

COLUMBUS COMMUNITY UNITED CHURCH

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August 23, 2026

Darlene Peddle	Lay Worship Leader
Anthony Alexander B Mus.	Music Facilitator
Mary Bellinger	Song Leader

*indicates those who are able to please stand

WE GATHER TOGETHER

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

CALL TO WORSHIP (based on Psalm 124)

L: If it had not been God who was on our side,

P: the troubles of our world would have swallowed us whole.

L: If it had not been God who was on our side,

P: the sorrows of our times would have swept us away.

L: Are any among us suffering?

P: Come and pray.

L: Are any among us cheerful?

P: Come sing songs of praise.

L: Are any among us sick?

P: Come and ask for healing.

L: Our help is in our God,

P: the One who made heaven and earth.

L: Call upon God, creator and rescuer.

God is on our side.

CHORAL INTROIT *This Is the Day* 412 vs.1

**This is the day, this is the day
that our God has made, that our God has made,
we will rejoice, we will rejoice,
and be glad in it, and be glad in it.
This is the day that our God has made,
we will rejoice and be glad in it.
This is the day, this is the day
that our God has made.**

*PRAYER OF APPROACH (unison)

Loving God, we thank You for Your love and for Your mercy and for Your forgiveness and Your grace. We thank You for Your strength and for Your tenderness, and for Your compassion and Your power. We worship You for Your greatness and Your glory, and for Your beauty and Your righteousness. Be with us today that You may hear our praise and look with favour upon our hearts and our minds as we lift up our hands in prayer to You. We ask it in the most wonderful name of Jesus Christ Your Son, He who is our Saviour and our Lord. Amen.

*HYMN *All People That on Earth Do Dwell*

823

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, you call us to do justice and live right, but we confess we fail. We ignore the needy and turn away the outsider. We close our hearts, build walls instead of bridges, and treat your house of prayer as our own private space rather than a welcome place for all people. Forgive our exclusion, our self-righteousness, and our apathy. Heal us and gather us back to you.

SILENT PRAYER ASSURANCE OF PARDON

ANTHEM *He Is Exalted* by Twila Paris

WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE Isaiah 56:1-8

PSALM 138 860

SCRIPTURE Matthew 15:21-28

*HYMN *Let There Be Light* 679

MESSAGE

WE RESPOND IN LOVE

*HYMN *Though Ancient Walls* 691

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 *God of Grace and God of Glory*

686

COMMISSIONING & BENEDICTION

CHORAL BLESSING *Go Now In Peace*

POSTLUDE

*If you are visiting with us for the first time this morning, welcome!
It is no longer our custom to pass around the offering plate. The plate
is kept at the front of the church, just inside the door, and offering
envelopes are available in the pews. All donations are greatly
appreciated and help to keep the heart of this sacred place beating with
God's love, grace, and generosity.*

Happy Birthday to **Marilyn Walsh**,
who celebrates today! ☺

Bible Study will pause for the summer months.

The Men's Breakfast will pause for the summer months.

Council Meeting – A new date is to be decided.

Yard/Craft Sale September 12 from 8 a.m. until 3 p.m. Please let potential vendors know that the vendor application form is available on the homepage of our church website.

Prayer Shawl Committee - would greatly appreciate yarn donations.

Christian Library – There is now a collection of Christian books in the cabinet in the Narthex. Feel free to browse, borrow, take and share them at your leisure. If you would like to add to the collection, please ensure the books are Christian.

OUTREACH

If you would like to help out in any way with the **Outreach Program**, please call 289-385-1462 and speak to one of our volunteers.

Entrance to the church via the back parking lot doors **will be locked at 10 a.m. on Sunday mornings.** If you arrive late, please enter the church via the front doors.

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