

May 24, 2020

10:30 Worship

"Faithful Apostles"

** indicates those who are comfortably able may stand*

*"...clap your hands, all you people;
Shout to God with loud songs of joy!"
-Psalm 47:1*

Gathering Music

Amy Crousore

Welcome and Greetings

Pastor Rick

Prelude

"Prelude in C Minor"

Amy Crousore
JS Bach

Carrying in the Light of Christ

*Call to Worship *(based on Psalm 47)*

Lauren Helmreich

Clap your hands, all you people!
Shout to God with loud songs of joy!

God rules over all the earth.

God's majesty is a blessing to our lives!

Sing praises to God; sing praises!
Sing praises to God's glorious name.

Let us join together with all people to proclaim God's glory;

Let us join together with all people to sing praises to God.

Come, let us worship God!

*Opening Hymn "Crown Him with Many Crowns"

Chalice Hymnal #234

*Opening Prayer

Lauren Helmreich

God of love and grace; today we hear of Jesus' Ascension into Heaven and imagine how frightened those first century disciples must have been. As they watched him ascend, they must have wondered about what will come next; what are they to do now; how will they continue on with everything changing. In our current culture, we have similar concerns. As we live into a coronavirus world, what comes next? What are we to do? How will we continue on with everything changing? These are uncertain times, gracious God; and in the midst of this uncertainty, we often falter.

Forgive us for the times when we struggle, in this uncertain climate, with issues of faith. Forgive us when we attack one another over perceived injustices instead of working together to discern your will for all. Forgive us when we turn a blind eye to the injustices revealed in this time, and bask in the privilege of our comfortable quarantine homes. Teach us to love one another as we work toward your kingdom goals; and to forgive one another as you have already forgiven us. In Jesus' name we pray; Amen.

*Assurance of Blessing Pastor Rick
In confusing times, it is easy to turn our backs on God's will for us, inviting fear into our hearts instead of charity and love. But even when we do, we are forgiven. Let us emerge into this coronavirus world as God's people, changed, forgiven, freed and loved. Christ is Risen! Christ is Risen, Indeed! Alleluia!

*Prayer Response "Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus"
**Turn your eyes upon Jesus
Look full in His wonderful face;
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim
In the light of His glory and grace!**

Children's Time Pastor Rick

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.**
**The world behind me, the cross before me (3x)
No turning back, no turning back**

Living our Mission "Clean Up Columbia" Pastor Rick

New Testament Lesson: Acts 1:1-11 Lauren Helmreich
The disciples are all gathered to receive instructions from Jesus about what to do next. Jesus talks about how everything will be changing in their lives and in the way they minister to the world, and then Jesus leaves them, ascending to Heaven.

Gospel Lesson: Luke 24:44-53 Lauren Helmreich
The story of Jesus' Ascension from the Gospel attributed to Luke. Jesus charges the Apostles with continuing his ministry. He tells them they are blessed, and charges them with being blessings in the world. Then he leaves them, ascending to Heaven.

Sermon: "Faithful Apostles" Pastor Rick

*Meditation Hymn: "You Servants of God" NCH #305

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.

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!

Sharing our Announcements of Community Life

Presenting our Gifts

“Menuetto”

Amy Crousore
Beethoven

*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*



*Response “**We Praise You, O God**” #420
We praise you, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;
In grateful devotion our tribute we bring.
We lay it before you, we kneel and adore you;
We bless your Holy name, glad praises we sing!

*Prayer of Dedication

Lauren Helmreich

God of compassion and service; as the post-Ascension Apostles dedicated their lives to you, we also dedicate our lives. These gifts we offer today are indicators of that dedication. Just as the gifts of the Apostles changed the lives of the first century world, we pray that our gifts may do so as well. Take these offerings and use them to bring your Good News of justice, righteousness and Shalom to all the world. 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

“Lift High the Cross”

Amy Crousore
John Carter

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.

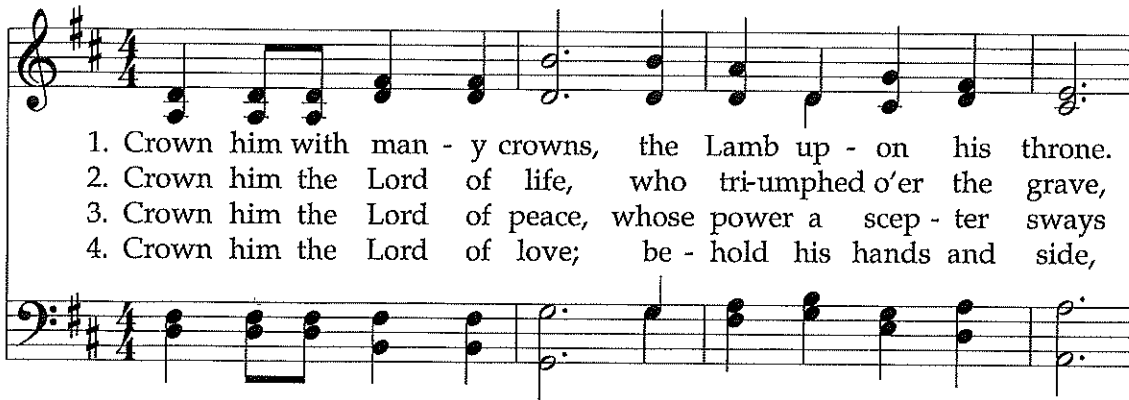
- No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey;
- No matter where you are on your faith journey;
- No matter your sexual orientation, gender expression or identity;
- No matter your race, culture, ethnicity, nationality or politics;
- No matter your age, ability, health, relationship status 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.

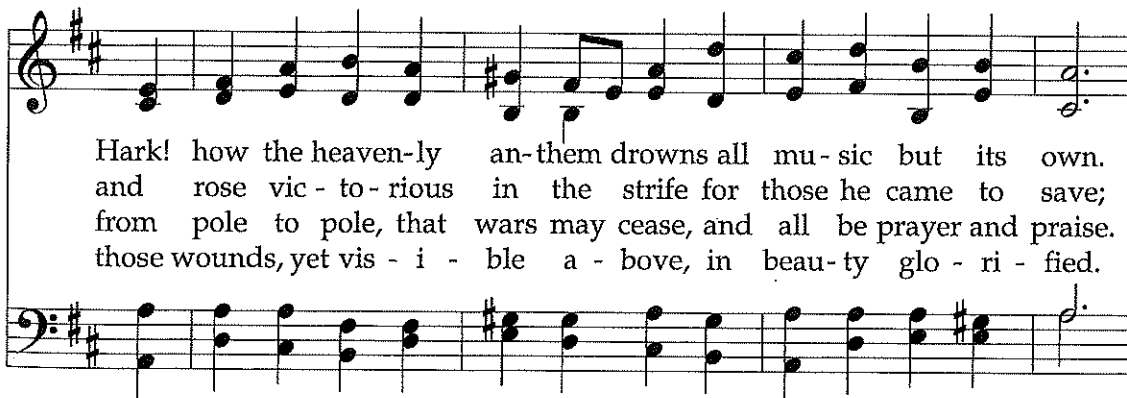
*CUCC celebrates God's boundless love by:
Welcoming all God's People;
Nurturing Faith and Spiritual Growth;
Challenging and inspiring everyone with vibrant worship;
Building a supportive church family;
Transforming both the congregation and community
through service and outreach*

Crown Him with Many Crowns

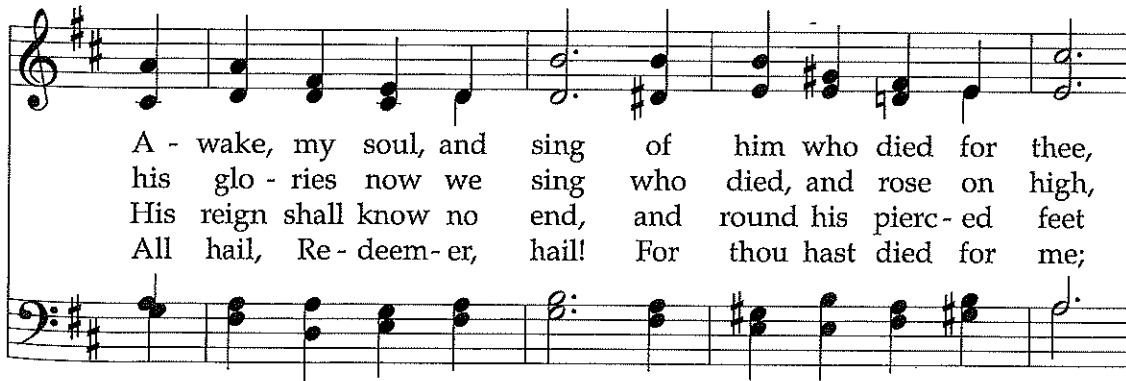
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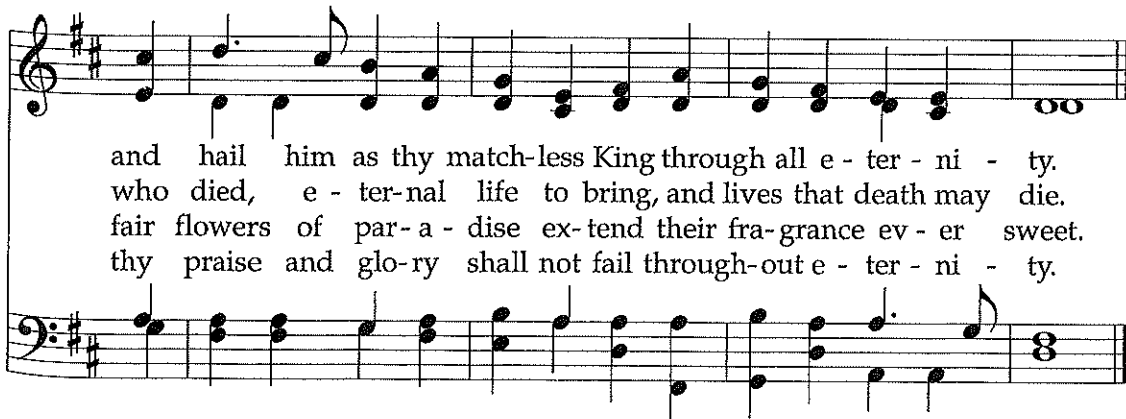
1. Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne.
 2. Crown him the Lord of life, who triumphed o'er the grave,
 3. Crown him the Lord of peace, whose power a scep - ter sways
 4. Crown him the Lord of love; be - hold his hands and side,



Hark! how the heaven-ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own.
 and rose vic - to - rious in the strife for those he came to save;
 from pole to pole, that wars may cease, and all be prayer and praise.
 those wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, in beau - ty glo - ri - fied.



A - wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
 his glo - ries now we sing who died, and rose on high,
 His reign shall know no end, and round his pierc - ed feet
 All hail, Re - deem - er, hail! For thou hast died for me;



and hail him as thy match-less King through all e - ter - ni - ty.
 who died, e - ter - nal life to bring, and lives that death may die.
 fair flowers of par - a - dise ex - tend their fra - grance ev - er sweet.
 thy praise and glo - ry shall not fail through - out e - ter - ni - ty.

305 You Servants of God, Your Sovereign Proclaim

Rev. 4:9-11; 5:11-14

Charles Wesley, 1744; alt.

1 You ser - vants of God, your Sov - ereign pro - claim,
 2 God rules from on high, al - might - y to save,
 3 Sal - va - tion to God who sits on the throne!
 4 Then let us a - dore and ren - der God's right,

and pub - lish a - broad that won - der - ful name:
 and still God is nigh, whose pres - ence we have.
 Let all cry a - loud for what God has done.
 all glo - ry and power, all wis - dom and might,

The name, all vic - to - rious, of Je - sus ex - tol,
 The great con - gre - ga - tion God's tri - umphs shall praise,
 The prais - es of Je - sus the an - gels pro - claim,
 All hon - or and bless - ing with an - gels a - bove,

who, sov - ereign and glo - rious, now rules o - ver all.
 as - crib - ing sal - va - tion to Je - sus al - ways.
 still veil - ing their fac - es, they wor - ship the Lamb.
 and thanks nev - er ceas - ing and in - fin - ite love.

Written at a time of anti-Methodist sentiment, this hymn was included in Charles Wesley's Hymns for Times of Trouble and Persecution. The tune is attributed to William Croft, composer at England's Chapel Royal and organist at Westminster Abbey.

Tune: HANOVER 10.10.11.11.
 Attrib. to William Croft, 1708