

# Columbia United Church Of Christ

August 9, 2026  
"Faith and Doubt"



# 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



August 9, 2026

10:30 a.m.

*"Potential"*

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

*"O give thanks to God, call upon God's name;  
Make God's deeds known among the people."  
-Psalm 105:1*

Welcome and Greetings

Rev. Mike Williams

Prelude

Mike Pierson

Carrying in the Light of Christ

\*Call to Worship

*(based on Psalm 17)*

Kennedy Lucas

Give thanks to God; call upon God's name!  
Make God's deeds known among all people!

**Sing to God; Sing praises to God!  
Tell all of God's wonderful works!**

We speak of how God's love can bring salvation to the world;  
Let the hearts of those who seek God rejoice!

**All of Creation expresses God's powerful presence;  
Who are we to try to bind God's love?**

We seek God continually and rely on God's strength!  
We seek the Peace that God offers in all our ways!

**We are God's Children  
and we celebrate God's wonderful works!  
Come, let us worship God!**

\*Hymn

"Sing Praise to God"

#22

\*Opening Prayer

Kennedy Lucas

**God of many names, You command us to come to You, yet we are doubtful of our abilities to make the journey. We are uncertain of our steps, yet we long to have the faith in ourselves that you have in us. Be with us and embolden us through faith to rise as we are called to walk with You and walk alongside those who need companionship. Show us how to be Your precious children who can set skepticism down and take up the mantle of faithful presence. In Jesus' name we pray; Amen.**

\*Assurance of Blessing

Pastor Mike

Jesus speaks of the Kingdom of Heaven as being present here and now. But even when we forget that we are Kingdom workers, God still loves and welcomes us, encourages and guides us. Through our repentance and God's grace, we are forgiven, beloved and blessed. Praise be to God!

\*Prayer Response

“Seek Ye First”

***Seek ye first the kingdom of God  
and God's righteousness  
And all these things shall be added unto you.  
Allelu, alleluia!***

\*Sharing God's Gift of Peace

Pastor Mike

May God's Peace be with you!

**And also with you!**

Children's Time

Pastor Mike

“This Little Light of Mine”

#524

*(Sung as children return to their seats)*

***This little light of mine; I'm gonna let it shine!  
This little light of mine; I'm gonna let it shine!  
This little light of mine; I'm gonna let it shine!  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!***

Old Testament Lesson

Genesis 37:1-11

Kennedy Lucas

*This is the beginning of the story of Joseph, the most honored of Jacob's twelve sons. Jacob proclaims his love for Joseph by giving Joseph a special gift; but this only angers Joseph's brothers. Their retaliation brought nothing but trouble to their house, while Joseph, after enduring many challenges, went on to greater things...*

*Page #30*

Gospel Lesson

Matthew 14:22-33

Kennedy Lucas

*Jesus approaches his disciples in an unconventional way, walking across the water to their small boat. Peter tries to follow, with less than successful results. Jesus points out that Peter's tendency towards doubt interfered with his faith. Is this a foreshadowing of Peter's denial of Jesus at the time of crucifixion?*

*Page #796*

Anthem

Dennis Froeschner

Sermon

Pastor Mike

## Community Prayer &amp; Silent Prayer; The LORD’s Prayer

*In an effort to encourage inclusion, we suggest using the address “Creator God” in our unison recitation of The Lord’s Prayer. You are certainly welcome to say “Our Father” instead of “Creator,” “Trespases” instead of “debts,” or “Thy” instead of “Your” if you prefer.*

**Creator God in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come, Your 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 Yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

Sharing our Announcements

Pastor Mike

Invitation to the Offering

Pastor Mike

*To give online text “GIVE” to 573.240.4041  
You can also give online by visiting our website:  
[www.columbiaucc.com](http://www.columbiaucc.com)*

Offertory

Mike Pierson

\*Prayer of Dedication

Kennedy Lucas

**O Holy One, we thank you for revealing yourself to us in ways both big and small, in ways miraculous and mundane. Use our gifts to further your loving justice in our communities near and far. Amen.**

\*Benediction

Pastor Mike

\*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

Mike Pierson

# **CUCC STRATEGIC PLAN FOR 2026 (and beyond)**

## **CARING FOR EACH OTHER**

- Advocate for policies that provide support for others
- Incorporate everyone's talents into the work and life of the church
- Formulate support & education classes for parents and children
- Improve staff training and professional development
- Ensure that our staff are paid just wages
- Discern and address the needs of our older members
- Strive to meet the needs of our members where they are

## **ESTABLISHING OUR IDENTITY**

- Increase public awareness of our mission and location
- Increase our advertising/marketing efforts
- Consistently canvass the neighborhood north of the church
- Attract more members, focusing on youth and diversity
- Strive for intentionality incorporating youth and young adults into the life of the church
- Strive for intentionality incorporating a diverse community into the life of the church

## **DEVELOPING OUR FACILITY**

- Continue to modernize and maintain our building and grounds
- Develop a comprehensive maintenance manual with records, goals and strategies for modernization and maintenance
- Seek out new ways to utilize our building to enhance our ministry and generate income
- Establish financial security for our ongoing ministry programs
- Establish our facility as a host site for music groups, choirs, concerts, lecturer series, and other public events

## **SERVING GOD'S WORLD**

- Partner with other agencies that share our goals & interests
- Create a fulfilling, engaging, inclusive Sunday morning experience
- Develop partnerships with others to share our facility
- Strive for intentionality in connecting children, youth and adults to outreach and service opportunities
- Look for ways to reach out to other UCC congregations and work together for justice
- Strive to identify ways that we can be socially responsible and educated in areas of ecological justice, international mission, and other justice issues at home and abroad

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# Columbia United Church of Christ

3201 1-70 Drive NW; Columbia, MO 65202

**Phone:** 573-445-7931

**Pastor's cell:** 573.241.2027

**Website:** [www.columbiaucc.com](http://www.columbiaucc.com)

|                                          |                                                                                |
|------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Pastor:</b> Rev. Richard Oberle       | <a href="mailto:rick@columbiaucc.com">rick@columbiaucc.com</a>                 |
| <b>Admin. Assistant:</b> Alexandra Roper | <a href="mailto:office@columbiaucc.com">office@columbiaucc.com</a>             |
| <b>Moderator:</b> Jerry Kiesling         | <a href="mailto:rollzierp50@gmail.com">rollzierp50@gmail.com</a>               |
| <b>Music Coordinator:</b> Mike Pierson   | <a href="mailto:mike.pierson.1969@gmail.com">mike.pierson.1969@gmail.com</a>   |
| <b>LODO Director:</b> Sara Koenig        | <a href="mailto:lodo.sara.koenig@gmail.com">lodo.sara.koenig@gmail.com</a>     |
| <b>Custodian:</b> Caleb Berry            | <a href="mailto:calebprenticeberry@gmail.com">calebprenticeberry@gmail.com</a> |

**Pastor Emeritus:** Rev. Fred Brandenburg

## TODAY IN WORSHIP:

|                   |                                   |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Worship Leader:   | Kennedy Lucas                     |
| Song Leader:      | Mike Pierson                      |
| Ushers:           | Phillip Neale & Jessica Lucas     |
| Greeters:         | Donna Marsh                       |
| Technology:       | Ted Dachroeden & Josh Muench      |
| Council Stewards: | Sue Ann Schaefer & Ashley Ramirez |

## NEXT SUNDAY IN WORSHIP:

|                   |                                 |
|-------------------|---------------------------------|
| Worship Leader:   | Pat Forward                     |
| Song Leader:      | Mike Pierson                    |
| Ushers:           | Llona Weiss & Mahree Skala      |
| Greeters:         | Deb Meers                       |
| Technology:       | John Graves & Carissa Graves    |
| Council Stewards: | Sue Ann Schaefer & Mahree Skala |

Online Giving



## COLUMBIA UCC CHURCH COUNCIL

|                                      |                    |                                                                        |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Moderator:</b>                    | Jerry Kiesling     | <a href="mailto:rollzierp50@gmail.com">rollzierp50@gmail.com</a>       |
| <b>Vice Moderator:</b>               | Corinne Remeika    | <a href="mailto:remeikas@tranquility.net">remeikas@tranquility.net</a> |
| <b>Secretary:</b>                    | Tricia Soncasie    | <a href="mailto:tsoncasie@aol.com">tsoncasie@aol.com</a>               |
| <b>Treasurer:</b>                    | Aimee Andersen     | <a href="mailto:aca70re@gmail.com">aca70re@gmail.com</a>               |
| <b>Recording Treasurer:</b>          | Christine Staelens | <a href="mailto:tigersfour@gmail.com">tigersfour@gmail.com</a>         |
| <b>Building &amp; Grounds:</b>       | Allen Posz         | <a href="mailto:aposz76@gmail.com">aposz76@gmail.com</a>               |
| <b>Fellowship &amp; Hospitality:</b> | Mary Lorber        | <a href="mailto:eldercow@gmail.com">eldercow@gmail.com</a>             |
| <b>Finance &amp; Stewardship:</b>    | Sue Ann Schaefer   | <a href="mailto:ssas3307@aol.com">ssas3307@aol.com</a>                 |
| <b>Inclusion &amp; Affirmation:</b>  | Ashley Ramirez     | <a href="mailto:ashknight0628@gmail.com">ashknight0628@gmail.com</a>   |
| <b>Little One's Day Out:</b>         | Darla Privitt      | <a href="mailto:12darlap3@gmail.com">12darlap3@gmail.com</a>           |
| <b>Membership &amp; Care:</b>        | Judi Privitt       | <a href="mailto:judiprivitt811@gmail.com">judiprivitt811@gmail.com</a> |
| <b>Nurture &amp; Education:</b>      | Jessica Lucas      | <a href="mailto:jlucas@cpsk12.org">jlucas@cpsk12.org</a>               |
| <b>Outreach &amp; Advocacy:</b>      | Mahree Skala       | <a href="mailto:skalamahree@yahoo.com">skalamahree@yahoo.com</a>       |
| <b>Worship &amp; Music:</b>          | Kitty Rogers       | <a href="mailto:kittyrogers3@gmail.com">kittyrogers3@gmail.com</a>     |
| <b>Pastor:</b>                       | Rev. Rick Oberle   | <a href="mailto:rick@columbiaucc.com">rick@columbiaucc.com</a>         |

**NURSERY CARE** is available for children in kindergarten and younger in the educational wing. If you need help finding it, ask an usher!

### **HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS TRAINING - 8/16**

Linda Neale and Pastor Rick will be leading a discussion on Healthy Relationships during the 9:00 a.m. Sunday School hour on 8/16. This session will contain information about working in healthy ways with children and youth in our church setting. Attendance at this session is a requirement for everyone who will be working with children and youth this program year, but it is good information for everyone. Come join us! Questions? Ask Linda Neale.

### **AHL SERVICE OPPORTUNITY - 8/17**

As our Partner in Education teachers at Alpha Hart Lewis Elementary School come back to school, we have an opportunity to serve them— ice cream! We will be helping at an Ice Cream Social at AHL on 8/17 at 3:00 p.m. If you can come, we'd love to have you. For the scoop on this, talk to Pastor Rick.

### **CHURCH WORK DAY - 8/22**

Our next all-church work day will be August 22 from 9:00 a.m.-noon! We will be cleaning all the windows in the educational wing, and other glass areas as we can. We will also be doing some landscaping and maybe even tree trimming. We need you! Questions? Ask Allen Posz.

### **RALLY DAY/SUNDAY SCHOOL KICKOFF - 8/23**

Mark your calendars! Sunday School starts 8/23 at 9:00 a.m.! We will have a bounce house, and a fellowship meal after worship. More details to come!

### **YOUTH GATHERING - 8/23**

CUCC Youth will be gathering at Pastor Rick's house on 8/23 for a pizza and games party from 4:00-7:00 p.m.! Youth in 6th-12th grades are welcome; talk to Pastor Rick for more information!

### **YOUNG ADULT/COLEGE MINISTRY BEGINS - 8/30**

A new CUCC Young Adult/College Ministry faith formation program will be starting up on 8/30! We will gather on that day for a backyard BBQ at Rev. Mike & Lilly Williams' house. All young adults/college students are welcome; spread the word! For more information, talk to Ashley or Kasper Ramirez, Rev. Lauren or Jesse Lippincott, or Rev. Mike or Lilly Santoro-Williams!

### **THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR**

|     |      |                                    |            |
|-----|------|------------------------------------|------------|
| Sun | 8/9  | Bible Study                        | 9:00 a.m.  |
|     |      | Fellowship                         | 10:00 a.m. |
|     |      | Worship (in person and livestream) | 10:30 a.m. |
| Mon | 8/10 | Scouting America                   | 7:00 p.m.  |
| Tue | 8/11 | Quilters                           | 10:00 a.m. |
|     |      | Staff Meeting                      | 10:00 a.m. |
| Wed | 8/12 | Prayer Shawl Group                 | 6:00 p.m.  |
| Thu | 8/13 | Worship & Music Ministry Team      | 5:30 p.m.  |
| Sun | 8/16 | Bible Study                        | 9:00 a.m.  |
|     |      | Healthy Relationships Workshop     | 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 . . .*

Alethea Tennill... recovering from broken leg

Rev. Carolyn Held.... Health issues (Edie's niece)

Kenny Holtgrewe... recovering well from surgery (Marsha Posz's Father)

Mary Jane Johnson... health issues (Joe Remeika's Sister)

Cassandra Gartner... health issues (Edie's friend)

The people of Venezuela... recovering from disaster

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

All those whose lives are affected by state sanctioned terrorism including:

Owen Ramsingh and family,

The families of Renee Good, Alex Pretti, Lorenzo Salgado, Sebastian Guerrero,

Jack and Claudia (Pastor Rick's friends), and so many others

Our US Military... deployed in the Middle East

## *Health Issues:*

Jeff Kies, Barry Kirchhoff, Glenn Duermeyer, Evie Marcks,

Fred Wilke (Alethea's Father), Julia Marsh (Donna Marsh's Daughter),

Kenny & Jane Holtgrewe (Marsha Posz's parents),

Mark & Connie Fairley, Cody Kile, Dr. Ryan Link;

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

Marilyn Coronado & Beverly Wilcox (Corinne Remeika's friends)

## *Challenges in Life:*

Sheila, The Koerkenmeier & Malicoat Families, Jen Siebert

## *Living in Assisted Living Facilities:*

Gary Ehrhardt, Vernie Blank, Julie Roper. Dean & Jan Barry

## *Living in Independent Living Facilities:*

Don Privitt, Sue Beckman, Linda Evans, Walter & Patty Schroeder

## *Serving us in the military:*

Christopher Tennill, Dane Wilson, Aaron Dachroeden

Garrett Holtgrewe... (Marsh Posz's Nephew)

## *Pregnancies in our Church Family:*

Kristin & Adam Veteto

*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@gmail.com](mailto:melbamaes@gmail.com)*

*or Tricia Soncasie (314) 374-7477 [tsoncasie@aol.com](mailto:tsoncasie@aol.com)*

## **Genesis 37:1-11**

1 Jacob settled in the land where his father had lived as an alien, the land of Canaan.

2 These are the descendants of Jacob. Joseph, being seventeen years old, was shepherding the flock with his brothers; he was a helper to the sons of Bilhah and Zilpah, his father's wives, and Joseph brought a bad report of them to their father.

3 Now Israel loved Joseph more than any other of his children because he was the son of his old age, and he made him an ornamented robe.,

4 But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him and could not speak peaceably to him.

5 Once Joseph had a dream, and when he told it to his brothers, they hated him even more. 6 He said to them, "Listen to this dream that I dreamed.

7 There we were, binding sheaves in the field. Suddenly my sheaf rose and stood upright; then your sheaves gathered around it and bowed down to my sheaf."

8 His brothers said to him, "Are you indeed to reign over us? Are you indeed to have dominion over us?" So they hated him even more because of his dreams and his words.

9 He had another dream and told it to his brothers, saying, "Look, I have had another dream: the sun, the moon, and eleven stars were bowing down to me."

10 But when he told it to his father and to his brothers, his father rebuked him and said to him, "What kind of dream is this that you have had? Shall we indeed come, I and your mother and your brothers, and bow to the ground before you?"

11 So his brothers were jealous of him, but his father kept the matter in mind.

### **Matthew 14:22-33**

22 Immediately he made the disciples get into a boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds.

23 And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone,

24 but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them.

25 And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea.

26 But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear.

27 But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."

28 Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water."

29 He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus.

30 But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and, beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!"

31 Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?"

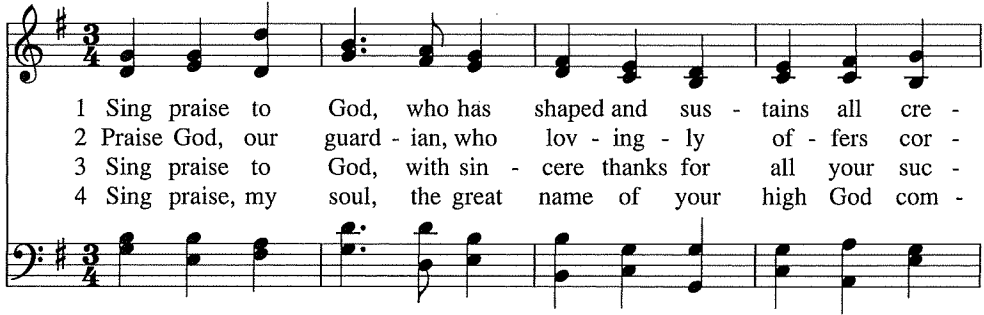
32 When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. 33 And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

## Sing Praise to God, Who Has Shaped

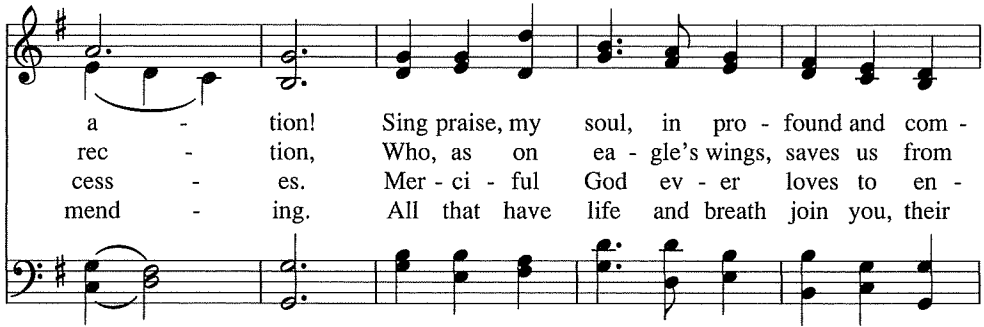
Ps. 68:4, 32; Ps. 105

Joachim Neander, 1680

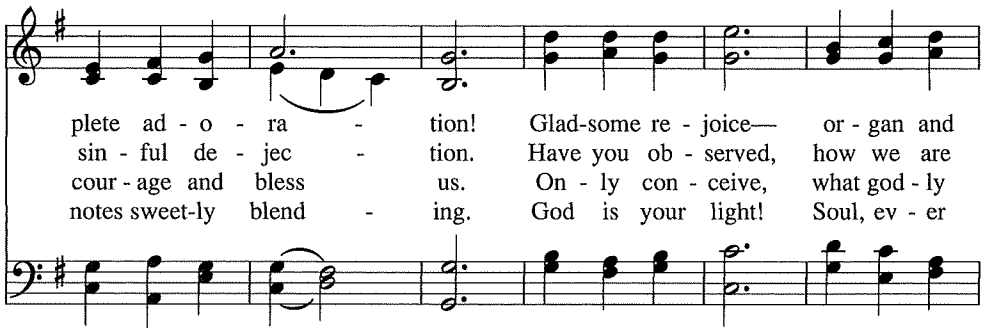
Transl. Madeleine Forell Marshall, 1993



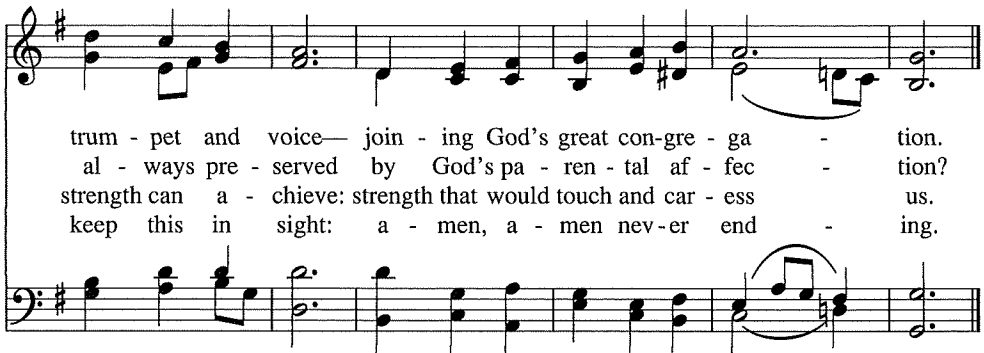
1 Sing praise to God, who has shaped and sus - tains all cre -  
 2 Praise God, our guard - ian, who lov - ing - ly of - fers cor -  
 3 Sing praise to God, with sin - cere thanks for all your suc -  
 4 Sing praise, my soul, the great name of your high God com -



a - tion! Sing praise, my soul, in pro - found and com -  
 rec - tion, Who, as on ea - gle's wings, saves us from  
 cess - es. Mer - ci - ful God ev - er loves to en -  
 mend - ing. All that have life and breath join you, their



plete ad - o - ra - tion! Glad - some re - joice— or - gan and  
 sin - ful de - jec - tion. Have you ob - served, how we are  
 cour - age and bless us. On - ly con - ceive, what god - ly  
 notes sweet - ly blend - ing. God is your light! Soul, ev - er



trum - pet and voice— join - ing God's great con - gre - ga - tion.  
 al - ways pre - served by God's pa - ren - tal af - fec - tion?  
 strength can a - chieve: strength that would touch and car - ess us.  
 keep this in sight: a - men, a - men nev - er end - ing.

Joachim Neander was a dedicated, caring pastor of the Reformed Church in Düsseldorf, Germany. This was the most familiar of his fifty-six hymn texts, which were published along with many of his original tunes in 1680, the year of his death.

Tune: LOBE DEN HERREN 14.14.7.8.  
 Erneuerten Gesangbuch, Stralsund, 1665  
 Adapt. and harm. William S. Bennett, 1863

# We Live by Faith and Not by Sight

256

Henry Alford, 1844; alt.

John 20:24-29

Unison

1 We live by faith and not by sight;  
 2 We may not touch Christ's hands and side,  
 3 Help then, O Christ, our un - be - lief;  
 4 That, when our life of faith is done,

no gra - cious words we hear From Christ who spoke as  
 nor fol - low where Christ trod; But in con - fess - ing  
 and may our faith a - bound To call on you when  
 in realms of clear - er light We may be - hold you

none e'er spoke, who still we know is near.  
 we re - joice: our Sav - ior and our God!  
 you are near and seek where you are found:  
 as you are, with full and end - less sight.

*As dean of Canterbury, Henry Alford exemplified ecumenism by working closely with non-Anglican groups. He promoted New Testament scholarship with his famous commentary on the Greek New Testament, one of fifty books he published during his lifetime.*

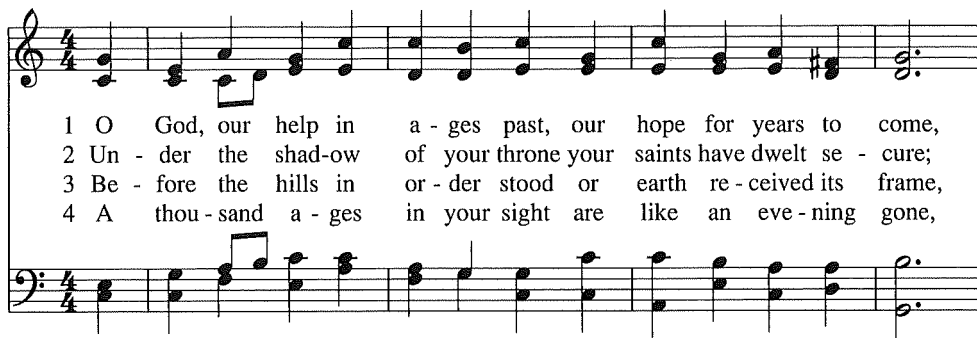
Tune: DUNLAP'S CREEK C.M.  
 Samuel McFarland, c. 1816  
 Harm. Richard Proulx, 1986

# O God, Our Help in Ages Past

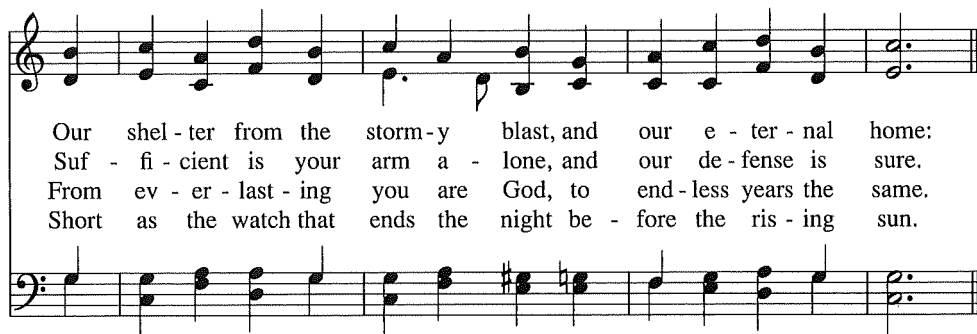
25

Isaac Watts, 1719; alt.

Ps. 90:1-2, 4-5



1 O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,  
2 Un - der the shad-ow of your throne your saints have dwelt se - cure;  
3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood or earth re - ceived its frame,  
4 A thou - sand a - ges in your sight are like an eve - ning gone,



Our shel - ter from the storm-y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:  
Suf - fi - cient is your arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.  
From ev - er - last - ing you are God, to end - less years the same.  
Short as the watch that ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.

5 Time, like an ev-er-rolling stream,  
soon bears us all away;  
We fly for-got-ten, as a dream  
fades at the o-pening day.

6 O God, our help in a-ges past,  
our hope for years to come,  
Still be our God while trou-bles last,  
and our e-ter-nal home!

Watts, minister of a Congregational church in London, wrote theological and philosophical works and hundreds of "hymns of human composure" (everyday language). He augmented the congregational singing of psalms with a new style of hymnody.

Tune: ST. ANNE C.M.  
William Croft, 1708

# Rally Day!



## August 23

Kick-off the Sunday School  
year with breakfast, a bounce  
house, and bundles of fun!  
A fish fry lunch and potluck  
will be held after  
worship service.



**Columbia United Church of Christ**  
**3201 I-70 Dr. NW., Columbia, MO 65202**