

Columbia United Church Of Christ



September 29, 2024

“Team Earth – Forests/Trees”



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**



September 29, 2024

10:30 a.m.

"CAIM Sunday"

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

*"... I think that I shall never see a poem as lovely as a tree..."
-Joyce Kilmer*

Welcome and Greetings

Pastor Rick

Prelude

"I Want Jesus to Walk With Me"

Chapel Ringers
arr. Bill Ingram

Carrying in the Light of Christ

*Call to Worship

(based on Psalm 96)

Tricia Soncasie

Sing to God a new song;
Sing to God, people of the earth!

**Proclaim God's glory among the nations;
God's marvelous work among all the people.**

God made the heavens and the earth;
God deserves our reverence and praise.

**The trees of the forest sing for joy,
Proclaiming God's presence in all the earth!**

Let the heavens be glad and the earth rejoice;
Let the sea roar, and all that fills it.

**God's gift of Creation is our blessing,
God's presence is always with us.
Come, let us worship God!**

*Hymn

"Colorful Creator"

#30

*Opening Prayer

Tricia Soncasie

God of all Creation; we celebrate the bounty of the forest and the beauty of the trees; and in them, we see Your presence and provision. We know that you have Created all that is beautiful and good to bless our lives, and You have called us to be stewards of it. Forgive us for the times we fail to appreciate Your bounty. Help us to recognize Your blessings in our lives, and teach us to see Your presence in the natural world. Remind us again that we are Team Earth, called to be stewards of Your creation. In Jesus' name we pray; Amen.

*Assurance of Blessing

Pastor Rick

God called us to be stewards for all the good things They created; water, land, wilderness, forests and so much more; especially one another. But even when we forget this mandate, God still loves us and forgives us. Through our repentance and God's grace we are forgiven, beloved and blessed. Praise be to God!

*Prayer Response

“Seek Ye First”

(insert)

***Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God
And God's Righteousness!
And all these things will be added unto you
Al-le-lu, Alleluia!***

*Sharing God's Gift of Peace

May God's Peace be with you!

And also with you!

Children's Time

Pastor Rick

“Tell Me the Stories of Jesus”

(insert)

(Sung as children return to their seats)

***Tell me the stories of Jesus I love to hear
Things I would ask him to tell me if he were here.
Scenes by the wayside, tales of the sea,
Stories of Jesus, tell them to me!***

Faith Sharing Moments

“Every Season”

by Michelle Nordemann

*Dancers: Belinda Davis, Katie Marienfeld,
Sofia Marienfeld-Crenshaw, Maia Marienfeld-Crenshaw*

“Neighbors in Need”

Mark Duncan

Old Testament Lesson

Genesis 2:4-9

Tricia Soncasie

In the second parable of Creation, God Creates humanity in a most intimate way, shaping them by hand from the dirt of the ground and breathing life into their nostrils. Then, God Creates a Garden for them to play in, calling them to proper stewardship of it.

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Gospel Lesson

Matthew 26:36-46

Tricia Soncasie

Jesus prays in the Garden of Gethsemane before being betrayed. In the garden, while Jesus is praying, the disciples fall asleep. “Awake” and “Asleep” are Biblical synonyms for “aware” and “ignorant/unaware.” How can we be “woke” and not “asleep” to the needs of the garden that is the earth on which we live?

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Anthem

“All Things New”

Celebration Singers

Elaine Hagenberg

Sermon "Connecting to God in Nature" Shelly Adams

*Hymn "Many & Great, O God" #3

Community Prayer & 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 of Community Life

Invitation to the Offering

*To give online text "GIVE" to 573.240.4041
You can also give online by visiting our website:
www.columbiaucc.com*

Offertory "Minuet" Steve Jannetti
George Frédéric Handel

*Prayer of Dedication Tricia Soncasie

It is a gift to be able to give something away. We are called to be a part of something bigger than ourselves. Spirit of Love, look upon us now. Bless these gifts, those we can see and those we cannot. May our hopes come true for the better world we dream of, as we work together in love. 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 "Theme with Variations" Steve Jannetti
Robert Schumann

GLOBAL MINISTRIES MISSIONARY HERE NEXT SUNDAY

Dr. Nibedita Pramanik is the director of the Evangelical Hospital Society in Khariar, India. She has been serving this institution since 2007 in different capacities; as a junior medical officer, as a general and laparoscopic surgeon, and since 2015, as director of the hospital. She trained at the CMC Vellore Medical School, and heeded God's call for her to commit her life to missions. She dreams of making Evangelical Hospital Society Khariar a well-equipped tertiary care hospital that will be able to provide competent compassionate service to the most critical patients. She has additionally undergone training and education as a palliative consultant and has a heart for dying patients.

The Evangelical Hospital Society in Khariar is a mission hospital, one of our UCC/DOC mission partners through Global Ministries. It began as a frail, four-bed mission in 1930 and has grown into a 110-bed secondary level multispecialty hospital through the mission work of our UCC mission agencies and predecessor denominations. The hospital has stood against oppression to be a progressive hospital adopting modern technology in medicine and surgery, with a spirit of Christ's love and compassion. The offer competent care to the poorest of the poor at very low prices, and the staff works for very low wages in order to serve and follow Christ. The hospital also supports a school and orphanage as part of its ministry. The vision for Evangelical Hospital Society is to open a medical school to train doctors for future work in their hospital.

Dr. Pramanik will be with us here at CUCC next Sunday to tell us about the Evangelical Hospital Society and the work they do there. She will offer the message that day, as we celebrate World Communion Sunday and our mission partnerships all around the world.

Through Global Ministries, we are partners in mission with 250 mission agencies in 90 countries all around the world. The mission of Global Ministries: "to receive and share the Good News of Jesus Christ by joining with global and local partners to work for justice, reconciliation, and peace."

SCOUTING AMERICA AND CUCC

We are the Charter Organization for four Scouting America units, which includes over 150 children, youth, and adult leaders. These units are:

- **Cub Scout Pack 5183** – The younger group of Scouts, with boys and girls from kindergarten age through 5th grade. They meet every other Monday.
- **Scouting America Troop 4475** – The girls troop. They are a very active troop of girls from 6th-12th grades. They meet every Monday.
- **Scouting America Troop 708** – The boys troop. They are from 6th-12th grades and are very active. They meet every Monday, too.
- **Venture Crew 5334** – This is a focused co-educational group of older youth, from High School through college age.

As the Charter Organization for these four units, they are a part of us and we are a part of them. "They are our scouts, and we are their church." Working together, in covenant, we will share the joys of common life and enhance one another's mission, all to the glory of God.

Columbia United Church of Christ

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LODO Director: Erika Maltsbarger	littleonesdayout@yahoo.com
Custodian: Caleb Berry	calebprenticeberry@gmail.com
Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Fred Brandenburg	

TODAY IN WORSHIP:

Worship Leader:	Tricia Soncasie
Ushers:	Phillip Neale & Christine Staelens
Greeters:	Helen Schultz
Technology:	Carissa Graves & John Graves
Hospitality:	Kurt Heine
Council Stewards:	Kurt Heine

NEXT SUNDAY IN WORSHIP:

Worship Leader:	Llona Weiss
Ushers:	Mary Lorber
Greeters:	Anne Heine
Technology:	Brent Marcks & Ted Dachroeden
Hospitality:	Jedd Schneider
Council Stewards:	Jedd Schneider



Online giving

COLUMBIA UCC CHURCH COUNCIL

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NURSERY CARE is available for children in kindergarten and younger in room #201 in the educational wing. If you need help finding it, ask an usher!

PRIDEFEST TODAY!

Having a booth at PrideFest is a great way to get the word out about our inclusive church. We will be handing out goodie bags to people and offering glitter blessings today at Pridefest! Come by and visit our booth!

HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS TRAINING TODAY

After worship today, Linda Neale and Pastor Rick will be conducting a session on Healthy Relationships, a 45-minutes course designed for anyone who works with children or youth. This is part of our “Safe Church” policy and procedures, but it is good conversation for anyone to have. Snacks will be provided!

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEEDS YOUR HELP

Sunday School needs some volunteers! They are looking for Sunday School Leaders and Greeters/Floaters. Everything is preplanned and explained prior to classes the morning of. You don’t need to be a part of the Nurture and Education Ministry Team to help out. Talk to Lena to volunteer. Thank you for your help!

PUMPKIN FUN DAY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Little One’s Day Out will hold its annual Pumpkin Fun Day on Friday, October 11. We need assistance from 9:15 a.m.-11:30 a.m. to help run games and activity stations, so the LODO staff can focus on supervision of students. The event will be held on the hill by the Shelter House. If you are available to help, contact Erika Maltsbarger or Alexandra in the church office!

FALL FESTIVAL AT CUCC 10/20

The Fellowship & Hospitality Ministry Team will be hosting a Fall Party at CUCC on Sunday, October 20 from 4:00-7:00 p.m. We will have a hot dog roast, s’mores, chips and drinks with lots of fun outside activities like horseshoes, ladder golf and more; fun for all ages! Come celebrate fall, y’all!

THIS WEEK’S CALENDAR

Sun	9/29	<i>PRIDEFEST</i>	
		Sunday School	9:00 a.m.
		Adult Ed. Book Study with Pastor Rick	9:00 a.m.
		Fellowship Time	10:00 a.m.
		Worship (in person and livestream)	10:30 a.m.
		Healthy Relationships Training	12:00 p.m.
		Pridefest	12:00-6:00 p.m.
Mon	9/30	Scouting America	6:00 p.m.
Tue	10/1	Quilters	10:00 a.m.
Wed	10/2	Chapel Ringers/Celebration Singers	6:00/7:00 p.m.
Sun	10/6	<i>GLOBAL MINISTRIES MISSIONARY HERE</i>	
		Sunday School	9:00 a.m.
		Fellowship Time	10:00 a.m.
		Worship (in person and livestream)	10:30 a.m.

Columbia UCC Prayer List

Please keep in your prayers this week . . .

Trevor Pierson... recovering from hand surgery

The family of Wayne Hackman... on their loss

Kitty Rogers... on her loss

Pat Schroeder... health issues

Jim & Sharon Elliott... health issues

Steve Price... recovering from surgery

Jonathan Schultz... recovering from hand injury

Julia Marsh... health issues (Donna Marsh's Daughter)

Jennifer... diagnosed with cancer (Edie Diel's niece)

Joanne Good... health issues (Sue Beckman's friend)

Students and staff at Alpha Hart Lewis Elementary . . . our partnership friend

The people of Palestine, Israel, and Ukraine

Health Issues:

John Adams, Cheryl Cobb, Barry Kirchhoff

Connie Hackman Fairley, Stephanie Porter (Phillip Neale's niece)

Challenges in Life:

Sheila, The Koerkenmeier & Malicoat Families

Living in Care Facilities:

Neal Sprick, Gary Ehrhardt, Vernie Blank, Helen Graves

Living in Independent Living Facilities:

Don Privitt, Alice Moon

Serving us in the military:

Christopher Tennill, Dane Wilson, Aaron Dachroeden

Did you know we have a Prayer Team here at CUCC, lifting up the prayer concerns of our congregation? 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 whals@centurytel.net

Or Tricia Soncasie (314) 374-7477 tsoncasie@aol.com

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***

Unison

Ruth Duck, 1992

1 Col - or - ful Cre - a - tor, God of mys - ter - y,
 2 Har - mo - ny of a - ges, God of lis - tening ear,
 3 Au - thor of our jour - ney, God of near and far,
 4 God of truth and beau - ty, Po - et of the Word,

thank you for the art - ist teach - ing us to see glimps - es of the
 thank you for com - pos - ers tun - ing us to hear ech - oes of the
 praise for tale and dra - ma tell - ing who we are, strip - ping to the
 may we be cre - a - tors by the Spir - it stirred, o - pen to your

mean - ing of the com - mon - place, vi - sions of the
 Gos - pel in the songs we sing, sounds of love and
 es - sence strug - gles of our day, times of change and
 pres - ence in our joy and strife, ves - sels of the

ho - ly in each hu - man face.
 long - ing from the deep - est spring.
 con - flict when we choose our way.
 ho - ly cours - ing through our life.

This hymn was written for the 1992 installation of Linda Clark as Houghton Scholar of Sacred Music at Boston University, where Ruth Duck earned her Th.D. degree. It praises the Artist who inspires our creativity.

Tune: HOUGHTON 11.11.11.1.
 Carlton R. Young, 1992

Wakantanka Taku Nitawa


(Many and Great, O God, Are Your Works)

Dakota hymn, Joseph R. Renville, 1842

Paraphr. by R. Philip Frazier, 1929; alt.

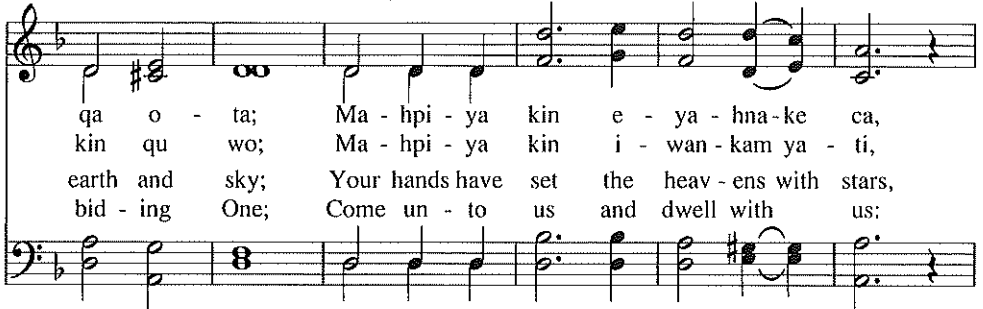
For another translation, see 341

Ps. 104:24–25; Jer. 10:12–13; 2 Esd. 16:56–60

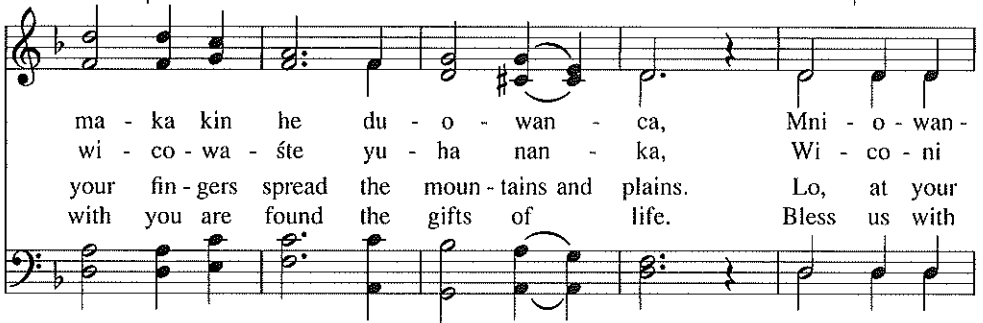
Optional hand-drum rhythm: 



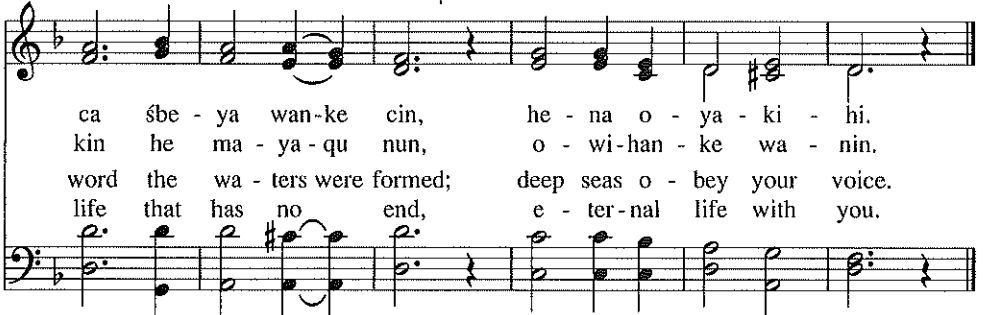
1 Wa - kan - tan - ka ta - ku ni - ta - wa tan - ka - ya
 2 Wo - eh - da - ku ni - ta - wa kin he mi - na - gi
 1 Man - y and great, O God, are your works, Mak - er of
 2 Grant un - to us com - mu - nion with you, O star a -



qa o - ta; Ma - hpi - ya kin e - ya - hna - ke ca,
 kin qu wo; Ma - hpi - ya kin i - wan - kam ya - ti,
 earth and sky; Your hands have set the heav - ens with stars,
 bid - ing One; Come un - to us and dwell with us:



ma - ka kin he du - o - wan - ca, Mni - o - wan -
 wi - co - wa - šte yu - ha nan - ka, Wi - co - ni
 your fin - gers spread the moun - tains and plains. Lo, at your
 with you are found the gifts of life. Bless us with



ca šbe - ya wan - ke cin, he - na o - ya - ki - hi.
 kin he ma - ya - qu nun, o - wi - han - ke wa - nin.
 word the wa - ters were formed; deep seas o - bey your voice.
 life that has no end, e - ter - nal life with you.

Probably the best-known Native American hymn, "Many and Great" is sung with great reverence by the Dakota people in worship, at communion, and for births, funerals, and burials. Renville helped establish the Lac qui Parle mission in Minnesota. Frazier, a Native American, was a Congregational minister.

Tune: LACQUIPARLE 9.6.9.9.6.
 Native American melody (Dakota)
 Adapt. Joseph R. Renville, 1842
 Harm. James R. Murray, 1877

Genesis 2:4-9

4 These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created. In the day that the LORD God made the earth and the heavens,

5 when no plant of the field was yet in the earth and no herb of the field had yet sprung up—for the LORD God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was no one to till the ground;

6 but a stream would rise from the earth, and water the whole face of the ground—

7 then the LORD God formed man from the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and the man became a living being.

8 And the LORD God planted a garden in Eden, in the east; and there he put the man whom he had formed.

9 Out of the ground the LORD God made to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food, the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

Matthew 26:36-46

36 Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, “Sit here while I go over there and pray.”

37 He took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be grieved and agitated.

38 Then he said to them, “I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and stay awake with me.”

39 And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed, “My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; yet not what I want but what you want.”

40 Then he came to the disciples and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, “So, could you not stay awake with me one hour?”

41 Stay awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.”

42 Again he went away for the second time and prayed, “My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done.”

43 Again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy.

44 So leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words.

45 Then he came to the disciples and said to them, “Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? See, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners.

46 Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand.”