



(Paseo Bridge used with permission by Vincent Parsons)

Faith is not believing ourselves into a new way of living but living ourselves into a new way of believing.

-Bill Tammeus



Colonial Church
in Prairie Village

www.colonialucc.org
913-362-7735

January 22, 2017
10:15 a.m.

**The Colonial Church in Prairie Village—United Church of Christ
 Are *Belief and Faith the Same Thing?* 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

Hankey

-Diemer

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 #436** *God of Grace and God of Glory*

A Time of Confession

Invitation to Confession

Prayer of Confession

We confess that we doubt. We sometimes wonder if whatever measure of belief we have, or once had, is lost. All around us there is fear and anger. We come here this morning hoping that you will save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore. Come to us again with the Good News that in the end all things will be put to right. Give us the courage to faith. Hear an honest prayer. Amen.

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.

We Hear a Word from God

A Word in Music

Fight the Good Fight

-Smith

A Word Proclaimed

-Pastor Aaron Roberts

An Honest Statement of Faith

Mark 9:17-24 Someone from the crowd said, "Teacher, I brought my son to you, since he has a spirit that doesn't allow him to speak. Wherever it overpowers him, it throws him into a fit. He foams at the mouth, grinds his teeth, and stiffens up. So I spoke to your disciples to see if they could throw it out, but they couldn't."

Jesus answered them, "You faithless generation, how long will I be with you? How long will I put up with you? Bring him to me."

They brought him. When the spirit saw Jesus, it immediately threw the boy into a fit. He fell on the ground and rolled around, foaming at the mouth. Jesus asked his father, "How long has this been going on?"

He said, "Since he was a child. It has often thrown him into a fire or into water trying to kill him. If you can do anything, help us! Show us compassion!"

Jesus said to him, "'If you can do anything'? All things are possible for the one who has faith."

At that the boy's father cried out, "I have faith; help my lack of faith!"

An Alternate Translation of the Boy's Father's Statement

"I believe! Help my lack of trust."

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego's Statement of Faith

Daniel 3:17-18 "If our God—the one we serve—is able to rescue us from the furnace of flaming fire and from your power, Your Majesty, then let him rescue us. *But if he doesn't*, know this for certain, Your Majesty: we will never serve your gods or worship the gold statue you've set up."

Express your thoughts via social media #ColonialUCC

We Respond with Gratitude and Prayer

* Hymn #562

Take My Gifts

A Time of Gifts and Offerings

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

Sweet Sweet Spirit

-Akers

-Laurel Weir, Kathy Huey, Kirk Carson, Phil Eatherton

(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

Take these gifts of gratitude, God. We pray that you use them to offer the world a taste of your Kingdom of peace and wholeness.

But, don't stop there.

Encourage each person to take an additional step of faith to do their part to work for Christ's Kingdom vision. 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 #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**

Lac qui Parle

-Diemer

Liturgist:

Carrie Roberts

Videographer:

Geoff Robinson

Worship Graphics Operator:

Hayden Ferguson

Children's Conversation:

Camille Breckenridge

Hospitality Table:

Elizabeth Uppman

Head Usher:

Allan Flentie

Ushers:

Loren Griffith, Linda Moses, Cheri Van Orman

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, January 22 - Worship

Monday, January 23 - Read Genesis 37:1-36 - Joseph's Dream and Arrogance

Tuesday, January 24 - Read Matthew 12:38-50 - The Sign of Jonah

Wednesday, January 25 - Read Matthew 13:1-23 - Parable of the Soils

Thursday, January 26 - Bible Study at 10am at Colonial Church

Friday, January 27 - No Readings

Saturday, January 28 - Read Genesis 38:1-30 - Judah and Tamar

United Church of Christ Mission Moment - January 22, 2017
Matthew 3:13-17

Jesus was not the first person baptized. It didn't begin with him. John was baptizing and Jesus was probably just standing in line. Indeed, John said, "You should be baptizing me." But Jesus indicates that this is the way to do things properly. John was the one baptizing, and Jesus wanted to follow the tradition.

In Zurich in the 16th century there was a big dust up about baptism. A Swiss gentleman named Manz disagreed with an important Reformed theologian named Zwingli about the efficacy of infant baptism. Manz didn't believe in it. He believed that the only baptism that counted was one in which the baptized understood what was happening and could speak for themselves. In infant baptism the parents speak for the baby. In fact Manz was encouraging people to be re-baptized. Manz got a lot of people all riled up about it and was imprisoned. Then, the Swiss council made re-baptizing punishable by death. On January 5, 1527 Manz was the first Swiss Anabaptist (those in favor of adult baptism) executed by other Protestants for a belief. They drowned him by tying his hands behind his back to a pole placed between his legs and throwing him in the water.

Today, the main Protestant denominations all recognize each other's baptisms, and we don't drown dissenters. In January, 2013, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, The Presbyterian Church (USA), Christian Reformed and the Reformed Church of America, and the United Church of Christ signed a document known as the "Common Agreement on Mutual Recognition of Baptism." The next time a baby is baptized in your church, listen again to the words of the pastor and imagine how much has changed since Jesus stepped in that water to be baptized by John.



The Sunday Crier

January 22, 2017

White Privilege: Let's Talk - Discussion Begins Today

Our commitment to the work of racial justice includes the work of seeing and healing our spiritual wounds. Beginning today, 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 – today and Jan. 29, Feb. 26 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>.

Sunday Movie Night Is Tonight

This month's movie night features "Paper Clips." Whitwell Middle School in rural Tennessee is the setting for this 2004 documentary about an extraordinary experiment in Holocaust education. Struggling to grasp the concept of six-million Holocaust victims, the students decide to collect six million paper clips to better understand the extent of this crime against humanity. The film details how the students met Holocaust survivors from around the world and how the experience transformed them and their community. Please join us today at 5:30 p.m. in the Heritage Room for popcorn and soft drinks. You are welcome to bring a snack to share.

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.

Are Belief and Faith the Same Thing? - today; Is the Bible True? - January 29; Do I Need Religion? - February 5; What If I'm Wrong? - February 12; Does "Being Good" Count for Anything? - February 19; The Mystery of the Cross - February 26.

*Altar
Flowers*

The beautiful flowers on the altar are given by KATHY HUEY in memory of her Mama.

HIGHLIGHTS

Giving Statements

The Giving Statements for 2016 have been mailed. If you gave in 2016 and did not receive a statement or if you have a question regarding the one you received, please call the church office (913-362-7735).

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.

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>**

Colonial Women Activities

- **Alden Guild**, Thursday, February 2, 6:00 p.m., Lemon Grass, 7316 W. 80th, downtown Overland Park.
- **Coffee and Breakfast**, Monday, February 6, 9:30 a.m., Big Biscuit.
- **Blue Moose Tuesday**. Tuesday, February 14, 5:30 p.m., Prairie Village.
- **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.

Feed the Hungry Donations

Thanks to all who make a habit of bringing a contribution of food for the red wagon in the narthex. Each Sunday the contents are delivered to the Village Church Food Pantry, who distribute items to patrons all over the Kansas City area. Some of you find it more convenient to write a check for the collection plate marked "Food Pantry" on the memo line. The food pantry uses these dollars to purchase items from Harvesters at a very good price. You do make a difference. Be a part!

Colonial's Inclement Weather Policy

The policy for weekdays is to close the church office whenever the Shawnee Mission School District cancels classes for inclement weather. Canceling activities, other than worship services, is the responsibility of the person in charge.

THE WEEK AHEAD

TODAY, January 22

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

MONDAY, January 23

9:30 am—Colonial Women Board, Oberlin Room
 6:00 pm—Administrative Board, Oberlin Room

TUESDAY, January 24

9:30 am—Book Group, Heritage Room
 7:00 pm—Stephen Ministers, Pastor's Office

WEDNESDAY, January 25

9:30 am—Visit with Pastor Aaron, Einstein Brothers - Prairie Village Shops
 6:00 pm—Board of Worship, Oberlin Room
 7:00 pm—Colonial Choir, Choir Room

THURSDAY, January 26

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

SUNDAY, January 29

8:30 am—Worship
 9:15—That Was the Week That Was, Library
 10:15—Worship
 10:30—Sunday School
 11:15—Coffee & Conversation, Heritage Room
 11:30—White Privilege Discussion, 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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Bell Choir Director: Hayden Ferguson

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