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Colonial Church
in Prairie Village

www.colonialucc.org
913-362-7735

December 24, 2016
6:00 p.m.

**The Colonial Church in Prairie Village—United Church of Christ
Christmas Eve Pageant Worship Service**

Please silence your electronic devices in preparation for worship.

* Please rise in body or spirit

We Gather as God's Beloved People

Gathering Music *Antioch* -Ferguson

Welcome Pastor Aaron Roberts
(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.)

Love Gift Presentation for Roberts' Family -Jayne Quimby, Moderator

Lighting the Candles of Advent and Christ Candle -The Terry Brown Family

* **Song of Praise — Refrain from Angels We Have Heard on High (#125)**
Gloria in excelsis Deo, Gloria in excelsis Deo!

* **Sharing God's Welcome** (Greet everyone in the hope that comes with Christ with a "Merry Christmas!")

Christmas Pageant

In Those Days Luke 2:1-5
Hymn #133 verses 1 & 4 *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

She Gave Birth Luke 2:6-7
Hymn #124 verses 1 & 2 *Away in a Manger*

There Were Shepherds Out in the Fields Luke 2:8
Hymn #139 verses 1 & 2 *The First Nowell*

The Angels of the Lord Appeared Luke 2:9
Hymn #144 verses 1 & 3 *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

The Shepherd Said, Let Us Go Luke 2:15-16
Hymn #131 verses 1 & 2 *It Came upon the Midnight Clear*

All Who Heard It Wondered Luke 2:17-19
Hymn #135 verses 1 & 3 *Adeste Fideles (O Come, All Ye Faithful)*

Wise Men from the East Matthew 2:1-2
Hymn on page 3 verses 1-4 *We Three Kings*

They Knelt Down and Worshipped Him Matthew 2:9-11
Offertory Hymn #132 *Joy to the World*

We Depart to Serve

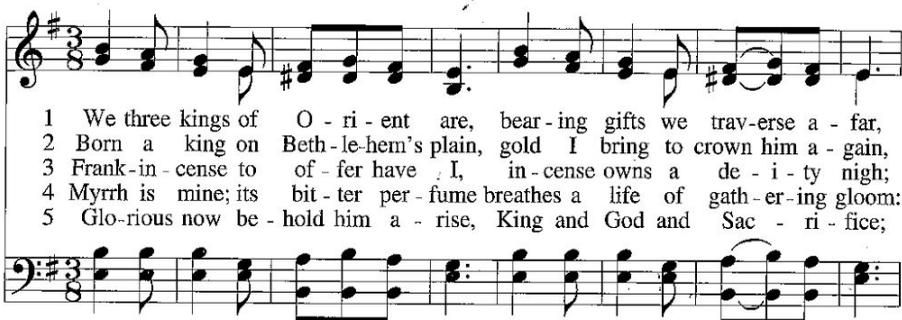
*** Sharing Christ's Light**

(We share light from the Christ candle. Our ushers will then light the candle of the first worshiper in each pew. In this way we share the light that God has given to each of us.)

*** Hymn #134** *Silent Night, Holy Night*

*** Benediction and Postlude** *// Est Né* -Hudson

We Three Kings of Orient Are

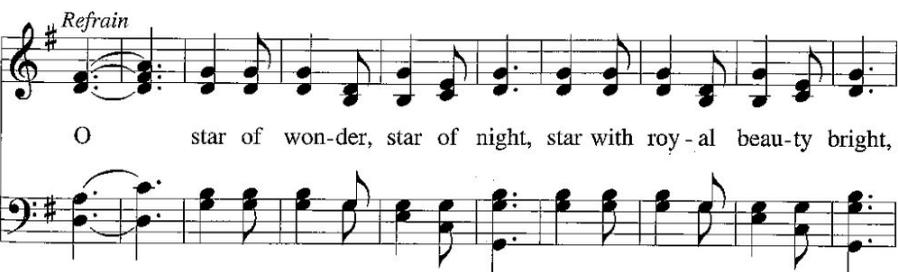


1 We three kings of O - ri - ent are, bear - ing gifts we trav - erse a - far,
 2 Born a king on Beth - le - hem's plain, gold I bring to crown him a - gain,
 3 Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I, in - cense owns a de - i - ty nigh;
 4 Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume breathes a life of gath - er - ing gloom;
 5 Glo - rious now be - hold him a - rise, King and God and Sac - ri - fice;

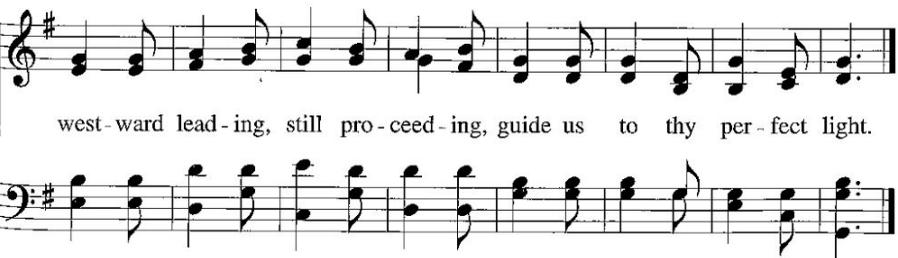


field and foun - tain, moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star.
 King for - ev - er, ceas - ing nev - er o - ver us all to reign.
 prayer and prais - ing, voic - es rais - ing, wor - ship - ing God on high.
 sor - rowing, sigh - ing, bleed - ing, dy - ing, sealed in the stone - cold tomb.
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! sounds through the earth and skies.

Refrain



O star of won - der, star of night, star with roy - al beau - ty bright,



west - ward lead - ing, still pro - ceed - ing, guide us to thy per - fect light.

Pageant Cast

Narrators: Paul Roberts
Liz Bender

Mary: Hannah Parker

Joseph: Archer Wright

Baby Jesus: George Donnelly

Angels: Grace Lybarger
Kim Kluding
Erin Bender
Lyda Cosgrove

Kings: Bella Hayden
Nicholas Herbst
Lucia Marquez-Uppman

Shepherds: Willa Cosgrove
Miles Roberts

Lighting: Adam Parker

Costumes: Linda Moses, Michelle Turpen, Martha Wofford

Director: Michelle Turpen

Videographer: Geoff Robinson
Head Usher: Linda Moses
Ushers: Linda Moses, Carolyn Pitts,
Bill Sanderson, Martha Wofford

United Church of Christ Mission Moment - God With Us Matthew 1:18-25

Joseph gets all the worrying jobs in the Christmas story. He's got to manage the fleeing into the desert and the journeying all the way to Egypt. He's got to do the packing of the donkey. And then there's all that anxiety about Herod's soldiers, as well as looking after a pregnant teenage girl. When it's time to return to Israel, he has to figure out where to live when new rulers make new fears. His dreams don't help. It was, after all, his dreams that got him into this mess. Are Joseph's dreams always bad and full of evil omens? Well, at least they keep his family safe. Responsibility and care must weigh heavily upon him. Some men, today, might resonate with Joseph's plight as the bearer of duty and dependability, especially as they make their way in a world that no longer values them as sole breadwinners, or upholds the image of the strong stoic male. What's a man to do?

The twenty-second General Synod of the United Church of Christ adopted a resolution about "Men's ministry in the United Church of Christ." Among the paragraphs beginning "whereas" is this:
WHEREAS, there is a need to support men as they seek growth in their relationship to God and to discover alternatives to relationships based on patriarchy and dominance.

So it is that many UCC churches have developed ongoing ministries for those who identify as male. Trinity Mt. Penn UCC in Reading, Pennsylvania, has a monthly group that endeavors to create a safe nonjudgmental space where they can get to know God and deepen their walk with Jesus. Christian Fellowship UCC in San Diego, California, a progressive, inclusive, Bible-based community of believers has a men's ministry that includes a re-enactment of the Last Supper during Holy Week. If you want to find a Men's Ministry Action Plan you can find one by searching at ucc.org.



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The Christmas Crier

December 24, 2016

Christmas is a sacred season. Like Mary and Joseph, we too are asked to carry God's love and deliver it into our world. Like the shepherds, we too are asked to hear "good news" even in the midst of our daily routines and darkest nights. Like the wise men, we, too, are asked to see signs and seek out God's justice that rules in ways people do not. Here at Colonial Church, we believe every person has a place and a purpose in God's world, no matter how young or how old, no matter your past or your present, no matter where you have been or where you are going. We are a community committed to loving others, serving our neighbors, and walking together in Christian love. Whether you are a member of Colonial, a family member, friend or visitor, may you experience the power and presence of God here in our sanctuary. And, may you take the light and love of Christ out into the night.

*Peace and Blessings,
Aaron Roberts*

Visiting Colonial?

If you are searching for a safe place to explore your faith while learning and discerning how God's ways interface with your own...this is the community for you. If you are interested in finding people who want to put their faith into practice...this is the community for you. If you need to experience God's grace and mercy in ordinary people and places...this is the community for you. If you would like more information about Colonial Church or the UCC, please visit: www.colonialucc.org.

The Christmas Fund

There are red offering envelopes in the pew racks for the Christmas Fund, the UCC appeal for retired clergy with limited means. In this season of giving, please remember the folks who have worked so hard for the church, and now need our help.

White Privilege: Let's Talk

Our commitment to the work of racial justice includes the work of seeing and healing our spiritual wounds. Beginning the week after Martin Luther King Jr. Day Weekend, we are going to begin the challenging work to engage and reduce the impact of white privilege. Everyone is encouraged and invited to be part. Four Sessions – Jan. 22 and 29, Feb. 25 and March 5 immediately after 10:15 a.m. worship service. Each session will be about 2 hours. Pizza lunch (donations accepted). Childcare available. Signup in the narthex or online at <http://tinyurl.com/Colonial-privilege>.

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.

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. Service and fellowship activities are planned throughout the year.

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

Watch our Weekly Services and Sermons—You can watch our worship services on YouTube at <http://tinyurl.com/colonialworship-online> and get the sermon, bulletin and study guide on our website. Our 10:15am worship service is live-streamed, so please contact the church office if you have a privacy concern.

www.colonialucc.org—Learn more about Colonial and its programs.

Social Media— Stay up to date with what's happening at Colonial through Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/colonialucc>; Instagram: [colonial_ucc](#); Twitter: [#ColonialUCC](#); Follow Pastor Aaron: [@PastorARoberts](#)

COLONIAL STAFF

Senior Minister: Rev. Aaron Roberts (aaron@colonialucc.org)

Connecting Minister: Rev. Lisa Tierney (lisa.tierney@colonialucc.org)

Youth Group Leader: Michelle Turpen (michelle.turpen@colonialucc.org)

Sunday School Superintendent: Camille Breckenridge (camille.breckenridge@colonialucc.org)

Music Director: Kirk Carson (kirk.carson@yahoo.com)

Bell Choir Director: Hayden Ferguson

Organist: Dr. Joseph Kern

Church Administrator: Pauline Anthan (paulinea@colonialucc.org)

Newsletter Editor: Sally Huggins (sallyhuggins@yahoo.com)

Building Maintenance: Mike McGill (mike.mcgill@colonialucc.org)