



*(Different used with permission by Village9991)*

**Never trust anyone  
who says they do not see color.  
this means to them, you are invisible.**

**-Nayyirah Waheed**



[www.colonialucc.org](http://www.colonialucc.org)  
913-362-7735

January 8, 2017  
10:15 a.m.

**The Colonial Church in Prairie Village—United Church of Christ  
“Healing Our Blindness” Sunday 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**

*Winchester New*

-Neswick

**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 #179 *We Yearn, O Christ, for Wholeness***

**A Time of Confession**

Invitation to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Leader: You created us in divine likeness, diverse and beautiful: In every person, every race is your image.

**People: But too often we fail to recognize your image in all: Forgive us.**

Leader: You created us in divine freedom, to be free: In every decision, every choice is your possibility of justice.

**People: But too often we fail to choose to advocate for your justice for all: Forgive us.**

Leader: You created us for divine abundance, to tend and share: In every garden, every social structure is your seed of community.

**People:** **But too often we fail to create that community which includes all, and gives to all equal access to your abundant life: Forgive us.**

**Leader:** Forgive us:  
 Open our eyes to distinguish good from evil.  
 Open our hearts to desire good over evil.  
 Strengthen our wills to choose good over evil,  
 So that we may create among us your beloved community.

Silent Meditation

Assurance of Grace

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

\* **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.***

### **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**

*Namaste*

-Mark Hayes

**A Word Proclaimed**

-Pastor Aaron Roberts

### **About Hiding Effectively...**

**Genesis 27:41-28:2** Esau was furious at Jacob because his father had blessed him, and Esau said to himself, When the period of mourning for the death of my father is over, I will kill my brother.

Rebekah was told what her older son Esau was planning, so she summoned her younger son Jacob and said to him, "Esau your brother is planning revenge. He plans to kill you. So now, my son, listen to me: Get up and escape to my brother Laban in Haran. Live with him for a short while until your brother's rage subsides, until your brother's anger at you goes away and he forgets what you did to him. Then I will send for you and bring you back from there. Why should I suffer the loss of both of you on one day?"

Rebekah then said to Isaac, "I really loathe these Hittite women. If Jacob marries one of the Hittite women, like the women of this land, why should I go on living?"

So Isaac summoned Jacob, blessed him, and gave him these orders: "Don't marry a Canaanite woman. Get up and go to Paddan-aram, to the household of Bethuel, your mother's father, and once there, marry one of the daughters of Laban, your mother's brother."

### **Hope for Healing Transformation**

**Romans 12:16-18** Consider everyone as equal, and don't think that you're better than anyone else. Instead, associate with people who have no status. Don't think that you're so smart. Don't pay back anyone for their evil actions with evil actions, but show respect for what everyone else believes is good. If possible, to the best of your ability, live at peace with all people.

Express your thoughts via social media #ColonialUCC

## **We Respond with Gratitude and Prayer**

### **Church Affirmation of New Stephen Ministers**

#### Recognition of Gifts

Leader: There are different spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit gives them.

**People: There are different ways of serving, but the same God is honored.**

Leader: There are different abilities to perform ministry, but the same God enables us with what is necessary.

**People: The Spirit is shown in each person for the good of all.**

Leader: Christ's church is like a body which has many parts.

**People: Though we are many, we are one.**

Leader: If one part suffers, all suffer.

**People: If one part is praised, all are praised. We are all one body, and each of us is a part of it.**

#### Commitment to Honor the Ministry

**We thank God for the Christian ministry of these Stephen Ministers. We promise to love them, respect their leadership, and work with them so that we may be a faithful church of Jesus Christ.**

### **A Time of Gifts and Offerings**

#### Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

*We Christians*

-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

**As women and men develop and use their gifts following Christ's Way of living, there is hope for peace and mercy in our world. As a church community we commit ourselves to this Way of holy compassion and love as we offer our gifts today. 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.**



## 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 8 - Worship

Monday, January 9 - Read Genesis 37:1-36 - Joseph's Dream and Arrogance

Tuesday, January 10 - Read Matthew 12:1-32 - Many Teachings of Jesus

Wednesday, January 11 - Matthew 12:33-50 - More Teachings

Thursday, January 12 - Bible Study at 10am at Colonial Church

Friday, January 13 - No Readings

Saturday, January 14 - Read Genesis 38:1-30 - Judah and Tamar





## *The Sunday Crier*

January 8, 2017

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### **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. 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>.

### **Adult Christian Education Series**

Beginning today, we're going to turn 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. Today - Right and Wrong as a Clue to the Meaning of the Universe; February 12 - What Christians Believe; March 5 - Christian Behaviour; April 9 (Palm Sunday) - Beyond Personality: Or First Steps in the Doctrine of the Trinity. At each session, we'll discuss the reading. First, to understand the point that CS Lewis is making, then your response to him. **Signup in the narthex or at <http://tinyurl.com/AdultEd2017>**

### **Sunday Movie Night Is January 22**

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 on Sunday, January 22, at 5:30 p.m. in the Heritage Room for popcorn and soft drinks. You are welcome to bring a snack to share.

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*Altar  
Flowers*

The beautiful flowers on the altar are given by MARY BURNETT AND KEN WERNE in loving memory of their family.

## HIGHLIGHTS

### Women's March on Washington

Plymouth Congregational Church in Lawrence, KS is chartering a bus to Washington, DC, for the Women's March on Washington planned for Jan. 21, 2017. The bus will depart from Plymouth (925 Vermont St, Lawrence, KS) on Thursday evening, Jan. 19 and return on Sunday, Jan. 22. Cost is \$100 for the bus. **Today is the deadline to register.** Register online at <https://goo.gl/forms/FvXnuVxRj0mFc00H2>. Plymouth organizers are in touch with UCC churches in Virginia and Washington, D.C. to coordinate home stays and/or church stays for Friday night. Participants will be on the bus all night Thursday and all night Saturday.

### Fair Trade Coffee and Chocolate

The Justice and Witness Committee will offer a selection of Fair Trade chocolate bars and ground coffee for purchase today in the narthex following the 10:15 service.

### Colonial Women Activities

- **Blue Moose Tuesday.** Tuesday, January 10, 5:30 p.m., Prairie Village..
- **Book Group.** Friday, January 13, 7:00 p.m., Stephanie Graff's home. We are reading "Who Asked You?" by Terry McMillan. All are welcome.
- **Coffee and Breakfast,** Monday, February 6, 9:30 a.m., Big Biscuit.

### 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!

### Prescription Bottles

Empty prescription bottles, any size, are needed for a veterinarian clinic that specializes in charity work. Please remove your name or any prescription information. Place in box labeled Veterinarian Clinic outside the office. Art Foster picks them up every Tuesday.

### 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.

### Ink Cartridge Recycling

Colonial youth are recycling as part of a fundraising program. Working with Evolve Recycling, they are collecting laser and inkjet cartridges, iPods, laptops, digital cameras,

GPS devices and used cell phones while raising funds for our youth. Drop your items in the box by the office. Laptops should be taken to the office. Periodically, we ship the items collected to the Global Re-Source Funding offices, at no cost to us. Evolve Recycling periodically sends us a check for those items sent in. Please help the environment and our youth by bringing your items for recycling.

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## **THE WEEK AHEAD**

### **TODAY, January 8**

8:30 am—Worship

9:15—That Was the Week That Was, Library

9:15—Adult Christian Education - Mere Christianity, Cambridge Room

10:15—Worship

10:30—Sunday School

11:15—Coffee & Conversation, Heritage Room

1:00 pm—OWL Parent/Child Meeting, Heritage Room

### **TUESDAY, January 10**

9:30 a.m.—Book Group, Heritage Room.

5:30 p.m.—Colonial Women Blue Moose Tuesday, Prairie Village.

### **WEDNESDAY, January 11**

9:30 am—Writers Group, Heritage Room

7:00 pm—Colonial Choir, Choir Room.

### **THURSDAY, January 12**

10:00 am—Bible Study, Pastor's office.

12:00 pm--Justice and Witness Committee, Library.

6:30 pm—AA, Oberlin Room.

### **FRIDAY, January 13**

7:00 pm—Colonial Women Book Group, Stephanie Graff's home

### **SUNDAY, January 15**

8:30 am—Worship

9:15—That Was the Week That Was, Library

9:15—Board of Outreach, Oberlin Room

10:15—Worship

10:30—Sunday School

11:15—Coffee & Conversation, Heritage Room

11:15—Council/Administrative Board, 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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto:aaron@colonialucc.org))

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

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

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

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

Bell Choir Director: Hayden Ferguson

Organist: Dr. Joseph Kern

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