi Privitt
Song Leader:	Katie Jones
Ushers:	John & Brenda Muench
Greeters:	Jolene Kirchhoff
Technology:	Brent Marcks & Ted Dachroeden
Council Stewards:	Kristin Veteto & Edie Diel



Online Giving

NEXT SUNDAY IN WORSHIP:

Worship Leader:	Ashley Ramirez
Song Leader:	Sarah Young
Ushers:	Keith Birkes & Deborah Long Birkes
Greeters:	Susan Dunham
Technology:	Doug & Judi Privitt
Council Stewards:	Lena Muench & Judi Privitt

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!

NEW NAMETAGS

The Membership & Care and Inclusion & Affirmation Ministry Teams have worked together this summer to roll out new nametags for the congregation! If you do not have a nametag, or if there are any changes needed on your nametag, fill out a form by the nametags in the coatroom. We have many “new” folks in our community, so it is more important than ever to wear your nametag!

TEAM EARTH MEETING 10/7

Interested in Creation Care? Come to our Team Earth meeting on 10/7 at 5:30 p.m. to talk about ways we can continue our focus on being good stewards of God’s Creation. Questions? Talk to Rev. Mike Williams or Mahree Skala.

CHURCH WORK DAY- 10/11

Our next all-church workday will be 10/11 starting at 8:00 a.m. until noon. We will be concentrating on grounds maintenance, specifically addressing invasive honeysuckle issues, pulling weeds, and trimming trees. We can also coordinate inside work, if you wish. If you have any questions, talk to Ted Dachroeden.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING 10/26

The Annual Congregational Budget Meeting will be 10/26 at the conclusion of worship. The Council will be presenting a proposed Budget, which will be distributed on 10/12, and asking for affirmation. Following the meeting, we will have a Halloween Pot Luck meal hosted by the Fellowship and Hospitality Ministry Team. Come to church in costume that Sunday for Halloween!

THIS WEEK’S CALENDAR

Sun	10/5	WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY	
		Bible Study & Sunday School	9:00 a.m.
		Fellowship	10:00 a.m.
		Worship (in person and livestream)	10:30 a.m.
		Mid-MO Pridefest	12:00-6:00 p.m.
Mon	10/6	Scouting America	7:00 p.m.
Tue	10/7	Staff Meeting	10:00 a.m.
		Quilters	10:00 a.m.
		Team Earth	5:30 p.m.
		Outreach & Advocacy Ministry Team	6:30 p.m.
Wed	10/8	Confirmation Class	7:00 p.m.
		Celebration Singers Rehearsal	7:00 p.m.
Thu	10/9	Women’s Fellowship	9:30 a.m.
Sat	10/11	Work Day at Church	8:00 a.m.
		CUCC Young Families Picnic at Cosmo Park	4:00 p.m.
Sun	10/12	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 . . .

The family and friends of Aiyanna Williams... on their loss

Mike Gregory... health issues

Janeen Atwood... health issues (Lena's friend)

Monique... recovering from accident (Elaine Trout's friend)

Jim Posz... health issues (Allen's Father)

Dr. Ryan Link... health issues; prayers for him and his family

Cody Kile... recovery from accident

Phillip Neale's niece... awaiting liver transplant

Students and staff at Alpha Hart Lewis Elementary . . . our Partner in Education

The people of Palestine, Israel, Iran, and Ukraine

Health Issues:

Tiffany Greene, Harold Hackman, Glenn Duermeyer, Lloyd Mickelson,

Marsha Posz, Barry Kirchhoff, Ruth (Edie's Cousin),

Mark Fairley & Connie Hackman Fairley, Rachel Demand,

Kristan Whelihan (Russell Eveler's teacher),

Fred & Ann Wilke (Alethea's Parents)

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

Julia Marsh (Donna Marsh's Daughter),

Martha (friend of the Veteto family), Ken (Adam Veteto's Cousin),

Linda Hancik and Beverly Wilcox (Corinne Remeika's friends),

Challenges in Life:

Sheila, The Koerkenmeier & Malicoat Families, Kieran Piersee

Living in Care Facilities:

Gary Ehrhardt, Vernie Blank, Harold Hackman,

Walter & Patty Schroeder

Living in Independent Living Facilities:

Don Privitt, Cliff & Sue Beckman, Linda Evans

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 melbamaes@google.com

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

2 Timothy 1:3-14

3 I am grateful to God—whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did—when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day.

4 Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy.

5 I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you.

6 For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands,

7 for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.

8 Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel, in the power of God,

9 who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace, and this grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began,,

10 but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior Jesus Christ, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

11 For this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher,,

12 and for this reason I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know the one in whom I have put my trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard the deposit I have entrusted to him.,

13 Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus.

14 Guard the good deposit entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

Luke 17:5-10

5 The apostles said to the Lord, “Increase our faith!”

6 The Lord replied, “If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, ‘Be uprooted and planted in the sea,’ and it would obey you.

7 “Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, ‘Come here at once and take your place at the table’?

8 Would you not rather say to him, ‘Prepare supper for me; put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink’?

9 Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded?

10 So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, ‘We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!’ ”

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.



Neighbors in Need

Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.

- Galatians 6:2

**Advocacy is essential to participating in
God's mission in the world.**

Gifts to the **Neighbors in Need** offering support ministries of justice and compassion in the United Church of Christ, including the UCC Office of Public Policy & Advocacy in Washington D.C.



The UCC Washington D.C. Office was called into being by a resolution at General Synod 10 in 1975. The office was assigned to identify, analyze, and forecast social issues which called for the attention of the church. The work has always been guided by the discernment of the UCC through General Synod gatherings and resolutions that collectively witness to God's call.

Each week the Washington D.C. Office creates an action alert to help give church members the opportunity to contact legislators simply and easily. In 2025 these weekly alerts have encouraged church members to fight for disability housing accommodations, to stop the gun violence epidemic, and to support environmental justice for all.

Thank you for your generosity!

A MESSAGE FROM FINANCE AND STEWARDSHIP

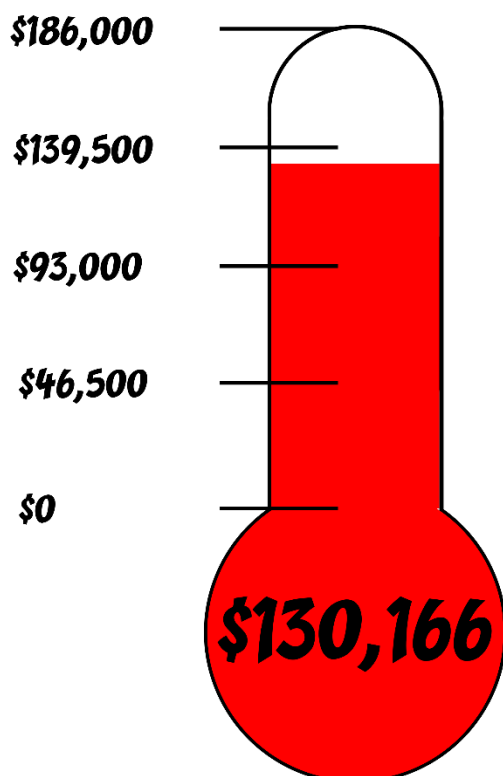
We have previously been members of a number of other churches and CUCC in our experience is the most effective church in fulfilling its Christian purposes that we have experienced. We are truly an open and affirming church which welcomes every person regardless of where they are in their human and spiritual journey!

CUCC has a beautiful sanctuary and facilities. We have a dedicated Minister and Staff. We have a dependable and faithful membership and friends. Our Ministry Teams are committed to the service of our church and our extended community. We exemplify Christian values and activities in all respects. We do all this with a very small budget which is used with very efficient love and concern for all we serve.

HOWEVER, WE HAVE A FINANCIAL EMERGENCY

Our Joyful Giving is seriously behind its necessary level to support all the things we do so efficiently and lovingly. At the end of July, we are \$77,049 behind our budgeted Joyful Giving and in order to meet our third quarter budget we must receive \$154,697 by the end of September.

The Finance & Stewardship Ministry Team is planning to do everything possible to communicate the importance and impact of your financial support. We know some of you are giving all you can. We also know many of us can help more. Many CUCC leaders have pledged to increase their Joyful Giving by 20%. If all of us who can make that pledge do so, our financial problems will be reduced to a manageable level. Deborah and I have made that pledge.



CUCC has always met every challenge we have faced. Together we can overcome this financial shortfall. Thank you for all you do with your Time, Talent, and Treasure!

-Keith Birkes

LITTLE ONE'S DAY OUT PRESENTS

PARENT SUPPORT GROUP

OCTOBER 23RD
6:00PM-7:30PM

WITH ALLISON KEMBLE

EVENT DETAILS

Join licensed counselor, Allison Kemble, and other LODO families in talking about parenthood. This is a judgement free zone to talk about the good, the bad, and the ugly. You are NOT alone, and this group is here to help support you! Event is \$5 for participating adults. Please let us know if you need childcare!

REGISTER BY
OCTOBER 16TH

