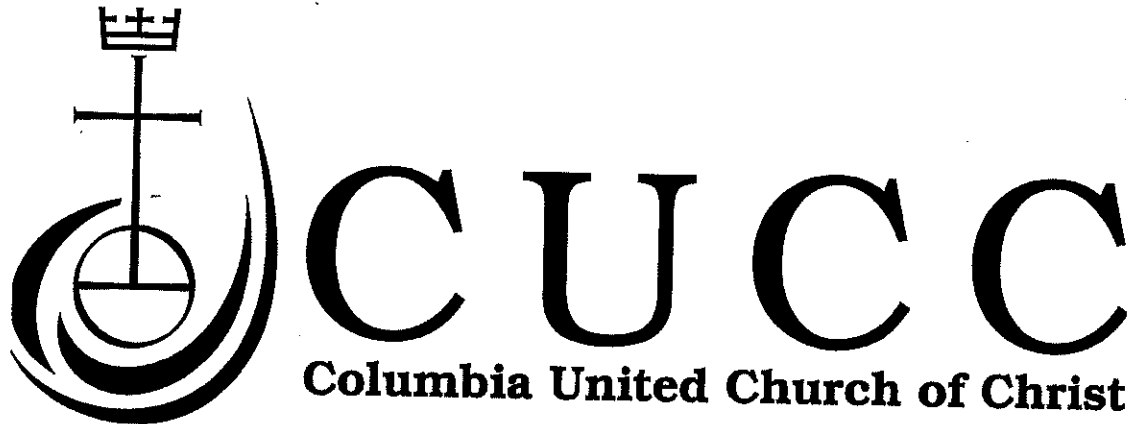


Columbia United Church Of Christ

December 13, 2020
Advent III- "PEACE"



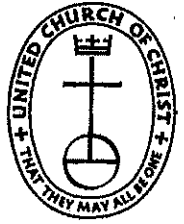
CUCC Open and Affirming/Inclusion Covenant:

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*



December 13, 2020

10:30 Worship

"PEACE"

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

*"...let me hear what the LORD will speak;
for God will speak PEACE to God's people..."*

-Psalm 85:8

Gathering Music	Amy Crousore
Welcome and Greetings	Pastor Rick
Prelude "I Wonder as I Wander"	Lucy Smith Cindy Berry
Carrying in the Light of Christ	Lil Smith
*Call to Worship <i>(adapted from Psalm 85)</i>	Seth Smith

God has looked favorably upon us,
Forgiving our inequities and pardoning our sins.

In prayer we come to God;
Asking for mercy and searching for the way.

Let us hear what God will speak;
For God will speak PEACE to God's people.

**Steadfast Love and Faithfulness will meet;
Righteousness and PEACE will kiss each other.
Faithfulness will spring up from the ground;
God gives us what is good.
Come, let us worship God!**

*Opening Hymn "There's A Voice in the Wilderness Calling"
NCH #120

*Opening Prayer Seth Smith

God of PEACE; we hear the message of John this morning, calling us to repent, challenging us to stand up for PEACE. We hear of his outlandish, prophetic ministry, the ways he challenged his current culture, and we wonder if we could be bold enough to do the same. Forgive us for the times we have doubt, O God. Remind us of your presence in our lives, encouraging and supporting us, challenging us to speak up. Help us to prepare the way of the Lord by speaking up for PEACE in your world, bringing about the kingdom envisioned by our Savior. In Jesus' name we pray; Amen.

*Assurance of Blessing

Pastor Rick

God challenges us to work for PEACE, to fight for justice, to prepare the way of the Lord. But even when we are unable to live into this challenge, God forgives us and our hearts for reconciliation. As we prepare for Christ's birth again, we rejoice in the message of Salvation Jesus brings. We are forgiven! We are blessed! We are God's beloved! Praise be to God!

*Response

"Christians All, Your Lord is Coming" *Chalice #136*

**Christians all, your Lord is coming,
Calling you to serve in deed.
See the ones who hurt and suffer,
Hear their cry and act with speed.
Mend the ways where PEACE is broken,
Give yourselves to true Shalom;
Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!
Dwell as one in Church and Home!**

Children's Time/Lighting the Advent Candle

"Like a Child Jesus Comes"

Chalice #133

**Like a child love would send to reveal and to mend,
Like a child and a friend, Jesus comes!
Like a child we may find claiming heart, soul and mind,
Like a child strong and kind, Jesus comes!
Like a child we will meet, ragged clothes, dirty feet,
Like a child on the street, Jesus comes!
Like a child we once knew, coming back into view,
Like a child born a-new, Jesus comes!
Like child born to pray and to show us the way,
Like a child here to stay, Jesus comes!
Like a child we receive all that love can conceive,
Like a child we believe Jesus comes!**

Living our Mission "Emmaus Homes- Christmas Eve Offering"

Anthem

"Comfort, Comfort You My People"

James Melton
Ferguson

Old Testament Lesson Isaiah 40:1-11

Seth Smith

In this, the first chapter of the second book of Isaiah, the prophet is writing in a time when the exiled Israelites are returning from Diaspora. Chapter 40 reflects in this time of restoration. Those who welcome home the exiled Israelites reflect on God's promises of comfort, envisioning a future of PEACE.

Page #581

Gospel Lesson Luke 3:1-20 Rev. Cindy Bumb
Rev. Cindy Bumb, the Director of Spiritual Care at Emmaus Homes, shares this Gospel message with us about John the Baptizer growing to maturity. As he does, he begins preaching a message of repentance, preparing the way for Jesus to come. As he prepares the way, he speaks prophetically about society, boldly speaking the truth to power. His reward is to be arrested by Herod and imprisoned. Page #834

Anthem: “Dona Nobis Pacem” Ed & others
Traditional Round

Sermon: “Prophetic Preparation— PEACE”
Pastor Rick & Ed Rollins

*Meditation Hymn “O Day of Peace that Dimly Shines”
Chalice #711

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 Amy Crousore
 “Of the Father’s Love Begotten” John Carter
*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 “Doxology” *Chalice #46*
**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow!
Praise God, all creatures here below!
Praise God above, you heavenly host!
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost!**

*Prayer of Dedication

Seth Smith

Take these gifts, O God, and use them to share your PEACE with all the world. Use them to spread knowledge, to foster acceptance, to drive out fear and the lust for power; anything that keeps your world from embracing the PEACE you envision. These gifts come from our heart; and through them we serve you. 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:

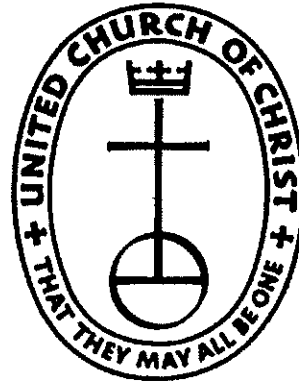
To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally!

Let there be Peace on Earth; and let it begin with me!

*Postlude

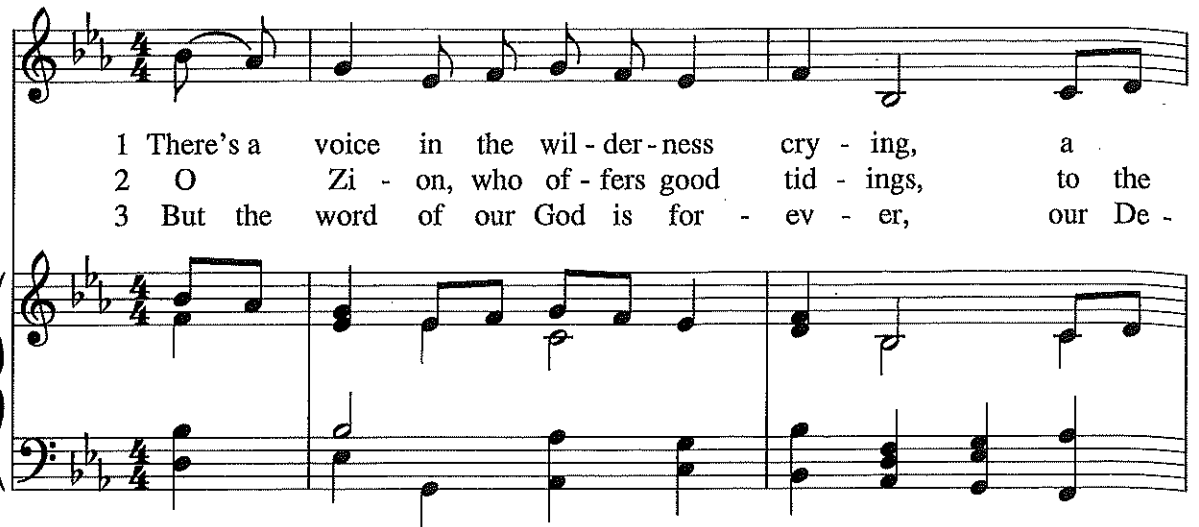
“In Dulci Jubilo”

Amy Crousore
German Melody

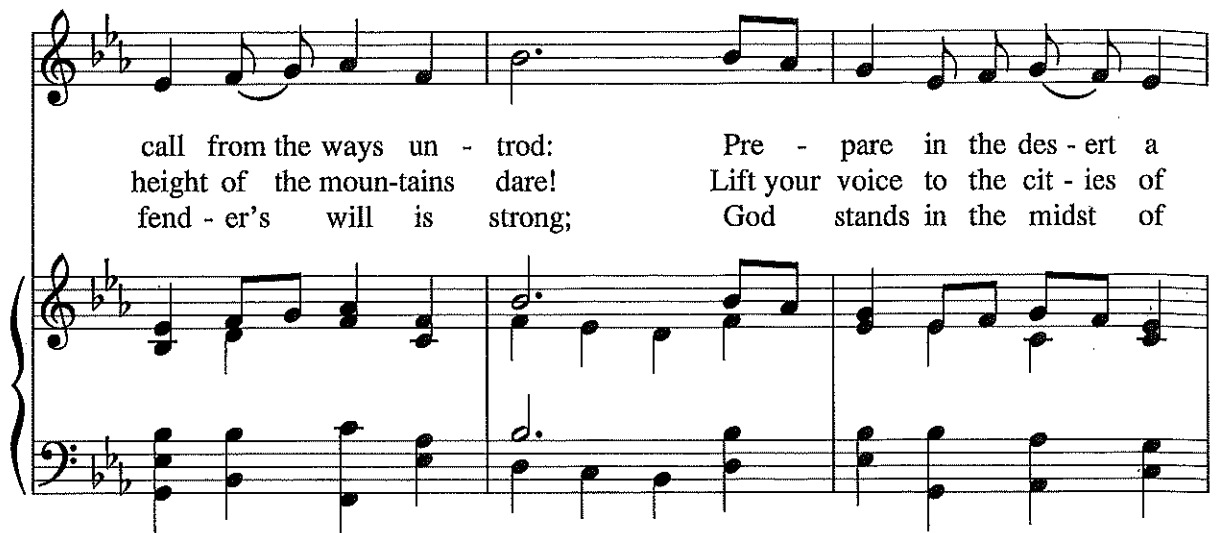


*CUCC celebrates God's boundless love by:
Welcoming all God's Children;
Nurturing Faith and Spiritual Growth;
Challenging and inspiring everyone with vibrant worship;
Building a supportive church family;
Transforming both the congregation and community
through service and outreach*

There's a Voice in the Wilderness

*Isa. 40:3-11; Ps. 103:15-17**J. Lewis Milligan, 1925; alt.*


1 There's a voice in the wil - der - ness cry - ing, a
 2 O Zi - on, who of - fers good tid - ings, to the
 3 But the word of our God is for - ev - er, our De -



call from the ways un - trod: Pre - pare in the des - ert a
 height of the moun - tains dare! Lift your voice to the cit - ies of
 fend - er's will is strong; God stands in the midst of



high - way, a high - way for our God! The
 Ju - dah: "Be - hold your God!" de - clare. Like the
 na - tions, to ren - der right the wrong. Then

Before moving to Canada, J. Lewis Milligan was a successful British journalist and poet. This text was written in 1925 to celebrate the union of three churches into The United Church of Canada, a body he served as public relations director.

Tune: ASCENSION Irr.
H. Hugh Bancroft, 1938

ADVENT

val - leys shall be ex - alt - ed, the loft - y hills brought
 flowers of the field we per - ish, our hu - man works de -
 God shall be as a shep-herd, the lambs gath-ered to God's

low: make straight all the crook - ed pla - ces
 cay, the power and pomp of na - tions
 breast; and pas - tures of peace shall greet them,

where Em - man - u - el may go!
 shall pass like a dream a - way.
 to give to the wea - ry rest.

136 Christians All, Your Lord Is Coming

1. Chris-tians all, your Lord is com-ing, draw-ing near in
 2. Chris-tians all, your Lord is com-ing, call-ing you to
 3. Chris-tians all, your Lord is com-ing, he will rise up
 4. Chris-tians all, your Lord is com-ing, hope for peace is

ho - ly birth. Ring the bells and sound the trum-pets,
 serve in deed. See the ones who hurt and suf - fer,
 from the dead. Lift the cup, of sin for - giv - en;
 now at hand. Let there be no hes - i - ta - tion,

let your mu - sic fill the earth. Dance and move to
 hear their cry and act with speed. Set all self - ish
 bless the host and eat his bread. Mend the ways where
 walk in faith where life de - mands. Bear the word that

show God's glo - ry; kneel and pause to hear God's word.
 ways be - hind you. Purge your hearts of sin - ful greed.
 peace is bro - ken, give your - selves to true Sha - lom.
 God has giv - en; share the birth that stirs your soul.

WORDS: Jim Miller, 1993
 MUSIC: Joshua Leavitt's *Christian Lyre*, 1830

PLEADING SAVIOR
 87.87D

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Rise and let your songs be heard.
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Christ in you will meet their need.
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Dwell as one in church and home.
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Christ will come and make you whole.

Song of Zechariah

137

RESPONSE

Unison

Blessed be the God of Is - rael, who comes to set us free.

R

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel,
 who has come to set the chosen people free.

**God has raised up for us
 a mighty savior from the house of David.**

Through the holy prophets, God promised of old
 to save us from our enemies,
 from the hands of all who hate us;

**to show mercy to our forebears,
 and to remember the holy covenant.**

This was the oath God swore to our ancestor Abraham,
**to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
 free to worship without fear,
 holy and righteous in God's sight,
 all the days of our life.** R

And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,
 for you will go before the Lord to prepare the way,
**to give God's people knowledge of salvation
 by the forgiveness of their sins.**

In the tender compassion of our God,
 the dawn from on high shall break upon us,
**to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death,
 and to guide our feet into the way of peace.** R

WORDS: Luke 1:68-79 (ICET, rev. ELLC, alt.); Response, Michael Perry, 1973
 MUSIC: Hal H. Hopson, 1983

Response © 1973, music © 1983, Hope Publishing Co.

like a child

133

Unison Gm C Am Dm

1. like a child love would send to re - veal and to mend, like a
 2. like a child we will meet, rag - ged clothes, dirt - y feet, like a
 3. like a child born to pray and to show us the way, like a

Gm C F D7

child and a friend, Je - sus comes like a
 child on the street, Je - sus comes like a
 child here to stay, Je - sus comes like a

Gm7 C Am Dm7

child we may find claim - ing heart soul and mind, like a
 child we once knew com - ing back in - to view, like a
 child we re - ceive all that love can con - ceive, like a

Gm7 C11 F

child strong and kind, Je - sus comes
 child born a - new, Je - sus comes
 child we be - lieve Je - sus comes

WORDS and MUSIC: Dan Damon, 1992

LIKE A CHILD
3333.333D

© 1993 Hope Publishing Co.

♩=88-96

711 O Day of Peace That Dimly Shines

Unison

1. O day of peace that dim - ly shines
 2. Then shall the wolf dwell with the lamb,

through all our hopes and prayers and dreams,
 nor shall the fierce de - vour the small;

guide us to jus - tice, truth, and love,
 as beasts and cat - tle calm - ly graze,

de - liv - ered from our self - ish schemes.
 a lit - tle child shall lead them all.

WORDS: Carl P. Daw, Jr., 1982
 MUSIC: Traditional Scottish melody; harm. Carlton R. Young, 1963

Words © 1982 Hope Publishing Co.; harm. © 1964 The United Methodist Publishing House

CANDLER
 LMD

♩=104-112

May swords of hate fall from our hands,
Then en - e - mies shall learn to love,

our hearts from en - vy find re - lease,
all crea - tures find their true ac - cord;

till by God's grace our war - ring world
the hope of peace shall be ful - filled,

shall see Christ's prom - ised reign of peace.
for all the earth shall know the Lord.

A Benediction

May the strength of God pilot us.
May the power of God preserve us.
May the wisdom of God instruct us.
May the hand of God protect us, this day and evermore.

—Patrick, 5th-century English missionary in Ireland

Columbia United Church of Christ

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Music Director: Ed Rollins trispECIALed@gmail.com
Organist/Accompanist: Amy Crousore amycrousore@gmail.com
LODO Director: Erika Maltsbarger littleonesdayout@yahoo.com
Financial Secretary: Raj Tolani finance.cucc@gmail.com
Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Fred Brandenburg

TODAY IN WORSHIP:

Worship Leader: Seth Smith
Acolyte: Lil Smith
Sound Booth: Mike Pierson/James Melton
Council Stewards: Sue Ann Schaefer

NEXT SUNDAY IN WORSHIP:

Worship Leader: Darren Lasley
Acolyte:
Sound Booth: Mike Pierson/James Melton
Council Steward: Mahree Skala

COLUMBIA UCC CHURCH COUNCIL

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“BLUE CHRISTMAS” DISCUSSION GROUP

Pastor Rick is hosting a “Blue Christmas” discussion group Wednesday evenings this month. We are gathering at 6:30pm for 90 minutes to talk about grief, loss, depression and anxiety; especially in light of the stresses of 2020 and the losses we have experienced this year. Materials are supplied at no cost, and it will also be experiential. Last week we had 14 people participate! For more information, email April in the church office or Pastor Rick.

CHRISTMAS WORSHIP IN A NEW WAY

The leadership team of CUCC is planning worship in a new way for this Advent and Christmas Season. Regrettably, we will not be back to in-person worship until the Epiphany Season, but we are committed to making the next four weeks of worship truly transformative! We will be meeting this afternoon to envision some ideas; and we would like to hear from you! If you are willing to contribute videos, or participate in worship in any other way, please let Pastor Rick, James Melton or Ed Rollins know!

CHRISTMAS DRIVE-THRU

To reconnect this Advent/Christmas Season, we are inviting you to a “drive thru” on December 23 from 3:00-7:00pm! Your Church Council Leadership has prepared a “Christmas Eve Bag” for you, with everything you need for Christmas Eve Worship. Pastor Rick and others will be waiting for you on December 23 to come by and pick it up! Drive thru by the Church Office to receive your Christmas Eve bag, and a blessing from Pastor Rick, and other church leaders!

LIGHT PARADE AT LENOIR

The Activities Department at Lenoir Woods is inviting members of our church (and others) to participate in a LIGHT PARADE on Friday, December 18! Participants will be invited to decorate their cars with Christmas lights (battery operated) to participate in a parade through the Lenoir grounds, bringing cheer to the residents. To participate, contact Megan Lau-Sears at 573.876.5890 or email megan.lau@lssliving.org by Monday, December 14!

THIS WEEK’S CALENDAR

Sun	12/13	THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT Men’s Fellowship Zoom meeting Worship (online only)	7:30am 10:30am
Mon	12/14	Staff Meeting Confirmation (2021 Class)	10:15am 6:00pm
Tue	12/15	Worship & Music Ministry Team Church Council Meeting	5:30pm 6:30pm
Wed	12/16	Blue Christmas	6:30pm
Thu	12/17	NO Lunch Bunch (<i>cancelled</i>) Membership & Care Ministry Team	6:30pm
Fri	12/18	Pastor Rick’s day off Light Parade at Lenoir Woods	5:30pm
Sun	12/20	FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT Worship (online only)	10:30am

Columbia UCC Prayer List

Please keep in your prayers this week...

On hospice: Sharon Tiemann (April Rothwieler's Aunt)
Cheryl Smith & Elaine Trout... grieving the loss of Cheryl's daughter, Hannah
Silas... health issues, hospitalized (Mahree Skala's great-nephew)
Karen Wittich... anticipating knee replacement surgery (Kim Oberle's mother)
Dennis Froeschner... anticipating knee replacement surgery
Irene Hurst... living with cancer (Sue & Cliff Beckman's friend)
Parents, students, teachers, administrators... navigating the back to school issues,
making tough decisions and enduring criticism
The leadership of CUCC... wisely navigating the many streams of conflicting
information in regard to church leadership during COVID-19
All who are suffering from COVID-19 virus and other viruses
All who are on the front lines, serving those with COVID-19
Sheila... challenges in life and faith
The Zimny, Lasley, Koerkenmeier, Malicoat,
Williams, Piersee & Marsh Families

Health Issues:

Deborah Heather (Edie Diehl's niece); Christie O'Very; Nathan Schnell
Finn Price (Tricia's nephew); Jason Wilhoit (Vena Long's friend);
Riley Gregg (Alisa Lau-Sieckmann's neighbor); Christine Mseke,
Jo Ellen Grace's brother... living with cancer
Gary Johnson... recovering from non-Hodgkins lymphoma (Kelly Smith's father)

Living in Care Facilities:

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

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); Cole Long (Vena's grandson)

UCC/DOC Global Ministries Missionary of the Week:

Maria Bakalan... serving in Lebanon

Pregnancies in our Church Family:

Ed Rollins & Jess Wolfe

2020 Confirmation Class (Confirmation on delay until January):

Lilly Jaberg, Hazel Keithahn, Brandon Lavelly

2021 Confirmation Class (started Monday, 10/26):

Zabibu Kibaro, Kennedy Lucas, Addison Melton, Kieran Piersee,
Abby Dennis, Brandon Schoeneberg, Sadie Tummons