

Sunday, December 8 – **White Gift Sunday.**

Christmas Eve, Tuesday, December 24. We will have one service at 10 a.m.

A **Prayer Shawl Committee** is being formed. If you are interested in joining this committee, please speak with Marilyn Walsh/Beryl Pearce.

We greatly appreciate helping bodies on Sunday mornings to **operate the chairlift.**

If you have **social media skills** and would like to share them to promote our church, we'd love to have your talents. Instagram, TikTok, X, Meta? Maybe you can share our activities for us!

A sign-up sheet has been posted in the kitchen for those who wish to **volunteer to bring in treats** for Sunday morning coffee time following worship. **At the end of each month we will celebrate any birthdays/special occasions with cake.**

Our Outreach Program is need of:

Meat/food donations, reusable bags, gift cards/monetary donations. (Please pause *egg cartons* for the time being.)

More bodies that can either help unload groceries on **Thursday mornings at 11:00 a.m.**, deliver groceries to those in need or to help sort/package food donations Saturday evenings at 6:15.

A reminder to please arrive at church “scent free”.

COLUMBUS COMMUNITY UNITED CHURCH

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November 24, 2024

Reign of Christ

The Reverend Richard Parker

Minister

Darlene Peddle

Licensed Lay Worship Leader

Anthony Alexander B Mus.

Music Facilitator

Mary Bellinger

Song Leader

*indicates those who are able to please stand

WE GATHER TOGETHER

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Come to worship Jesus Christ; Alpha and Omega, the one who is, who was, and is to come.

P: **We come to worship the one who rules justly.**

L: Come to worship Jesus Christ, the faithful witness;

The firstborn of the dead,

The ruler of the kings of the earth!

P: **Bread of Heaven, God with us!**

L: Good Shepherd, True Vine!

P: **Eternal Word, Great I AM.**

L: Wonderful Counselor, Prince of Peace!

ALL: **We come to worship Jesus Christ, King of kings and Lord of lords! To him be glory and dominion forever and ever!**

CHORAL INTROIT

701

What does the Lord require of you?

What does the Lord require of you?

Justice, Kindness, walk humbly with your God.

To seek justice, and love kindness,

and walk humbly with your God.

PRAYER OF APPROACH

Gentle and mighty God, when we have only a few pennies of hope in our pockets, You multiply us into a blessing. When the world whispers seductively to us, You tell us of Your joy for us. When everyone has forgotten even who we are, You shout out our name with delight: “My Beloved!” And for this, we thank you. We thank You too, O God, for ruling over the world with grace and compassion. You revealed Your Realm in Jesus, who embodied Your mercy and justice. He healed the sick, raised up the downtrodden, destroyed the powers of oppression, and proclaimed Your Jubilee. In his death and resurrection You have brought us out of the realm of darkness and into the realm of your eternal light and life. Holy God, pour out Your Holy Spirit on us and on all your church, that we may serve You faithfully in all that we do. This we pray in the name and the love of Your son, Jesus Christ. Amen

*HYMN *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling* 333

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we get so caught up in our own lives and needs that we fail to see others for whom we might provide some help and relief. You challenge us to feed those who are hungry and to quench the thirst of those who are parched. You ask us to bring clothing to those who have none or for whom the clothing is inadequate for the weather; to visit people who are sick, alone, alienated, who are imprisoned either in cells with bars or in conditions of hopelessness and poverty that they see no way out; to welcome the stranger and reach out to those who are marginalized; to always bring Your words of healing and redeeming love. We have failed in these tasks – we ignore the opportunities and claim that we are too busy to help, too busy to care. How this attitude must sadden You, O Lord. You lavish your gifts upon us that we might use them for the betterment of Your realm, and we treat them as inconveniences. Forgive us, O God. Forgive us and heal our wounds of greed and selfishness. Let us greet this day when the hope of the Reign of Christ can be made manifest and we can be part of this glorious kingdom of peace and compassion. Amen

SILENT PRAYER ASSURANCE
ANTHEM

WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE Revelation 1:4-8
PSALM 132 (Part One) 854
*HYMN *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name* 334
SCRIPTURE John 18:33-37
MESSAGE

WE RESPOND IN LOVE

*HYMN *Jesus! What a Friend for Sinners* 244 (HFG)
INVITATION TO THE OFFERING
DOXOLOGY 384(HFG)

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*HYMN *Rejoice, the Lord Is King* 213
COMMISSIONING & BENEDICTION
CHORAL BLESSING *Go Now In Peace*

Happy birthday to **Lorraine Goodman**,
who celebrates her 99TH birthday today!
And **Ian McDougall**,

who is a wee bit shy of 99, but will be celebrating this coming Saturday!
☺

Bible Study will pause until the New Year.

Men's Breakfast will meet next in the New Year.

Naomi Bristow Christmas concert – This Tuesday, November 26, 7 p.m. Tickets are \$20. Please contact John Nesbitt 905-985-5505.

Next Sunday, December 1 – **First Advent** and **Communion**. **There will be a congregational meeting following worship** to vote on the Search Committee's "church profile" for a new Minister. If the profile passes then the search process will begin.