In matters of truth and justice, there is no difference between large and small problems, for issues concerning the treatment of people are all the same.

-Albert Einstein
The Colonial Church in Prairie Village—United Church of Christ
“Knowing Light without Dark” Sunday Worship Service
in the series *Walk the Line of Good and Evil*

*Please silence your electronic devices in preparation for worship.*

* Please rise in body or spirit

**We Gather as God’s People**

**Gathering Music**

* Duke Street

**Welcome and Announcements**

(Please sign and pass pew pads and fill out Prayer Request cards you may have. You can place the Prayer Request cards in the offering plates later in the service.)

**A Moment to Lay Your Burdens Down**

* Opening Hymn #13  *O My Soul, Bless Your Creator*

* Call to Worship - Based on 1 Corinthians 12:26-27 by Teresa of Avila

  All: Christ has no body but yours,
  No hands, no feet on Earth but yours,
  Yours are the eyes with which he looks
  Compassion on this world,
  Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good,
  Yours are the hands, with which he blesses all the world.
  Yours are the hands, yours are the feet,
  Yours are the eyes, you are his body.
  Christ has no body now but yours,
  No hands, no feet on Earth but yours,
  Yours are the eyes with which he looks
  Compassion on this world.
  Christ has no body now on Earth but yours.
* Song of Praise — *Gloria #759 adapted

_Glory to the Creator, and to the Christ, and to the Holy Ghost._
_As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be._
_World without end. Amen. Amen._

* Sharing God's Welcome* (Greet everyone in the hope of peace and friendship.)

_Children’s Conversation* (Children of all ages are welcome to come forward to the chancel steps. Following the Conversation, children are welcome to remain to worship or to participate in our Sunday School.)

_This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine, this little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine, this little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine, let it shine, let it shine._

_We Hear God’s Word_

_A Word Proclaimed_

_A Classic Passage to Encourage Right Action_

_Matthew 25:31-40* "Now when the Human One comes in his majesty and all his angels are with him, he will sit on his majestic throne. All the nations will be gathered in front of him. He will separate them from each other, just as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He will put the sheep on his right side. But the goats he will put on his left._

_Then the king will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who will receive good things from my Father. Inherit the kingdom that was prepared for you before the world began. I was hungry and you gave me food to eat. I was thirsty and you gave me a drink. I was a stranger and you welcomed me. I was naked and you gave me clothes to wear. I was sick and you took care of me. I was in prison and you visited me.' _

_Then those who are righteous will reply to him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you a drink? When did we see you as a stranger and welcome you, or naked and give you clothes to wear? When did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?' _

_Then the king will reply to them, 'I assure you that when you have done it for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you have done it for me.' _
The Rest of the Story
Matthew 25:41-48 "Then he will say to those on his left, 'Get away from me, you who will receive terrible things. Go into the unending fire that has been prepared for the devil and his angels. I was hungry and you didn't give me food to eat. I was thirsty and you didn't give me anything to drink. I was a stranger and you didn't welcome me. I was naked and you didn't give me clothes to wear. I was sick and in prison, and you didn't visit me.'

Then they will reply, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison and didn't do anything to help you?' Then he will answer, 'I assure you that when you haven't done it for one of the least of these, you haven't done it for me.' And they will go away into eternal punishment. But the righteous ones will go into eternal life."

An Urban Myth Circulated Widely as an Email on Theodicy
A university professor challenged his students with this question. Did God create everything that exists? A student bravely replied, "Yes, he did!"

"God created everything? The professor asked. "Yes sir", the student replied.

The professor answered, "If God created everything, then God created evil since evil exists, and according to the principal that our works define who we are then God is evil". The student became quiet before such an answer. The professor was quite pleased with himself and boasted to the students that he had proven once more that the Christian faith was a myth.

Another student raised his hand and said, "Can I ask you a question professor?"

"Of course", replied the professor.

The student stood up and asked, "Professor, does cold exist?"

"What kind of question is this? Of course it exists. Have you never been cold?" The students snickered at the young man's question.

The young man replied, "In fact sir, cold does not exist. According to the laws of physics, what we consider cold is in reality the absence of heat. Every body or object is susceptible to study when it has or transmits energy, and heat is what makes a body or matter have or transmit energy. Absolute zero (-460 degrees F) is the total absence of heat; all matter becomes inert and incapable of reaction at that temperature. Cold does not exist. We have created this word to describe how we feel if we have no heat."

The student continued, "Professor, does darkness exist?"
The professor responded, "Of course it does."
The student replied, "Once again you are wrong sir, darkness does not exist either. Darkness is in reality the absence of light. Light we can study, but not darkness. In fact we can use Newton's prism to break white light into many colors and study the various wavelengths of each color. You cannot measure darkness. A simple ray of light can break into a world of darkness and illuminate it. How can you know how dark a certain space is? You measure the amount of light present. Isn't this correct? Darkness is a term used by man to describe what happens when there is no light present."

Finally the young man asked the professor, "Sir, does evil exist?"
Now uncertain, the professor responded, "Of course as I have already said. We see it every day. It is in the daily example of man's inhumanity to man. It is in the multitude of crime and violence everywhere in the world. These manifestations are nothing else but evil."
To this the student replied, "Evil does not exist sir, or at least it does not exist unto itself. Evil is simply the absence of God. It is just like darkness and cold, a word that man has created to describe the absence of God. God did not create evil. Evil is not like faith, or love that exist just as does light and heat. Evil is the result of what happens when man does not have God's love present in his heart. It's like the cold that comes when there is no heat or the darkness that comes when there is no light."

The professor sat down.
The young man's name - Albert Einstein.

Luke 17:3-4 "Watch yourselves! If your brother or sister sins, warn them to stop. If they change their hearts and lives, forgive them. Even if someone sins against you seven times in one day and returns to you seven times and says, 'I am changing my ways,' you must forgive that person.

Express your thoughts via social media at #ColonialUCC.

A Word Given in our Holy Meal
Communion Prayer
Pastor: God be with you.
All: And also with you.
Pastor: Lift up your hearts.
All: We lift them up to God.
Pastor: Let us give thanks for the peace of God.
All: It is right to give God thanks and praise.
Consecration of the Bread and Cup

Sharing of the Bread and Cup
(Drink the cup as you are served as a sign of God’s particular love for you as the choir sings *Come Taste the Goodness of the Lord* by Joseph M. Martin. Hold the bread until the end of the music, and we will eat it together as a sign of our unity in Christ.)

Prayer of Thanksgiving
*Remain with us, O God. Make this feast the nourishment we need to grow more wild and wonderful. Graft us onto the vine of your Beloved so that we might grow more connected with you and all of creation. With this food and this drink, let us be the love that we have found in you and your Beloved. Amen.*

We Respond with Thanksgiving and Prayer

Call to Offering and Offertory  *Amazing Grace* -Harlan
Kathryn Huey, Garrett Torbert

* Doxology (#780 adapted; tune Old Hundredth)
  *Praise God from whom all blessings flow;*
  *Praise God, all creatures here below;*
  *Praise God above, you heavenly host:*

* Prayer of Dedication
  *O God, let these gifts grow to reach the whole world with love. Remain in these gifts, O God, so that future generations might know that we love them as much as we love you. Amen.*

Time of Prayer
Prayers of the People
Believing that each joy and/or concern expressed is indeed a prayer, after each expression, the Pastor will say:
  *Lord, in your mercy.*
And the people may respond:
**Hear our prayer.**

Praying in Silence

Our Lord’s Prayer (“Our Father” is the traditional way this prayer begins. You are invited to use whatever name for God you find most meaningful (Father, Mother, Creator, God, etc.). Together our names for God create a beautiful chorus.)

**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.**

**We Depart to Serve**

* Hymn #584  
  *I Am the Light of the World*

* Renew Our Covenant (Turn towards the center aisle as we bless one another with the promise of our covenant.)

  **We covenant with the Lord and with one another and do bind ourselves in the presence of God to walk together in Christian Love. We seek to worship God in spirit and in truth and to love our neighbors as ourselves. With God’s help we will honor Colonial Church in our conduct, support its program, and extend the influence of Christ throughout the world.**

* Congregational Song of Blessing #809  
  *God Be With You*  
  **God be with you, God be with you, God be with you till we meet again. O God be with you, God be with you, God be with you till we meet again.**

* Benediction and Postlude  
  *Llanfair*  
  -Powell

Liturgist: Evelyn Bowman  
Children’s Conversation: Darren Carpenter  
Greeter: Catherine Bowser  
Communion Servers: Stacy Huggins, Sally Huggins, Chucho Marquez  
Head Usher: Mariam Fleming  
Ushers: Elizabeth Uppman, Joan & Jerry Gilson, Mariam Fleming
Colonic Church Bible Study Guide

The readings for this week lead up to our Thursday morning Bible Study discussion at 10:00am in Pastor Aaron’s Office.

Monday - Read Psalms 78-79
- These psalms - and others - are attributed to Asaph, whose story can be found in 1 Chronicles 6 and 15. How does Asaph’s position in David’s court influence your interpretation of these psalms?
- Psalm 79 has a recurring inheritance motif. How do you suppose the author determines which things should be passed from generation to generation (eg, praise), and which should not (eg, sins)?

Tuesday - Read Psalms 80-85
- Why does Psalm 80 only identify by name the tribes which are descended from Jacob’s wife Rachel?
- Most Psalms are written as prayers from the people to God. What reason would Psalm 81 have for reversing this direction?

Wednesday – Read Psalms 86-89
- Psalm 87 celebrates the author’s residence in Zion. How the countries mentioned in verse 4 prove the author to be a native?
- Psalm 89 celebrates God’s resounding victory over Rahab. What country does Rahab represent?

Thursday – Read Psalms 90-95
- Deuteronomy 34:7 records Moses’ age as 120 at the time of his death. Does this conflict with the content of Psalm 90, which claims Moses as its author?
- Psalm 95 contains a warning to those who will not praise God. Is fear of consequences a good reason to worship?
We Took the Pictures. Now You Need to Act!
In order to have a useful directory, please help by registering online for the “in-fellowship” directory.

**How To Create an inFellowship Account.**
1. Go to the church website (www.colonialucc.org)
2. Click on “InFellowship” on the church website. On the drop-down menu there is a log in button that says “Login to InFellowship here.” The photos taken at church will appear on your new InFellowship account within a week. We will have another Sunday morning photo session in a few weeks (Date to be determined).
3. In the top right corner of the website, click on the link to InFellowship:
4. On the inFellowship site, select “Don’t have an account? Sign up!”
5. Fill out the registration form with your information – try to use the same contact information you have provided the church with.
6. Wait for your confirmation email. If you’ve not received a confirmation email within 24 hours (including in your spam/junk mail folder), contact the church staff. This is most likely due to information in your registration not matching information on file in the church database. Once your account has been associated with the person in the church records, it will be activated.
7. Once you’ve logged in, you can select “update profile” to edit your photos or contact information. You can also access the church directory, alter your privacy settings to be included in the directory, or look for groups to join.

**Colonial’s Summer Talent**
The Board of Worship invites members including our youth to share their musical talents with us this summer. We are signing people up now. The first Sunday this opportunity is available is May 31. The individual/group would sing/play an instrument during the time that we have the anthem. All music must be approved by our Director of Music, Kirk Carson. Please contact Linda Moses (913-642-1335 or lvslife48@gmail.com).

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*Altar Flowers*

The beautiful flowers on the altar are given by CAROL CHILDERS in loving memory of Glenn and Lucille Newland.
HIGHLIGHTS

It’s A Girl Thing! Are you tired of going to the show alone or your significant other just doesn’t want to go, want to have company at dinner, just want to get together to laugh and share a story, or go on a weekend trip? If any of these scenarios fit you, then you need to try “It’s A Girl Thing.” We won’t have meetings, just get together when we want. The group is for women from 18 to infinity, single, married, divorced, or widowed. Call Linda Moses at 913-642-1335 or email her at luvslife48@gmail.com to get your name on the list. Our first opportunity to get together will be at my home on Friday, May 8 at 7:00 p.m.

Sermon Series: Walk the Line of Good and Evil. The line between good and evil runs right through every human heart. How does a good God allow so much evil? And, does evil truly even exist? These questions shape what it means to live a good life. Explore them with us this spring at Colonial Church. Today – One God Responsible for All; May 10 – Evil Done in God’s Name; May 17 – Evil’s Fate.

Colonial Friends To Powell Gardens in May. On Wednesday, May 20, Colonial Friends and other interested persons will enjoy a guided trolley bus tour of the celebrated Powell Gardens near Lone Jack, Missouri. The gardens will be in full spring bloom, and we’ll have several occasions during the tour to walk around and enjoy them close-up. Following the tour we’ll have lunch together in the garden’s dining room. The tour will start at 10:30 a.m. with lunch about 12:30. Cost will be $21.50 a person, including lunch. Please feel free to bring guests as we’d like to have as close to 20 participants as we can. Meet at the Colonial Church parking lot at 9:30 a.m. We’ll carpool for the drive to Powell Gardens, about 45 minutes. If you would like to join us, please call or email Bob Starcke at 913-268-8801, (cell) 913-406-3572, or rstarcke@gmail.com. Bob will need to collect the tour costs before we set out that morning.

Colonial Women Activities

■ Breakfast and Coffee at Big Biscuit. Monday, May 4, at 9:30 a.m. at Big Biscuit. For more information, call Martha Wofford at 913-631-0181.

■ Colonial Women Luncheon and Program. Wednesday May 6, noon in the Social Hall. Join us for a baked potato bar and enjoy the history, the stories and memories of aprons from long ago presented by Linda Dutton. Her presentation, “Apron Strings,” will provide an opportunity for you to touch, see and try on the selection of aprons of many styles, colors and prints for a special experience so nostalgic you can almost touch the past! Bring any aprons you have that you’d like to share. Everyone is welcome! RSVP to Doris Kurth 913 362-6899.

■ Alden Guild. Thursday, May 7, 6:00 p.m. at The Red Door, 11851 Roe (Camelot Center). We are hoping for a nice evening when we can eat outside.

■ Blue Moose Tuesday. Tuesday, May 12, 5:30 p.m. Blue Moose in Prairie Village.

■ Book Group. Friday, May 29, at 7:00 p.m., Stacey Algren’s home, 3206 W. 82nd Terrace, Leawood, KS 66206. The group will be discussing Where’d You Go, Bernadette by Maria Semple. Everyone is welcome to join the group for a discussion of this compulsively readable, witty and touching novel about misplaced genius and a mother and daughter’s role in an absurd world.
**THE WEEK AHEAD**

**TODAY — MAY 3**
8:30 a.m.—Worship.
9:00 a.m.—Bell Choir, Pilgrim Room.
9:15 a.m.—Board of Stewardship, Oberlin Room.
9:15 a.m.—That Was the Week That Was, Library.
10:15 a.m.—Worship.
10:30 a.m.—Sunday School.
11:15 a.m.—Coffee & Conversation, Heritage Room.

**MONDAY, MAY 4**
9:30 a.m.—Colonial Women Coffee, Big Biscuit.

**TUESDAY, MAY 5**
8:00 a.m.—Men’s Breakfast Group, Bob Evans Restaurant.
9:30 a.m.—Book Group, Heritage Room.

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 6**
9:30 a.m.—Visit with Pastor Aaron, Einstein Brothers in Prairie Village.
12:00 p.m.—Colonial Women Luncheon, Social Hall.
3:30 p.m.—Justice & Witness Committee, Library
7:00 p.m.—Colonial Choir, Choir Room.

**THURSDAY, MAY 7**
6:00 p.m.—Alden Guild, The Red Door, 11851 Roe.

**FRIDAY, MAY 8**
7:00 p.m.—It’s a Girl Thing, Linda Moses’ Home.

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**All Church Float Trip.** June 5-7 at Mountain Creek on Niangua River at Eldridge, MO. Mark your calendar now for the Colonial Float Trip! We will stay at Mountain Creek Family Resort. It’s about a three-hour drive from Kansas City. You can camp or stay in a cabin. Go to http://tinyurl.com/colonialfloat to reserve your spot.

**Did You Know...** that Colonial Women, using part of the proceeds of the 2014 Rummage Sale, contributed to the following charities: Cross-Lines Christmas Store $2,855, Steppingstone $600, Steppingstone Auxiliary $150, Quiltmakers $200, Sheffield Place $400, Sponsorship of Gnanskart $480, KO Conference $300, and Colonial child care $2,000? Without all of our members this would not be possible so thank you, thank you for your continued support.

**Holy Moses! VBS 2015. July 14-17.** This year VBS will be a musical journey through the life of Moses. Children will hear stories, learn songs and dances, play games, and make crafts related to different parts of the tale. Reserve your spot online now at http://tinyurl.com/colonialvbs.

**Stewardship Thought.** “Give what you have. To someone it may be better than you dare to think.” — Henry Wadsworth Longfellow (1807-82), American writer and poet

*Please remember the ministries of your church in your will.*


**GUEST INFORMATION**

Welcome to Colonial Church in Prairie Village! We are glad you have worshiped with us today. If you have questions or concerns, feel free to call our church office at 913-362-7735. Aaron Roberts, our senior pastor, is here Monday-Thursday of each week and his email address is aaron@colonialucc.org.

A **fully staffed nursery** is available each Sunday morning from 8:20 to 11:30 a.m. Ask any of the ushers for directions to the nursery.

**Hearing Devices**—Hearing-assisted devices and large-print bulletins are available in the narthex. The worship service this morning can also be heard in the library for your convenience.

**Giving Cards**—Giving Cards are available in the pew racks for anyone who contributes financially through EFT or periodically. To participate in the offering, take a card and place it into the offering plate as they are passed.

**Children’s Sunday School**—Children preschool through 6th grade may leave after the Children’s Conversation at the 10:15 a.m. worship service to go to class.

**Youth Group**

The Colonial Church Youth Group welcomes 7th through 12th grade students. Sunday gatherings are in the youth room (the Savoy Room) at 10:15 a.m. The room is open for youth to come, relax, and enjoy one another’s company prior to the Sunday service. Michelle Turpen leads the group. Service and fellowship activities are planned throughout the year including volunteer opportunities, the annual Christmas pageant, and more.

**Colonial Choir**—Choir for all ages. The choir rehearses on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. in the Choir Room.

**Listen to our Weekly Messages**—You can listen to the sermon and get the bulletin and study guide on our website.

[www.colonialucc.org](http://www.colonialucc.org)—Learn more about Colonial and its programs at our website.

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**COLONIAL STAFF**

- Senior Minister: Rev. Aaron Roberts (aaron@colonialucc.org)
- Ministerial Intern: Shea Zellweger (shea.zellweger@colonialucc.org)
- Youth Group Leader: Michelle Turpen (michelle.turpen@gmail.com)
- Music Director: Kirk Carson (kirk.carson@yahoo.com)
- Bell Choir Director: Hayden Huggins
- Organist: Joseph Kern
- Church Administrator: Pauline Anthan (paulinea@colonialucc.org)
- Newsletter Editor: Sally Huggins (sallyhuggins@yahoo.com)
- Building Maintenance: Mike McGill
- Sound Engineer: Geoff Robinson