



(Ecumenism symbol from St.-Anna-Kirche Augsburg used with permission.)

**A God without wrath brought people without sin
into a kingdom without judgment through the
ministrations of a Christ without a cross.**

-Rev. HR Neibhur's Critique of Mainline Theology



www.colonialucc.org
913-362-7735

February 26, 2017
10:15 a.m.

The Colonial Church in Prairie Village—United Church of Christ
The Mystery of the Cross Sunday Worship Service
in the series “No Certain Faith”

Please silence your electronic devices in preparation for worship.

* Please rise in body or spirit

We Gather as God’s Beloved People

Gathering Music

Houston

-Wold

Welcome and Call to Worship

(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.)

Leader: God is good...

People: all the time!

Leader: All the time...

People: God is good!

We Hear a Word from God

A Word in Music

A City Called Heaven

-arr. Josephine Poelinitz

*** A Time of Confession - Psalm 22:1-2**

Invitation to Confession

Prayer of Confession

My God! My God, why have you left me all alone?

Why are you so far from saving me—so far from my anguished groans?

My God, I cry out during the day, but you don't answer...

Silent Meditation

Assurance of Grace

* **Sung Response — 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, let it shine.

The Meaning of the Cross

Christ the Victor Atonement

Colossians 2:14-15 [Christ] destroyed the record of the debt we owed, with its requirements that worked against us. He canceled it by nailing it to the cross. When he disarmed the rulers and authorities, he exposed them to public disgrace by leading them in a triumphal parade.

* **Hymn #439** ***A Mighty Fortress Is Our God***

A Time of Gifts and Offerings

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory *Jesus, My Joy* -Dupre
 (Our weekly offering includes food collected in the red wagon to help fill local pantries.)

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:
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.

* Blessing the Offering

May our giving be a reflection of your, LORD.

Bless what we sacrifice now to be part of your work of compassion, mercy and justice in our world. Amen.

Satisfaction Atonement (aka Substitutionary)

Isaiah 53:4-5 It was certainly our sickness that he carried, and our sufferings that he bore, but we thought him afflicted, struck down by God and tormented. He was pierced because of our rebellions and crushed because of our crimes. He bore the punishment that made us whole; by his wounds we are healed.

* Hymn #226

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

A 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.). These 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.

Moral Influence Atonement

Ephesians 4:12-13 [God's] purpose was to equip people for the work of serving and building up the body of Christ until we all reach the unity of faith and knowledge of God's Son. God's goal is for us to become mature adults—to be fully grown, measured by the standard of the fullness of Christ.

* **Hymn #436**

God of Grace and God of Glory

We Depart to Serve

* **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**

Ein feste Burg

-Bender

Liturgist:

Bruce Wofford

Videographer:

Geoff Robinson

Worship Graphics Operator:

Hayden Ferguson

Children's Conversation:

Darren Carpenter

Hospitality Table:

Rosalie Henry

Head Usher:

Harry Morrison

Ushers:

Stacy Huggins, Harry & Kendra Morrison

Bill Yohn

Colonial Church Bible Study Guide

Our 10:00am Thursday morning Bible Study is beginning a read through of the entire Bible over the course of a few years. Each week we will meet to discuss the readings and explore any questions that come up. If you would like to take part in the study, simply come on Thursdays or signup for the group via InFellowship from the church website.

Keep the simple point in mind: our primary purpose is not simply learning information about the Bible. It is hearing God speak.

This week's readings:

Sunday, February 26 - Worship

Monday, February 27 - Read Genesis 42:1-38 - The Family Comes to Egypt

Tuesday, February 28 - Read Matthew 13:1-23 - Parable of the Soils

Wednesday, March 1 - Read Matthew 13:24-58 - Parables

Thursday, March 2 - Bible Study at 10am at Colonial Church

Friday, March 3 - No Readings

Saturday, March 4 - Read Genesis 43 - The Brothers Come Back - with Ben

United Church of Christ Mission Moment - February 26, 2017

Dazzling Reign

Matthew 17: 1-9

Spoiler alert: The Son of Man may lose his life on the cross, but in the end he will return and shine as the sun. In a sentence, that's kind of what the Transfiguration is – a spoiler. It lets the disciples know that even as Jesus has just predicted his death on a cross they needn't fear, they needn't worry, because he is unstoppable – he is, after all, the beloved Son of God. And, because of this mountaintop vision they can hold that dazzling vision and it will give them hope in the frightening days ahead.

A Transfiguration is more than a makeover, more than a new, whiter robe and a spotlight. It's a change in form to something different, more essential and more spiritual. But the Jesus that went up the mountain was the same one who came down. He didn't change, he just got unmasked. What the disciples saw on that mountaintop was not a different Jesus but the real Jesus. There with Moses and Elijah he was himself, revealed to them so they would know for sure who they were traveling with and who, when the day came, they would watch die. This is no ordinary rabbi, no regular teacher, and, as good as he was to them, he was more than they understood.

Wouldn't it be something remarkable to see the world that way, to see the glow of divine creation inside everything? Poets do that, don't they? They look at the world and transfigure it with words, revealing the dazzle and light we missed. Gerard Manley Hopkins, famed English poet, wrote of Jesus Christ in his poem "Pied Beauty,"

*With swift, slow; sweet, sour; adazzle, dim;
He fathers forth whose beauty is past change:
Praise him.*

You are here

Sharing Calendar

“Let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action.” —1 John 3:18

For ideas on how to use this calendar, visit ucc.org/oghs/resources

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
I was hungry...	<p>*...Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to the disciples and said, 'Take, eat; this is my body.' (Matthew 26:26). Give 2 units in thanksgiving for Jesus' incarnation.</p>	<p>800 million people in the world do not regularly have enough to eat. Give 1 unit for every meal you eat today.</p>	<p>In 2016, droughts caused severe food shortages in Ethiopia, Central America, and elsewhere. Give 1 unit for every grocery store in your town or neighborhood.</p>	<p>Since 1990, the number of malnourished people in the developing world has fallen by almost half, thanks to food security and development projects! Give 1 unit in celebration of this progress and 1 unit to continue the work.</p>	<p>Being able to start a vegetable garden with seeds provided through OGHS, partners can provide food and economic security. Give 1 unit for each vegetable in your refrigerator.</p>	<p>The U.S. wastes 33 million tons of food, \$465 billion worth each year. Give 1 unit in repentance for each food item that has gone bad in your refrigerator or pantry this week.</p>	<p>*I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat." Give 3 units to provide food for someone who is hungry.</p>
I was thirsty...	<p>*A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink.' (John 4:7). We remember that Jesus shared in the human experience of thirst. Give 1 unit for every drink you have today.</p>	<p>663 million people worldwide do not have regular access to clean water. Give 1 unit for every water bottle in your home.</p>	<p>Rain collection, cisterns, and irrigation systems help communities mitigate drought conditions. Give 1 unit if you have ever collected rain water, or 2 units if you have never collected rain water.</p>	<p>1.9 billion people have gained access to clean drinking water since 1990. Give 2 units in celebration.</p>	<p>Women and girls in Africa and Asia often spend more than 6 hours collecting water every day. Give 2 units if your commute was less than 6 hours today.</p>	<p>The water crisis in Flint, MI brought to public attention the severe effects of contaminants in water supplies and the importance of good infrastructure. Give 1 unit for every tap in your home.</p>	<p>*I was thirsty, and you gave me something to drink." Give 3 units to increase access to clean water by helping communities build wells, small dams, cisterns, and filtration systems.</p>
I was a stranger...	<p>"you are no longer strangers...but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God" (Ephesians 2:19). Give 2 units in celebration of the full household of God.</p>	<p>More than 65 million people have been forcibly displaced from their homes world-wide. Give 1 unit for every room in your home where you feel safe.</p>	<p>*Jesus said, 'Let the little children come to me.' (Mark 10:14) More than 2,000 children are being held in family detention centers in the US awaiting asylum hearings. Give 1 unit for every child in your family.</p>	<p>OGHS congregations help resettle refugees in the United States every year. This year the numbers of refugees will increase. Give 2 units in celebration.</p>	<p>Nearly 10 million displaced persons are categorized as stateless (not considered a national of any country). Give 1 unit for every US citizen in your household.</p>	<p>Poverty and hunger are key reasons people leave from Latin America to immigrate to the U.S. Give 2 units to help address these root causes.</p>	<p>*I was a stranger, and you welcomed me." Give 3 units to support relief and resettlement efforts for refugees and humanitarian responses for immigrants.</p>
I was sick...	<p>"But a Samaritan while traveling came near him... He went to him and bandaged his wounds, brought him to an inn, and took care of him" (Luke 10:33-34). Give 2 units in thankfulness for those who show mercy.</p>	<p>Waterborne illnesses kill more people than all forms of war and violence combined. Access to clean water and adequate sanitation can prevent the spread of these illnesses. Give 1 unit for every toilet in your home.</p>	<p>In 2015, more than 300,000 women died from maternal causes. Give 2 units if the women you know have access to reproductive care.</p>	<p>Since 2000, global rates of HIV/AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis, and several other major diseases have seen decreases of 40% or more. Give 3 units in celebration of these efforts.</p>	<p>OGHS partners help provide basic medical supplies and psychological care to thousands of people living in refugee camps. Give 1 unit for every bottle of medicine in your home.</p>	<p>Environmental toxins such as fertilizers and industrial waste, contribute to weakened immune responses, especially in children. Give 1 unit if anyone in your family has recovered from an illness this year.</p>	<p>*I was sick, and you took care of me." Give 3 units to help provide medical care and prevent illness around the world.</p>



The Sunday Crier

February 26, 2017

Sunday Night at the Movies Tonight

Please join us at 5:30 p.m. tonight for the monthly Sunday Night Movie, hosted this week by Carolyn and Jules. We'll be viewing "The Adjustment Bureau" (2011), starring Matt Damon and Emily Blunt. "Do we control our destiny, or do unseen forces manipulate us? A man glimpses the future Fate has planned for him and realizes he wants something else." (IMDB) Mysterious forces seem to be at play, keeping these two lovers from being together. Popcorn and sodas will be provided. Feel free to bring a snack to share.

Ash Wednesday Imposition of Ashes

Colonial is observing Ash Wednesday, March 1, from 7:30-9:00 a.m. with a drive-thru imposition of ashes. Pastor Aaron will be in the driveway in front of the church to place ashes in the sign of the cross on the foreheads of the faithful. All who choose to avail themselves of this opportunity are welcome to participate as the season of Lent begins the 40-day period of prayer leading to Easter.

Opportunities to Expand Your Circle of Friends — The next few weeks will offer many opportunities to expand your circle of friends among members of the Muslim faith. Dialogue Institute of the Southwest is sponsoring their 12th annual Friendship Dinner on April 6. The Justice and Witness Committee is sponsoring a table; speak to a member of the committee if you would like to attend. March 26 will be Baklava Day in the Heritage Room after the second service. Turkish Baklava is a treat not to be missed. Watch the bulletin board in the narthex for dates and descriptions of lessons in the Turkish language, cooking lessons and classes in water marbling held in the Institute building at 4215 Shawnee Drive. Brunch is served each Saturday at that location with a speaker on a variety of topics. Best of all, watch for information about sharing light meals, evening discussions and other small group meetings to share more about customs, beliefs and stories. Members of the Justice and Witness Committee will answer questions, help schedule meetings and share thoughts on how we can support those who share our Abrahamic roots.

*Altar
Flowers*

The beautiful flowers on the altar are given by RANDY AND SUE FREEMAN.

HIGHLIGHTS

Giving Up Paper Bulletins for Lent — To be more eco-friendly, the Board of Worship is going to try giving up paper bulletins for Lent beginning next Sunday. We'll still have copies of the Sunday Crier with an outline of that Sunday's worship order.

Centering Prayer for Lent — Instead of giving up something for Lent this year, why not try a new spiritual practice? Join us for a new session of Centering Prayer during Lent. On March 5, 12, 19, 26, and April 2 and 9, we'll meet in the Preschool room downstairs between 9:30 and 10:00. We'll spend a little time checking in and talking about Centering Prayer and then we'll pray together. No preparation is necessary; all are welcome. For more information, contact Elizabeth Uppman at elizabethuppman@kc.surewest.net.

Children's Conversation Team Members Needed! — The Board of Worship is looking for additional people to join the Children's Conversation Team. This requires an individual to participate approximately seven times a year and to give a 3-minute Children's Conversation during our 10:15 a.m. service. The conversation usually compliments the minister's sermon for that Sunday, but is not a requirement. If you are interested please contact Linda Moses, Chair of Board of Worship (913-642-1335 or luvslife48@gmail.com). We need your help!

Looking for Friendly People — The Board of Member Development is looking for volunteers who enjoy meeting new people to staff the hospitality table on Sunday mornings. This is a good opportunity for somebody who likes to come to worship and doesn't like to go to meetings! If you're interested, contact Elizabeth Uppman at 913-231-0231.

Vacation Bible School 2017 — Save the date for Maker Fun Factory on July 11-14 at Colonial!

Colonial Women Activities

- **Alden Guild.** Thursday, March 2, 6:00 p.m., Cactus Grill, 11849 Roe, Leawood, KS
- **Breakfast and Coffee.** Monday, March 6, 9:30 a.m., Big Biscuit.
- **Blue Moose Tuesday.** Tuesday, March 14, 5:30 p.m., Prairie Village.
- **Book Group.** Friday, March 24, 7:00 p.m., home of Stacey Algren. Discuss the book *When Breath Becomes Air* by Paul Kalanithi.

Thinking About Becoming a Member of Colonial Church? — A New Member class is starting up in March, a perfect opportunity for anyone new to our community who is curious about joining. You'll meet your fellow seekers, learn more about this community, and find ways of serving God with us. Led by Stacy Lybarger with help from guest speakers, the class will meet on March 5, 26 and April 2, at 9:15 a.m. Join us!

Adult Christian Education Series — We are turning to CS Lewis' "Mere Christianity" for our monthly topics. "Mere Christianity" was written after the Second World War, but it addresses some of the basics of faith and morality. His writing is simple and profound. March 5 - Christian Behaviour; April 9 (Palm Sunday) - Beyond Personality: Or First Steps in the Doctrine of the Trinity

TODAY, February 26

8:30 am—Worship
 9:15—That Was the Week That Was, Library
 10:15—Worship
 10:30—Sunday School
 11:30—White Privilege Seminar, Social Hall
 2:00 pm—AHH Cooking, Social Hall Kitchen
 4:00 pm—OWL, Youth Room
 5:30 pm—Movie Night, Heritage Room

TUESDAY, February 28

9:30 am—Book Group, Heritage Room

WEDNESDAY, March 1

7:30 -9:00 a.m.—Ash Wednesday Imposition of Ashes, front drive
 9:30 am—Visit with Pastor Aaron, Einstein Brothers - Prairie Village Shops
 7:00 pm—Colonial Choir, Choir Room

THURSDAY, March 2

10:00 am—Bible Study, Pastor's Office
 12:30 pm—Justice & Witness Committee, Library
 6:00 pm—Alden Guild, Cactus Grill
 6:30pm--AA, Oberlin Room

FRIDAY, March 3

8:30 am—Quiltmakers, Social Hall

SUNDAY, March 5

8:30 am—Worship
 9:15 am--Bd. of Outreach, Oberlin Room
 9:15 am--Adult Christian Education, Cambridge Room
 9:15—That Was the Week That Was, Library
 9:15—New Member Class, Social Hall
 9:30—Centering Prayer, Preschool Room
 10:15—Worship
 10:30—Sunday School
 11:30—White Privilege Seminar, Social Hall

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)