

Columbia United Church Of Christ

December 29, 2019
Fifth Day of Christmas



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.

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Of Christ



December 29, 2019

10:30 Worship

"Song of Simeon"

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

"Praise God! Praise God from the heavens;

Praise God in the heights!

Praise God, you angels;

Praise God, Heavenly Host!"-Psalm 148:1-2

Welcome and Greetings

Pastor Rick

Prelude

Amy Crousore

"Improvisation on 'Mendelssohn'"

Rick Deasley

Carrying in the Light of Christ

Announcing Christ's Birth Luke 2:8-20

Audrey Lasley

*Gathering Song

"O Come, All Ye Faithful" (verses 1,3,4)

(insert)

*Call to Worship

Audrey Lasley

Joyful, Joyful we adore you; God of Glory, God of Love!

Hearts unfold like flowers before you, opening to the sun above!

Melt the clouds of sin and sadness,

drive the dark of doubt away!

Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day!

All God's works with joy surround us;

Earth and heaven reflect God's rays!

Heavenly bodies sing God's glory; singing their unbroken praise!

Field and forest, vale and mountain,

flowery meadow, flashing sea,

All Creation sings God's praises, calling us to worship!

Come, let us worship God!

*Petition "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing!"

(insert)

*Opening Prayer

Pastor Rick

God of Glory, God of Love; your faithful people come! We come to

Bethlehem to see your Love embodied in the world. Like Simeon,

we recognize the brilliance of the Christ child and proclaim praise

for the Messiah. We come to adore him; we come to serve you.

Gory to God in the Highest; and on earth, peace to all! Glory to

God; in excelsis deo; Gloria!

*Response “Angels...Heard on High” (verses 1-3) (insert)

*Sharing God’s Gift of Peace

*At this time, you are invited to greet one another
with a hug or a handshake and the words,
“May God’s Peace be with you!”*

Children’s Time

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

**I have decided to follow Jesus; (3x)
No turning back, no turning back.**

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

Mission Moment “Fifth Sunday Food Bank” Alice Moon

Psalter Lesson: Psalm 148 Audrey Lasley

Gospel Lesson: Luke 2:21-35 (page #833) Audrey Lasley

*Meditation Hymn: “Silent Night” (verses 1 & 4) (insert)

Homily: “Song of Simeon” Pastor Rick

*Hymn “O Little Town of Bethlehem” (verses 1 & 4) (insert)
Ushers will collect prayer request cards during hymn

*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 your 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

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!

Sharing our Announcements of Community Life

Presenting our Gifts

"Angels from the Realms of Glory"

Amy Crousore

Henry Smart

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 "For the Fruit of All Creation"

#425

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

Audrey Lasley

God of devotion, today we gather here in this place shouting "Joy to the World" on the occasion of your birth. As we shout our joy and sing our praises, we give our gifts to your continued re-Creation in this world. Take these gifts and let them be used to bring a Christmas miracle to all those in need. In the name of the Christ child we dedicate our lives to you. Amen.

*Closing Hymn

"Joy To The World"

(insert)

*Benediction

*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

“Hark, the Herald Angels Sing”

Amy Crousore

Felix Mendelssohn

“A Song for Simeon”

by T.S. Eliot

Lord, the Roman hyacinths are blooming in bowls and
The winter sun creeps by the snow hills;
The stubborn season has made stand.
My life is light, waiting for the death wind,
Like a feather on the back of my hand.
Dust in sunlight and memory in corners
Wait for the wind that chills towards the dead land.

Grant us thy peace.

I have walked many years in this city,
Kept faith and fast, provided for the poor,
Have taken and given honour and ease.
There went never any rejected from my door.

Who shall remember my house,
where shall live my children's children
When the time of sorrow is come ?

They will take to the goat's path, and the fox's home,
Fleeing from the foreign faces and the foreign swords.

Before the time of cords and scourges and lamentation
Grant us thy peace.

Before the stations of the mountain of desolation,
Before the certain hour of maternal sorrow,
Now at this birth season of decease,

Let the Infant, the still unspeaking and unspoken Word,
Grant Israel's consolation

To one who has eighty years and no to-morrow.

According to thy word,

They shall praise Thee and suffer in every generation
With glory and derision,

Light upon light, mounting the saints' stair.

Not for me the martyrdom, the ecstasy of thought and prayer,
Not for me the ultimate vision.

Grant me thy peace.

(And a sword shall pierce thy heart, Thine also)

I am tired with my own life and the lives of those after me,
I am dying in my own death and the deaths of those after me.

Let thy servant depart,
Having seen thy salvation.

Columbia United Church of Christ

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LODO Director: Erika Maltsbarger littleonesdayout@yahoo.com
Building Monitor: Lloyd Viehland lwviehland@gmail.com
Financial Secretary: Raj Tolani finance.cucc@gmail.com
Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Fred Brandenburg

TODAY IN WORSHIP:

Greeters: Paula Wilson & the Malicoats
Ushers:
Worship Leader: Audrey Lasley
Acolyte:
Sound Booth: Dennis Froeschner
Hospitality: Brent Marcks
Council Steward: Doug Privitt

NEXT SUNDAY IN WORSHIP:

Greeters: Stefanie Zimny & Carol Duermeyer
Ushers:
Worship Leader: Pat Forward
Acolyte: Katelyn Odneal
Sound Booth: Jamie Rapp
Hospitality:
Council Steward: Mahree Skala



COLUMBIA UCC CHURCH COUNCIL

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WELCOME GUESTS! If you are a guest visiting with us this morning, please fill out a green card found in your chair pocket; and leave it in the offering plate when it is passed. Be sure to introduce yourself to Pastor Rick! We would love to get to know you better!

NAMETAGS We strive to be a friendly and welcoming church! Members and frequent guests, please wear your nametag each Sunday so we can greet each other most effectively and become an even friendlier church!

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END OF YEAR REPORTS If you are in a leadership position at CUCC, please turn in your Year End Report to April ASAP! (They were due Friday 12/20.) The Church Office will be working on curating and collating these reports over the next two weeks. The 2019 Annual Report will be distributed on January 12, 2020.

BAKED POTATO/SALAD BAR JANUARY 12

Mark your calendars for the first Youth Group fundraiser of the year! The High School Youth are raising money to go to the National Youth Event/Mission Trip next summer. Join us after worship for potatoes, salad, and all the toppings you would like!

COMO VALUES DIVERSITY BREAKFAST

The CUCC Inclusion Team is sponsoring a table at the COMO Values Diversity breakfast on January 16, 2020; 7:00am at the Holiday Inn Expo Center (arrive by 6:45). This annual MLK Weekend event features speakers, essays and music all centered around the theme of Inclusion. If you would like a seat at the table, contact Alisa Sieckman or Pastor Rick.

CHIAPAS PRESENTATION JANUARY 19

Pastor Rick will be hosting a gathering during the Sunday School hour on January 19 to talk about the Mission Immersion Experiences he has had in Chiapas, and what this year's Mission Immersion Experience will be like. All are invited to attend and hear more about the upcoming trip, as well as the 4 trips that he has taken in the past.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING AND CHILI COOKOFF

Our Annual Congregational Meeting and Chili Cookoff will be Sunday, January 26 right after worship! Have your chili here by 10:30 for entry into the contest. The Annual Congregational Meeting will start right after we eat, around 12:30 or so.

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Sun	12/29	<i>Special Christmas Carols Hymn Sing</i>	
		Fellowship Time	9:00am
		Sunday School	9:00am
Mon	12/30	LODO closed thru January 6	
Tue	12/31	Quilters	9:00am-2:00pm
Wed	1/1/20	<i>Happy New Year!</i>	
		Church Office Closed	
Sun	1/5	<i>Epiphany/The Visit of the Magi</i>	
		Fellowship Time/Sunday School	9:00am
		Worship	10:30am
Mon	1/6	LODO Back	
		Outreach & Advocacy Ministry Team	6:00pm
Tue	1/7	Quilters	9:00am-2:00pm
		Staff Meeting	10:00am

Columbia UCC Prayer List

Please keep in your prayers this week...

The family and friends of Tee Fitzgerald...
on their loss; funeral is 1/3 (*Shirley Gallaher's niece*)

The family of Arthur Schneider... on their loss

The family of Bill Helvey...on their loss

Harold Hackman... recovering from knee surgery 12/6

Shirley Lawler... recovering from broken hip

Wayne Gartner... diagnosed with cancer (Laura's brother)

Rev. Dr. David Beebe... living with cancer (Oberle's friend)

Jo Ellen Grace's brother... living with cancer

Daughter-in-law's mother living with cancer (12/24)

Our church... as we live into our call as an ONA congregation

Dale Gregory; Christine Mseke, Bea Gordon;

Gary Ehrhardt; Lasley Family; Remeika/Johnson family

Sheila... challenges in life and faith

Amy Koerkenmeyer & the Malicoat Family;

Health Issues:

Deborah Heather (Edie Diehl's niece); Kathy Kindrick; Christie O'Very;

Nathan Schnell (Isaiah's friend); Sharon Elliott, Rev. Jim Elliott,

Finn Price (Tricia's nephew); Sue Beckman;

Donald Long (Vena's husband)

Pregnancies in our church family:

Makayla Smith and Joey Oberle

Coleen & Tim Williams (Bullerd's daughter)

Serving us in the military:

Alexander & Christopher Tennill, Jeffrey Sanderson

James Walker (Don Helmreich's nephew)

Thomas Zumalt (Shirley Lawler's grandson)

Tim Isom, Tyler Gibson (Oberles' friends); Daisia Baker (Isaiah's cousin);

UCC/DOC Global Ministries Missionary of the Week:

Judy Chen, serving in Hong Kong

2020 Confirmation Class:

Lilly Jaberg, Hazel Keithahn, Brandon Lavelly