



*(Farmer used with permission by leniner.)*

**I do not want to foresee the future. I am concerned with taking care of the present. God has given me no control over the moment following.**

**-Mahatma Gandhi**



**Colonial Church**  
*in Prairie Village*

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

June 12, 2016  
10:15 a.m.

The Colonial Church in Prairie Village—United Church of Christ  
 “A Season for Everything” Sunday Worship Service  
 in the series *More Than Common Phrases*

*Please silence your electronic devices in preparation for worship.*

\* Please rise in body or spirit

**We Gather as God’s Beloved People**

**Gathering Music**

*Ach Gott und Herr*

-Walther

**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!**

\* **Hymn #1**

*Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

**A Time of Confession**

Invitation to Confession

“Now is the time when we bring our own stories before God...”

Prayer of Confession

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.*

## **We Hear a Word from God**

### **A Word Proclaimed**

-Pastor Aaron Roberts

#### ***Turn, Turn, Turn***

**Ecclesiastes 3:1-8** There's a season for everything and a time for every matter under the heavens: a time for giving birth and a time for dying, a time for planting and a time for uprooting what was planted, a time for killing and a time for healing, a time for tearing down and a time for building up, a time for crying and a time for laughing, a time for mourning and a time for dancing, a time for throwing stones and a time for gathering stones, a time for embracing and a time for avoiding embraces, a time for searching and a time for losing, a time for keeping and a time for throwing away, a time for tearing and a time for repairing, a time for keeping silent and a time for speaking, a time for loving and a time for hating, a time for war and a time for peace.

### **Pantheistic Perspective**

**Ecclesiastes 3:11-13** God has made everything fitting in its time, but has also placed eternity in their hearts, without enabling them to discover what God has done from beginning to end. I know that there's nothing better for them but to enjoy themselves and do what's good while they live. Moreover, this is the gift of God: that all people should eat, drink, and enjoy the results of their hard work.

### **Kairos - A Time - A Season - for God's Purpose**

**Mark 1:14-15** Jesus came into Galilee announcing God's good news, saying, "Now is the *time*! Here comes God's kingdom! Change your hearts and lives, and trust this good news!"

Express your thoughts via social media at #ColonialUCC.

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

\* Hymn #414

*Incarnate God, Immortal Love*

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

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

*Abide With Me*

-Arr. Anne Organ Krante

-Mary Burnett, Clarinet

(Our weekly offering includes food collected 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

**Holy One, We give thanks for how you provide for us, whether in seasons of plenty or hardship. Bless our efforts as we continue to sow love and justice in your Creation. 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 #556      *God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens*

\* Prayer of Farewell to Anne Dwyer

**God, we give thanks for the time we have shared with Anne. We have worshipped, learned, and worked together in Christ's service. We pray that she will always be aware of your Spirit's guidance. We thank you for the gifts that she has graciously shared with us. Bless Anne always in the name of Jesus the Savior. Amen.**

\* **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**

*Nicaea*

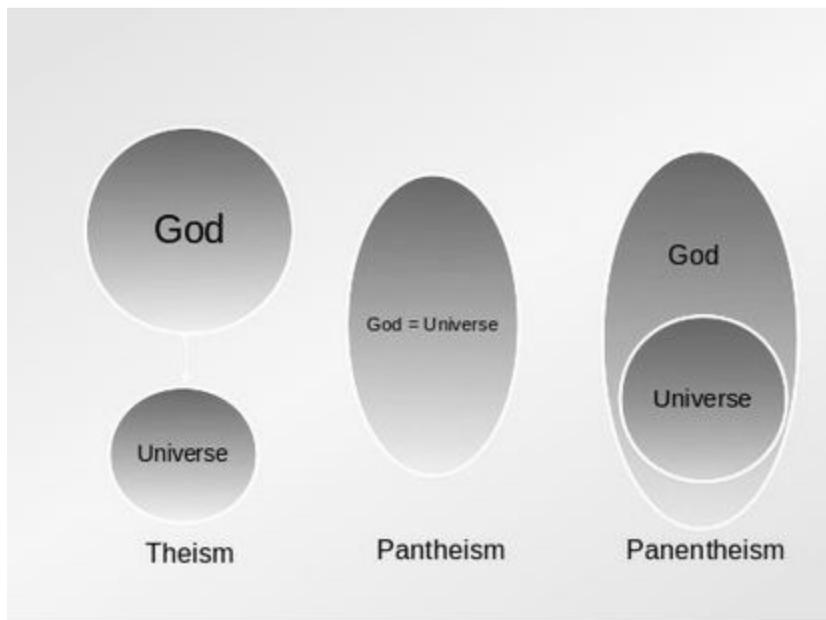
-Post

## Sermon Notes

**Theism** - The teaching that God exists and created the world, but that the Creator does not alter the original plan for the universe.

**Pantheism** - Literally, the teaching that “everything is divine.” Pantheism affirms that beyond surface appearances all beings are one with God. Pantheism thus denies the ontological difference between God and creature expressed in the doctrine of creation out of nothing and overlooks the moral difference between the holy God and sinners.

**Panentheism** - Literally, the teaching that “everything is in God.” Panentheism differs both from pantheism that identifies God with the world and from traditional Christian theism that speaks of God as creator of the world out of nothing. According to panentheism, God and the world, while distinct, are nevertheless parts of a single ontological whole. Some world, if not this world, is necessary to God, and apart from a world God would be only an abstract possibility. For panentheism, God is not only affected by all that happens in the world, but it is through the world that God becomes concrete and reaches full self-actualization.



<h2>Colonial Church Bible Study Guide</h2>
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Our 10:00am Thursday morning Bible Study is going to discuss Ecclesiastes. If you would like to take part in the study, simply come on Thursdays or sign up 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.*

### Homework - Read Ecclesiastes

Over the course of this coming week read and record your notes and thoughts. This Thursday we are going to discuss our questions and observations of the most cynical book in the Bible.

After this week our Thursday Bible study is going to take a 3 week hiatus before we start up again on July 14th.

Liturgist:	Frank Robertson
Confessor:	Anne Dwyer
Videographer:	Geoff Robinson
Worship Graphics Operator:	Hayden Huggins
Children's Conversation:	Pastor Aaron Roberts
Greeters:	Missy Flachsbarth, Marti Lee
Head Usher:	Bob LeVeau
Ushers:	Bill Yohn, Mary Pelton, Doug Welch, Bob LeVeau

United Church of Christ Mission Moment - June 12, 2016  
I Kings 17:8-16 (17-24)

### Gorgeous Compassion

Elijah, like many an unlikely prophet, gets sent into the world by God's uncompromising command – "Go." And, in today's scripture, Elijah gets the "go" word more than once. First he goes to be fed by ravens. Next, he's sent to a poor foreign widow with a small boy. It's in the widow's home that Elijah is proclaimed a prophet.

It wasn't what Elijah said to the widow of Zarephath that declared and affirmed his role as a prophet. It was what *she* said to him that did the trick. She said, "Now I know you are a man of God and that the word of the Lord in your mouth is truth." Of course she knew he was a holy man; after all, he was able to feed her and her boy in the middle of a famine. And then, miracle of miracles, when the boy dies Elijah brings him back to life. Her words confirmed his call as a prophet. It did not matter that Elijah had predicted the drought that encompassed the land. It did not matter that he spoke directly to the King. What mattered was how he behaved toward the weakest and most vulnerable – a foreign widow with a fatherless child. In him God's compassion and best hope for the world entered that woman's home.

What would the most vulnerable in our world say about our ministry? Would they say that we were a people of God and our word was true? These are times when the numbers of the poor and homeless in our communities are increasing. Churches are the places where hope and compassion can be as simple as a sandwich or a cup of coffee or an invitation to worship. Congregations as diverse as Pennsburg United Church of Christ in rural Pennsylvania, and First Church in downtown Cambridge, Massachusetts have opened their doors and created in their space a place for a free simple meal and conversation. One is called a "Community Meal" and the other is called a "Friday Café," but it is around such tables and hospitality that God's great compassion and hope for us can be glimpsed. How we share that hope with our communities and each other is the bedrock of our faith and the test of our truth as a people of God.

Will our congregations be places where love is visible? Where the care we show each other is as tangible as a bowl of soup? Where our love is visible in our willingness to open our doors to the weakest and most vulnerable in our communities?



# *The Sunday Crier*

June 12, 2016

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## **You Still Have Time to Register for VBS**

Weird animals are taking over VBS this week, beginning Tuesday so register now! June 14-17 from 8:30-11:30 a.m. at Colonial. This VBS is all about accepting the differences in yourself and others, and how the world wouldn't work if we were all exactly the same! Register your children and grandchildren, friends and neighbors at [colonialucc.org](http://colonialucc.org) at the bottom of the page. We also need help! Sign up to volunteer at <http://tinyurl.com/colonialvbs-16>.

## **Ramadan Post-Fast Dinner**

Colonial will host a Ramadan post-fast dinner on Monday, June 13 in the Heritage Room. Registration 8:00-8:15 p.m.; presentation about Ramadan 8:15 p.m.; dinner 8:50 p.m. The late start is required so that the Ramadan fast not be broken until after sunset. It is a great opportunity to learn more of the religious holiday. If you would like to be a part of this celebration, please contact Bruce Edwards at 678-662-0956 or Mariam Fleming, 913-648-5848, [mariamfleming@gmail.com](mailto:mariamfleming@gmail.com).

**Sermon Series: More Than Common Phrases.** Ecclesiastes (Kohelet in Hebrew) is regarded by some as the most curmudgeonly and cynical of all books in the Bible. It is also the most requested book for a sermon series in the Colonial Church community! Ecclesiastes is a book mostly known for common phrases like: *"There is nothing new under the sun."* *"For everything there is a season..."* *"Eat, drink, and be merry, for tomorrow we die."* *"All is vanity."* *"Everything is meaningless."* In June, we're going to look beyond the common phrases into the wisdom of the Teacher who invites people away from striving - thinking it all depends on us, and learning what it means to wait upon the LORD.

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*Altar  
Flowers*

The beautiful flowers on the altar are provided by JILL BUCKSTEAD in honor of her family.

## HIGHLIGHTS

**Did You Know ...** that when you are asked to sign the pew registers on Sunday we are not trying to be Big Brother? All members and guests are asked to sign the registers because it allows us to make contact with prospective new members and it allows us to be able to reach out to our membership when we haven't seen them in awhile. Many times we find that folks are ill, hospitalized or for some reason homebound. Please take the time to register every Sunday. Why? Because Colonial cares about each and every one of you.

**A Streetcar Named Desire.** Well, not really, but close. Would anyone be interested in carpooling from Colonial to Union Station some Sunday after the second service, taking the streetcar from there to either the Power and Light or River Market, eating, and coming back? Kids welcome too, everyone can do it. If you are, please let Bill Sanderson know via email (bills043@gmail) or tell him at church. If a few people want to do it, we can talk and set up an agreeable Sunday later in June or even early July. Bill will take care of the reservations, etc... if people want to do it. Sign up!!!

**Standing Naked Before God Study Group.** Sitting with the pain and joy of being a human, while refusing to run for any exits, is the only way to become a real human being. Brave is a decision. Email Rev. Caitie Smith at [caitie.smith@colonialucc.org](mailto:caitie.smith@colonialucc.org) if you are interested in joining the study. The group meets Sundays in the Library immediately after the 10:15 a.m. service.

**Feed the Hungry Donations.** It's true! Food pantries welcome all the non-perishable foods you donate because they know hungry people will be walking through the doors every day they are open. However, they also welcome foods that need refrigeration as well. Sometimes stores will have special sales on margarine, cheese or other dairy products. Or fruits or vegetables. Or some gardeners may have abundant crops to share when they can't face one more zucchini. Any items that won't melt or decompose for about two hours in the red wagon on Sunday morning will conveniently find a cold spot by noon and will be delivered the next day. And they will help someone enjoy a more healthy diet. Thank you to all who support our mission.

## Colonial Women Activities

- Blue Moose Tuesday. Tuesday, June 14, 5:30 p.m. Blue Moose in Prairie Village.
  - Book Group. Friday, July 8 at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Stephanie Graff, 4141 W. 111th Terrace, Leawood, KS 66211. The group will be discussing *A Little Life* by Hanya Yanagihara.
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**THE WEEK AHEAD****TODAY — June 12**

8:30 a.m.—Worship.

9:15 a.m.—That Was the Week That Was, Library.

9:15 a.m.—Board of Outreach, Oberlin Room.

10:15 a.m.—Worship.

10:30 a.m.—Sunday School.

11:15 a.m. - Fair Trade Coffee and Chocolates, Narthex

11:15 a.m.—Lemonade on the Lawn.

11:15 a.m.—Standing Naked Before God Study Group, Library.

**MONDAY, June 13**

8:00 p.m.—Ramadan Post-Fast Dinner, Heritage Room.

**TUESDAY, June 14**

8:30 a.m.—Vacation Bible School.

9:30 a.m.—Book Group, Heritage Room.

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

**WEDNESDAY, June 15**

8:30 a.m.—Vacation Bible School.

9:30 a.m. —Visit with Pastor Aaron, Einstein's in Prairie Village.

**THURSDAY, June 16**

8:30 a.m.—Vacation Bible School.

10:00 a.m.—Bible Study, Pastor's Office.

**FRIDAY, June 17**

8:30 a.m.—Quiltmakers, Social Hall.

8:30 a.m.—Vacation Bible School.

## 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.

**Listen to our Weekly Messages**—You can listen to the sermon and get the bulletin and study guide on our website.

**[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))

Associate Pastor: Rev. Caitie Smith ([caitie.smith@colonialucc.org](mailto:caitie.smith@colonialucc.org))

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

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

Bell Choir Director: Hayden Huggins

Organist: Dr. Joseph Kern

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

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

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