

Columbia
United Church
Of Christ



December 1, 2019

10:30 Worship

"PEACE"

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

*"Pray for the PEACE of Jerusalem...
PEACE be within your walls..."
-Psalm 122:6*

Welcome and Greetings

Pastor Rick

Prelude

Amy Crousore & Hope Keithahn, cello

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

Latin Plainsong

Bringing in the Light of Christ

Kennedy Lucas

*Call to Worship *(based on Psalm 122)*

Ember Piersee

I was glad when they said to me,

Let us go to the house of the LORD!

We pray for PEACE in God's house

We pray for PEACE in God's Creation.

For the sake of my relatives and friends, I will say:

"PEACE be with you."

For the sake of the house of the LORD, I will seek PEACE.

God is our source of wholeness;

our inspiration to strive for PEACE.

Come, let us worship God!

*Opening Hymn

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

(insert)

*Opening Prayer

Ryan Schoeneberg

Loving God; you inspire us to work for PEACE in the world, even when it is difficult or dangerous to do so. But often we allow the distractions of the world to interfere; our pride, our prejudices, our fears. Forgive us for the times when our quest for power overshadows your quest for PEACE. Remind us of your call, and help us embody it in our lives. In Jesus' name we pray; Amen.

*Assurance of Blessing

Andie Rapp

One of the things that we learned in Confirmation Class was that God always offers the light of God's Salvation in our lives, even when things seem gloomy and dark. God's PEACE is our gift, and even when we forget about that gift, God forgives us and renews us. The light of Christ's PEACE shines in each one of us; thanks be to God!

*Prayer Response “Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus” *(insert)*

**Turn your eyes upon Jesus;
Look full in his wonderful face;
And the things of Earth will grow strangely dim
In the light of his glory and grace!**

*Sharing God’s Gift of PEACE Ryan Schoeneberg

*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 “PEACE” Pastor Rick

“Like a Child Jesus Comes”
(Sung as children return to their seats— see insert)

**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!**

*The Rite of Confirmation and The Sacrament of Baptism:
Affirmation of Faith*

Invitation

Questions of the Candidates

*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 you 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.

The Sacrament of Baptism

Today we celebrate the baptism of Ember Briseis Elaine Piersee

* Confirmation/Baptism Prayer

Almighty God; who in baptism received all of your servants into the church, forgave us our sins, and promised us eternal living; increase in these students, who are now baptized and who now affirm their baptisms, the gifts of your Holy Spirit. Grant them love for others, joy in serving you, peace in disagreement, patience in suffering, kindness toward all people, goodness in evil times, faithfulness in temptation, gentleness in the face of opposition, self control in all things. Strengthen them for their ministry in the world. Amen.

Anthem

“A Little Child Will Come to Lead Us”

Celebration Singers

by Don Besig

Gospel Lesson:

Matthew 3:1-12

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Homily:

“Happy New Year”

Pastor Rick

The Rite of Confirmation: Blessing

Ember Piersee, Ryan Schoeneberg, Andie Rapp

Prayer of Confirmation

We rejoice, merciful God, in the gift of the Holy Spirit and in the Spirit’s power to awaken us to new truth and to inspire us to venture into fullness of life. We ask your blessing on these Confirmation students. Help them to live not for themselves, but for Christ and those whom Christ loves. Keep them steady and abounding in hope and persistence, pressing toward the goal of life with you in Jesus Christ. Amen.

Invitation to Communion

After communion is served to our 2019 Confirmands, you will be invited forward; and no matter who you are or where you are on life’s journey, you are welcome to celebrate this joyful meal.

Communion Prayer

Pastoral Prayer & Silent Prayer; Invocation

Blessing the Children

“Let Us, Talents and Tongues Employ”

#347

Institution; Fraction; Distribution

The Rite of Confirmation: First Communion

Communion Music Amy Crousore & Hope Keithahn, cello
“In the Bleak Midwinter” *by Gustav Holst*

Prayer of Thanksgiving

The LORD’S Prayer *(sung by the congregation, led by Shelby Oberle)*

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

The Rite of Confirmation: Reception into Membership

Covenant with the Candidates

*Congregational Welcome

We promise you our continuing friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit may we continue to grow together in God’s knowledge and love and be witnesses of Christ.

Sharing our Announcements of Community Life

Pastor Rick

Presenting our Gifts

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

Amy Crousore
by Hal Hopson

*Response

“We Praise You, O God”

#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

Pastor Rick

*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

“Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying”

Amy Crousore
Gottfried Walther

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TODAY IN WORSHIP:

Greeters: Anne Heine & Stefanie Zimny
Ushers: Hugo Wilmsmeyer
Sound Booth: Pete Jaberg
Worship Leader: Ember Piersee, Andie Rapp, Ryan Schoeneberg
Hospitality: Doug Privitt
Acolyte: Kennedy Lucas
Council Steward: John Bullerd



NEXT SUNDAY IN WORSHIP:

Greeters: Brenda & John Muench
Ushers: Llona Weiss
Sound Booth: Carissa Graves
Worship Leader: Isaiah Jackson-Post
Hospitality: Val Schoeneberg
Acolyte: Riley Hayward
Council Steward: Doug Privitt

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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VAC CHRISTMAS DRIVE

Names are now available for the VAC Christmas Drive; see the tree in the Gathering Space to find a person in need of “adopting.” To be sponsor, just select a card from the tree, leave the attached slip, and pick up the information sheet with details. ***Deadline for return of gifts and money is December 8.*** For questions, talk to Mahree Skala.

GIVING TUESDAY– DECEMBER 3

Giving Tuesday (the Tuesday after Thanksgiving) has become the biggest online giving day of the year; a compassionate response to the excesses of Black Friday. This year, CUCC is encouraging extra attention to our Annual Fund- “Joyful Giving” on Giving Tuesday. Please consider making an online gift to the ministries of this congregation on Giving Tuesday thru our website, using the QR code to your left, or by texting “GIVE” to 540.240.4041

CHILDREN’S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM– “CHRISTMAS SYMBOLS”

CUCC Children’s Christmas Program – December 15, 2019 during Worship

Jessica Lucas will be directing this year’s Christmas Program for our Children and Youth. Linda Neale, Kristin Veteto, Lisa Jaberg and Paula Wilson will be assisting her. Practices will be held during the Sunday School hour each Sunday leading up to Sunday, December 8, 2019. Please contact Jessica if you have any questions.

THIS WEEK’S CALENDAR

Sun	12/1	<i>Confirmation Sunday!</i>	
		Fellowship Time	9:00am
		Sunday School	9:00am
		Worship	10:30am
Mon	12/2	Finance & Stewardship Ministry Team	6:00pm
Tue	12/3	<i>Giving Tuesday– Remember CUCC in your online giving!</i>	
		Staff Meeting	10:00am
		Quilters	9:00am-2:00pm
		Membership & Care Ministry Team	6:30pm
Wed	12/4	Chapel Ringers/Celebration Singers	6:30pm/7:30pm
		Confirmation	7:00pm
Thu	12/5	By-Laws Team Meeting	11:30am
		Inclusion Team Meeting	6:30pm
Fri	12/7	Celebration Singers & Chapel Ringers	9:00am-Noon
Sun	12/8	<i>Christmas Cantata/Christmas Banquet/Cookies by the Pound</i>	
		Fellowship Time/Sunday School	9:00am
		Cookies by the Pound available for purchase	9:00am
		Worship/Cantata	10:30am
		Christmas Banquet	11:30am

Columbia UCC Prayer List

Please keep in your prayers this week...

The Family of Randall Siddens... on their loss
Shirley Lawler... recovering from broken hip
Wayne Gartner... diagnosed with cancer (Laura's brother)
Norma Klemme... recovering from broken leg
Rev. Dr. David Beebe... living with cancer (Oberle's friend)
Tracy Bach... recovering from leg fracture & sprained ankle
Keith Birkes... recovering from broken ankle
Jo Ellen Grace's brother... living with cancer
Donald Long... health issues (Vena's husband)
The Devenney Family... on their move to South Carolina
Sheila... challenges in life and faith (11/17)
A brother in law with health issues (11/17)
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
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); Harold Hackman; Sue Beckman;
Dennis Froeschner; John Bullerd's step sister

Pregnancies in our church family:

Amanda Forward and Tez Wells... due any day now!
Makayla Smith and Joey Oberle...due June 3

Serving us in the military:

Alexander & Christopher Tennill, Jeffrey Sanderson
James Walker (Don Helmreich's nephew)
Tim Isom, Tyler Gibson (Oberles' friends); Daisia Baker (Isaiah's cousin); Thom-
as Zumalt (Shirley Lawler's grandson)

UCC/DOC Global Ministries Missionary of the Week:

Larry Colvin, serving in Ghana

2019 Confirmation Class:

Ember Piersee; Andie Rapp; Ryan Schoeneberg

2020 Confirmation Class:

Lilly Jaberg, Hazel Keithahn, Brandon Lavelly