



(Trading Places used with permission by the United Church of Christ)

The American experiment has always depended on a measure of tolerance and good sense.

-David Ignatius



www.colonialucc.org
913-362-7735

February 5, 2017
10:15 a.m.

**The Colonial Church in Prairie Village—United Church of Christ
Do I Need Religion? Scout 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

Gammal fäbodpsalm

-Lindberg

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!

* **Opening Hymn #591**

This Is My Song

* **Scout Sunday Litany**

Leader: When facing deceit and dishonesty, let us be Trustworthy.

People: If we see hypocrisy and faithlessness, let us be Loyal.

Leader: Where disregard of others and mere materialism prevail, let us be Helpful and Friendly.

People: In an atmosphere of ill manner, let us be Courteous.

Leader: Where some measure manliness in brutality and crudeness, let us be Kind.

People: Though law-breaking and rule-scoffing are common, let us be Obedient.

Leader: While others grumble and grouch, let us be Cheerful.

People: In an environment blighted by waste and extravagance, let us be Thrifty.

Leader: When confronted with danger and temptation, let us be Brave.

People: **As we see filth and pollution everywhere, let us be Clean.**
While witnessing a lack of respect to God, let us remember to be Reverent.

* **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.

We Hear a Word from God

A Word Proclaimed

-Pastor Aaron Roberts

Fear of Being Religiously Deceived

1 Timothy 4:1-3 The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons. Such teachings come through hypocritical liars, whose consciences have been seared as with a hot iron. They forbid people to marry and order them to abstain from certain foods...

Matthew 24:24 [Jesus warned:] False christs and false prophets will appear, and they will offer great signs and wonders in order to deceive, if possible, even those whom God has chosen.

A Verse Sometimes Used as “Clobber Verse”

John 14:6 Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

A Perspective on Science versus Theology

Science is concerned with the question, How?—By what process do things happen?

Theology is concerned with the question, Why?—Is there a meaning and purpose behind what is happening?

Religious Reductionist View

All religions are essentially the same boiled down to the Golden Rule.

Those Who Want to Go Deeper to Catch a Glimpse of the Divine

Exodus 33:18-23 Moses said, "Please show me your glorious presence."

The LORD said, "I'll make all my goodness pass in front of you, and I'll proclaim before you the name, 'The LORD.' I will be kind to whomever I wish to be kind, and I will have compassion to whomever I wish to be compassionate. But," the LORD said, "you can't see my face because no one can see me and live."

The LORD said, "Here is a place near me where you will stand beside the rock. As my glorious presence passes by, I'll set you in a gap in the rock, and I'll cover you with my hand until I've passed by. Then I'll take away my hand, and you will see my back, but my face won't be visible."

Express your thoughts via social media #ColonialUCC

A Word in Our Holy Meal

Communion Prayer

Leader: God, you are with us.

People: You are always with us.

Leader: May we open our hearts.

People: May we know your presence...

Leader: ...in thanksgiving...

People: ...and in deepest honor and reverence.

Leader: Therefore, with people of every nation, tribe, and language, with the whole Church throughout the ages, we bring ourselves: all that we are, and all that we are not, joyfully giving thanks and singing:

Sung Response — *Sanctus* #793

Holy, holy, holy, my heart, my heart adores you!

My heart is glad to say the words: you are holy, God.

Consecration of the Bread and Cup

Pastor: Holy God, we honor you in whom our lives are founded, and in whom our futures lie.

People: We remember and honor also the human searching over the centuries that has perceived your presence and meaning for all of life.

Pastor: Above all we honor Jesus, our Christ, whose life and death and resurrection reveal the true nature of your being and the potential nature of ours.

We remember that, on the night before his death, Jesus, took a cup and giving thanks, he said, "Take this and share it among yourselves. This cup is the new covenant by my blood, which is poured out for you."

Taking the bread and giving thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In light of this, we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

**All: Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ's Spirit renews our lives.**

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

(Come forward and take a piece of bread, then dip only the bread into the chalice – no fingers please. Return to your seat by the outside row. Our choir will sing, *The Lord Bless You and Keep You* by Douglas Helvering.)

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Eternal, loving God, we thank you for this simple meal that brings the spirit and reality of Christ into our hearts, and brings us closer to you. May our lives be sustained and inspired by your love. May your love touch others through us. Amen.

We Respond with Gratitude and Prayer

A Time of Gifts and Offerings

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory *Praise to Thee, Jesus Christ* -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

O God, please take these gifts and multiply them. Let them be a means to create the justice and peace you long for in this world. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

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.

We Depart to Serve

- * **Hymn #594 vs 1-3** *How Beautiful, Our Spacious Skies*

- * **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** *Finlandia* -Kern

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| Liturgist: | Cheri Van Orman |
| Videographer: | Geoff Robinson |
| Worship Graphics Operator: | Miles Roberts |
| Children's Conversation: | Marilyn Uppman |
| Hospitality Table: | Jayne Quimby |
| Head Usher: | Harry Morrison |
| Ushers: | Howard Lee, 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 5 - Worship

Monday, February 6 - Read Read Genesis 38:1-30 - Judah and Tamar

Tuesday, February 7 - Read Matthew 13:1-23 - Parable of the Soils

Wednesday, February 8 - Read Matthew 13:24-58 - Parables

Thursday, February 9 - Bible Study at 10am at Colonial Church

Friday, February 10 - No Readings

Saturday, February 11 - Read Read Genesis 39:1-23 - Joseph and Potiphar



The Sunday Crier

February 5, 2017

Congregational Meeting Today

The congregational meeting to present and approve the 2017 budget will be today after the 8:30 and 10:15 a.m. services.

Report from the Women's March on Washington

Colonial's Justice and Witness Committee presents a firsthand report on the Women's March on Washington this morning after the congregational meeting. Colonial members who traveled to Washington, DC for the march will talk about their experiences, share pictures, and stick around to chat.

Colonial Friends to Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art

In February, Colonial Friends will visit the Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art. We will meet in the church parking lot Wednesday, February 15 at 10:30 a.m., organize carpools and depart by 10:45. The guided tour will begin at 11:15 and will last approx one hour. Lunch will be at Café Sebastienne in the museum. Only cost is your lunch. Please contact Bill or Sharon Yohn (913-339-9862 or hohum2@comcast.net) for reservations.

Trivia Night 2017

Sign up today in the narthex for our annual Trivia Night on Saturday, February 25, at 6:00 p.m, Social Hall. Teams will be comprised of six people. If you don't have a team, we'll help you find a spot on a team. The cost is \$60 per team and you can pay that evening. Bring snacks to share with the whole group. Beverages will be provided. Beer and wine tickets are \$2.00. Child care will be provided at the church but please let us know how many children you are bringing.

*Altar
Flowers*

The beautiful flowers on the altar are given by ED AND LEONORE ROWE in memory of our parents, the Rows and the Huntes.

HIGHLIGHTS

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.

Sermon Series: No Certain Faith

"The opposite of faith is not doubt: It is certainty." -Anne Lamott

There are people who believe they have all the truth, all the wisdom, all the divine favor. When this belief is reinforced religiously, these people can become very dangerous. In the weeks leading up to the season of Lent, we are going to explore living faithfully with our questions and doubts. Do I Need Religion? - today; What If I'm Wrong? - February 12; Does "Being Good" Count for Anything? - February 19; The Mystery of the Cross - February 26

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. February 12 - What Christians Believe; March 5 - Christian Behaviour; April 9 (Palm Sunday) - Beyond Personality: Or First Steps in the Doctrine of the Trinity. **Signup in the narthex or at <http://tinyurl.com/AdultEd2017>**

Vacation Bible School 2017

Save the date for Maker Fun Factory on July 11-14 at Colonial!

Colonial Women Activities

- **Coffee and Breakfast**, Monday, February 6, 9:30 a.m., Big Biscuit.
- **Blue Moose Tuesday**. Tuesday, February 14, 5:30 p.m., Prairie Village.
- **Mayflower Guild Ladies Lunch**. Thursday, February 16, 12:00 p.m., Tavern (106th & Mission Rd.). RSVP: Mary Penrose (Penrose.mary@gmail.com or 913-707-8904).
- **Book Group**. Friday, February 24, 7:00 p.m., home of Stephanie Graff. Discuss the book *The Art of Hearing Heartbeats* by Jan-Philipp Sendker. The novel is a poignant and inspirational love story set in Burma that spans the decades between the 1950s and the present. It tells a tale of unimaginable hardship, resilience, and passion that will reaffirm the reader's belief in the power of love to move mountains.

Fair Trade Coffee and Chocolate

The Justice and Witness Committee offers a selection of Fair Trade chocolate bars and ground coffee for purchase the second Sunday of the month following the 10:15 service. The next opportunity will be February 12.

THE WEEK AHEAD

TODAY, February 5

8:30 am—Worship
 9:15 am—Congregational Meeting, Sanctuary
 9:15—That Was the Week That Was, Library
 9:15 am—Board of Outreach, Oberlin Room
 10:15—Worship
 10:30—Sunday School
 11:15—Congregational Meeting, Sanctuary
 11:15—Coffee & Conversation, Heritage Room

MONDAY, February 6

9:30 am—Colonial Women Breakfast and Coffee, Big Biscuit

TUESDAY, February 7

8:00 am—Men's Breakfast Group, Perkins
 9:30 am—Book Group, Heritage Room

WEDNESDAY, February 8

9:30 am—Visit with Pastor Aaron, Einstein Brothers - Prairie Village Shops
 9:30 am—Writers Group, Heritage Room
 7:00 pm—Colonial Choir, Choir Room

THURSDAY, February 9

10:00 am—Bible Study, Pastor's Office
 6:30 pm—AA, Oberlin Room

SUNDAY, February 12

8:30 am—Worship
 9:15—That Was the Week That Was, Library
 9:15—Adult Christian Education, Cambridge Room
 10:15—Worship
 10:30—Sunday School
 11:15—Coffee & Conversation, Heritage Room
 11:30—Council, Social Hall
 4:00 pm—OWL, Oberlin Room

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)

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