

Columbia United Church Of Christ

November 15, 2020
Veterans Day Recognition



CUCC
Columbia United Church of Christ

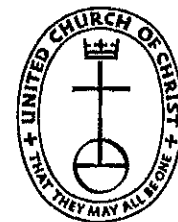
CUCC Open and Affirming/Inclusion Covenant:

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.

*Columbia
United Church
Of Christ*



November 15, 2020

10:30 Worship

"Talents"

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

*"...to you I lift up my eyes;
O you, who are enthroned in the heavens!"
-Psalm 123:1*

Gathering Music	Amy Crouso
Welcome and Greetings	Pastor Rick
Prelude	Amy Crouso
	<i>"Eternal Father, Strong to Save"</i> John Carter
Carrying in the Light of Christ	
*Call to Worship	<i>(adapted from Psalm 123)</i> Matt Lucas

Lift up your eyes! Raise them to the heavens!
Celebrate the glory of God and all the heavenly Saints!

**We are God's servants; we look to God for guidance.
God teaches us how to lead, how to serve.**

Lift up your eyes to God with reverence and awe!
Lift up your hearts and bask in God's glory!

**As God's servants, we appeal to God for mercy;
Have mercy on your servants, LORD!**

Our hearts are heavy with the challenges of the world;
But God gives us mercy and Steadfast Love!

**God brings us Salvation from the sins of the world!
Our souls are filled with joy in God's presence!
Come, let us worship God!**

*Opening Hymn
"Sing Praise to God, our Highest Good" (vs. 1-4) #6

*Opening Prayer
Matt Lucas

God of peace, you have challenged us to be aware of our call and to be ready to serve you at all times. You challenge us to use the talents you have given us for good. At times we do not live into this call, we fail to lead, we leave things undone, we neglect our responsibilities. Forgive us for the times we fail to be trustworthy servants. Inspire us to be good stewards in all things, that our lives may be expressions of your love. In Jesus' name we pray; Amen.

*Assurance of Blessing

Pastor Rick

God gifts us with potential to be God's Servant Leaders in the world; but often we squander that potential. But even when we do, we are not cast out into the darkness, we are blessed and forgiven by God's gracious love. We are God's beloved! 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!**

Children's Time

"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.**

**The world behind me, the cross before me
The world behind me, the cross before me
The world behind me, the cross before me
No turning back, no turning back.**

Veterans Recognition

Sue Ann Schaefer

*Thank you to the CUCC Middle School Youth, who made the poppies
that decorate our Sanctuary this morning!*

Anthem

Living our Mission

"VAC Christmas Drive"

Matt Lucas

*Remember- the deadline for contributions to the VAC Christmas
Drive is next Sunday, November 22! You can contribute online
through our website or by texting "GIVE" to 573.240.4041 and
select "VAC Christmas Drive" from the dropdown menu*

Epistle Lesson

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Matt Lucas

*In Paul's letter to the church at Thessalonica, he encourages them to be
aware of their call to be followers of Jesus at all times. He uses a
metaphor of a "thief in the night" to indicate the surprise of the ill-
tempered at the presence of Jesus in their midst. They are also
encouraged to always be prepared to be Jesus' hands and feet in the
world, doing deeds that reflect their role.*

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Gospel Lesson

Matthew 25:14-30

Matt Lucas

*Jesus tells the familiar and uncomfortable parable of the talents, and the
actions of the servants who receive them. In telling us this parable, he
inspires us to think about the ways we can fulfill the potential God has
given us, and be good stewards of God's Creation.*

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Sermon: "Trading Talents"

Pastor Rick

*Meditation Hymn "Take My Life, God, Let it Be"

#448

Prayer Litany honoring Veterans Day

Loving God; the framers of our Declaration of Independence claimed that you have endowed us with inalienable rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Yet there are those who would take these from us.

Today we remember all who have served in our country's armed forces to preserve the freedoms you have granted us. For all who have served in the Air Force, Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard;

We ask your blessing.

For the families of members who made great sacrifices to make it possible for service members to be on watch at home or around the world or to go into harm's way,

We ask your blessing.

For the families who realized the loss of a loved one in service,

We ask your blessing.

Jesus tells us that no one has greater love than to lay down one's life for one's friends. For all those Veterans who have been willing to lay down their lives for us,

We ask your blessing.

For the Veterans who bear scars in their bodies and spirits,

We ask your blessing.

For Veterans who came home but couldn't "fit in" with their families or communities anymore;

We ask your blessing.

God, while we honor all Veterans today, we especially ask your blessings on the Veterans we hold dear in our hearts, those we name at this time, and those who we hold in our silent prayers.

At this time you are invited to call out the name of a Veteran who is especially dear to your heart.

Ever present God, keep all our Veterans in your care today. Grant them the peace they sought to preserve for others. As we honor our Veterans, we also pray for peace. Teach all your people the ways of peace; that those who have sacrificed so much for peace and freedom will not have done so in vain. We pray all these things in the name of your son, our savior Jesus Christ. 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

"Bouree"

Lucy Smith
GF Handel

*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 Matt Lucas

God of challenge; you call us to use our talents for your work in the world, to not hide them in the ground or under a bushel. As your servant leaders, we offer these gifts with our whole hearts, standing ready and awake to be called into service in your Kingdom. Take them and bless them, multiply them and distribute them, that all may be blessed by your grace. 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

"Fanfare"

Amy Crousore
Jacques Lemmens

Sing Praise to God, Our Highest Good

Ps. 105; 1 Chron. 16:9; 1 Pet. 1:3-7

Johann J. Schütz, 1675

Transl. Madeleine Forell Marshall, 1993

1 Sing praise to God, our high-est good, pro - found re - spect ex -
 2 Cre - a - tion thanks you, Ho - ly One: you made us and re -
 3 What God has made, God will pre-serve, with righ-teous-ness un -
 4 I cry to God, in pain and grief, "Please, God of mer - cy,

press - ing. God gives us health, life, live - li - hood, with ev - ery
 new us. De - light-ed at what you have done, you show your
 fail - ing. Re - gard-less what we may de - serve, we see this
 hear me!" My cer - tain help pro - vides re - lief, faith, hope, and

need - ed bless - ing. To God, who won-drous works per-forms, cre -
 great - ness through us. So may all liv - ing things pro-claim the
 good pre - vail - ing. To God who gov - erns ev - er - more with
 love to cheer me. So let me sing, joy - ful and free: ah,

a - ting life and calm-ing storms, to God give praise and glo - ry!
 won-ders of their Mak-er's name: to God give praise and glo - ry!
 jus - tice serv - ing rich and poor, to God give praise and glo - ry!
 thank-ful Chris-tians, sing with me: to God give praise and glo - ry!

Refrain

I do not know how long 'twill be, nor what the fu - ture holds for me,

But this I know, if Je - sus leads me, I shall get home some day.

Composer Charles A. Tindley, a prolific writer of gospel hymns, was a highly respected African-American Methodist minister in Philadelphia. It is Rev. Tindley whom Thomas Dorsey, perhaps the most famous gospel songwriter, credited as his influential predecessor.

Tune: SOME DAY 7.7.7.8.8.9.6. with refrain
Charles Albert Tindley, c. 1906
Transcribed by F. A. Clark, 1906

Take My Life, God, Let It Be

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Frances R. Havergal, 1874; alt.

Rom. 12:1

1 Take my life, God, let it be con - se - crat - ed faith - ful - ly.
2 Take my spir - it, let it move at the im - pulse of your love.
3 Take my will; your will be done! Make your will and mine be one.
4 Take my love and help it grow; let my lov - ing ov - er - flow.

Take my mo - ments and my days, let them flow in cease - less praise.
Take my in - tel - lect and use all its pow - ers as you choose.
Take my heart, and by your grace make of it your dwell - ing place.
Take me now, and help me be part of Christ's com - mu - ni - ty.

Frances R. Havergal wrote her hymn following a visit to Areley House in Worcestershire, England. Among the ten persons at the house were "some unconverted . . . some converted but not rejoicing." Before she left, "everyone had got a blessing."

Tune: VIENNA 7.7.7.7.
Justin H. Knecht, 1797
Alternate tune: HENDON

Columbia United Church of Christ

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

TODAY IN WORSHIP:

Greeters: Jessica Lucas
Worship Leader: Matt Lucas
Acolyte:
Sound Booth: John Graves
Hospitality: Audrey Lasley
Council Stewards: Jessica Lucas

NEXT SUNDAY IN WORSHIP:

Greeters: Jessica Lucas
Worship Leader: Confirmation Class
Acolyte: Abby Dennis
Sound Booth: Phillip Dennis
Hospitality: Helen Schultz
Council Steward: /Brent Marcks

COLUMBIA UCC CHURCH COUNCIL

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“BLUE CHRISTMAS” DISCUSSION GROUP

Pastor Rick will be hosting a “Blue Christmas” discussion group Wednesday evenings in December. We will gather at 6:30pm for 90 minutes or so to talk about grief, loss, depression and anxiety; especially in light of the stresses of 2020 and the losses we have experienced this year. There will be materials supplied, and it will also be experiential. For more information, email April in the church office or Pastor Rick.

LUNCH BUNCH 11/19 CANCELLED

Lunch Bunch for November has been CANCELLED. Due to the rise in COVID cases in Boone County, we will not meet this month. We will keep you updated for December’s gathering. Thank you for understanding. We hope to see you in person again soon! December’s date is tentatively set for December 17.

VAC CHRISTMAS DRIVE

CUCC has adopted 40 families from the Voluntary Action Center for their Christmas Drive this year! You can help families have a great Christmas by donating so VAC can purchase gift cards for them. You can donate through the CUCC Website by clicking on the “Donate to CUCC” tab and selecting “VAC Christmas Drive” from the dropdown menu. All donations are requested to be in by next Sunday, November 22.

THIS WEEK’S CALENDAR

Sun	11/15	<i>HONORING VETERANS IN WORSHIP</i> Worship (online only)	10:30am
Mon	11/16	Staff Meeting Confirmation (2021 class)	10:15am 6:00pm
Tue	11/17	Church Council Meeting	6:30pm
Thu	11/19	Membership & Care Ministry Team	6:30pm
Fri	11/20	Pastor Rick’s day off	
Sun	11/22	Worship (online only)	10:30am
Tue	11/24	Music & Worship Ministry Team Special Council Meeting	5:30pm 7:00pm

COAT DRIVE FOR ALPHA HART LEWIS ELEMENTARY

Our Little One’s Day Out Preschool Ministry is collecting Winter Coats for Alpha Hart Lewis Elementary for their Thanksgiving Service Project! You are invited to help them meet their goal! *We will be collecting thru November 22.* Items must be new or in excellent/clean condition. A donation box is in the narthex, and one is in the Fellowship Hall.

Sizes needed are:

Winter Coats: sizes 7/8, 10/12, 14/16

Also tennis shoes sizes 4-8 are needed

Winter hats, mittens/gloves, scarves and ear warmers accepted as well.

Columbia UCC Prayer List

Please keep in your prayers this week...

On hospice: Sharon Tiemann (April Rothwieler's Aunt)
Veterans... thank you for your service!

Becky Weston... recovering at home

Dennis Froeschner... anticipating rescheduled knee replacement surgery

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

Our missions in Chiapas... dealing with COVID-19 virus there

Zimny & Lasley Families; Joe & Corrine Remeika

Sheila... challenges in life and faith

The Koerkenmeyer & Malicoat Families

The 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:

Dale Gregory, 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:

Andrew Larsen... serving in Philippines

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,

Brandon Schoeneberg, Sadie Tummons